

## **India Pharma 2019 and India Medical Device 2019**

*4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Industry  
18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February, Hotel Lalit Ashok, Bengaluru, India*

The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India, along with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) conducted the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of India Pharma and India



Medical Device on **18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019**. The International conference, organized with a theme of **“Affordable Quality Healthcare”** was organized at **Hotel Lalit Ashok, Bengaluru, India**.

The theme of ‘India Pharma 2019’ is ‘Enabling Quality Affordable Healthcare & that of ‘India Medical Device 2019’ is ‘Accelerating Growth to Achieve Universal Healthcare’. This conference is an endeavour of the Government to provide affordable, quality healthcare to citizens of the country and also to encourage ‘Make in India’ while promoting the growth and development of Indian Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Industry.

Hon’ble Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, Shri D V Sadananda Gowda, addressed the Inaugural Session. The occasion was also graced by Shri Mansukh L Mandaviya, Hon’ ble Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Road Transport and Highways, Shipping, Government of India and Shri. K J George, Hon’ble Minister for Large & Medium Scale Industries, Government of Karnataka along with senior government officials and industry leaders.



Speaking at the Inaugural session, Shri D V Sadananda Gowda said that “While India continues to maintain leadership position in manufacturing and supply of high-quality generic medicines, the Government’s focus is on improving access to affordable healthcare for all and contribute to the largest Government-funded healthcare programme in the world, Ayushman Bharat”. In his address, Shri Gowda remembered the late Union Cabinet Minister Shri Ananthkumar for his vision to bring all stakeholders of pharma and medical devices industry on one platform through this conference and to help the Government to bring policy changes for removing roadblocks by addressing the pressing issues in this sector. The Government continues to strive to increase the ease of doing business in India through such initiatives.



Addressing the inaugural session, Shri Mandaviya stressed on the commendable work the Government is doing to ensure affordable healthcare for all through initiatives like Ayushman Bharat. He said that the Government is taking measures to help Indian pharmaceutical sector become a Rs. 3 lakh crore market, making it a global player. The Minister further said that the Government has taken several steps to boost the indigenous API industry growth in India. These include constituting a Task Force containing all stakeholders to study the issues of APIs and chart out a strategy to boost their indigenous manufacturing; giving thrust to cluster-based development of API industry; in principle approval to 2 API parks, one each in Assam and Andhra Pradesh, among others.

Shri K.J. George, Minister for Large & Medium Industries, Government of Karnataka, while addressing the gathering, highlighted that the State Government plans to set up a special pharmaceuticals SEZ in Hassan and Pharma Parks in Bengaluru and Mangalore.

Dr. Henk Bekedam, WHO Representative to India stated that considering the increased involvement of the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises in the medical devices manufacturing sector, WHO will provide technical support to the sector to upgrade the manufacturing standards.

Drug regulators participating in the conference include those from Russia, Kenya, UK, Malaysia, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Guyana & Uzbekistan. Besides this, the event also saw participation of drug regulators from 15 states across India. Senior Government officials from Government of India and State Government and Industry stalwarts from Pharmaceutical & Medical Device sector across the country also graced the event.

Annual India Pharma & Medical Device awards were conferred by Shri Gowda during the inaugural session for various categories including India Pharma Leader Award, India Pharma Innovation of Year Award, India Pharma Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme of the Year Award, India Medical Devices Company of the Year Award and India Pharma Swachhta Champion Award. A FICCI-KPMG Knowledge Paper **“Evolution to revolution: by use of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Analytics in pharma”** was also released at the event.



During the 2-day event, Pharma and Medical Devices CEO Roundtable was held along with thematic sessions were held on areas of Artificial Intelligence in Pharma, Import Export issues, Biologicals, Biopharmaceuticals and New Chemical Entities (NCEs) for the Pharmaceutical Sector. For the Medical Device Sector, thematic sessions are focusing on Diagnostics Ecosystem, Ease of Doing Business and Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Framework. Technical workshop by World Health Organization will help in addressing key challenges before the industry and will also provide tremendous business linkages to the participating companies.

These interactive sessions saw industry members raise various business concerns with all the concerned government stakeholders and deliberate upon the way forward to enable growth of the



Indian pharmaceutical and medical devices industry. The government took note of all key concerns of the industry and will take it up for further resolution as may be required to enable 'Make in India' and facilitate 'Ease of Doing Business'.

