Greetings!!!

The Indian Pharmaceutical Industry has witnessed a robust growth over the past few years moving on from a turnover of approx US $ 1 billion in 1990 to over US $30 billion in 2015 of which the export turnover is approximately US $ 15 billion. The country now ranks 3^{rd} globally by volume of production and 14^{th} by value, thereby accounting for around 10% of world's production by volume and 1.5% by value. Internationally, it ranks 4^{th} in terms of generic production and 17^{th} in terms of export value of bulk actives and dosage forms. Indian exports are destined to more than 200 countries around the globe including highly regulated markets of US, West Europe, Japan and Australia. It has shown incredible progress in terms of infrastructure development, technology base creation and a wide range of products. The industry now produces bulk drugs belonging to all major therapeutic groups requiring complicated manufacturing technologies.

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has announced the Scheme for Cluster Development Programme for Pharma Sector (CDP-PS) in July 2014 to enhance quality, productivity and innovative capabilities of the SME Pharma sector in the country. By this programme, the DoP is aiming to increase the competitiveness, easy to access standard testing facilities and value addition in the domestic pharma industry especially to SMEs through creation of common world class facilities.

Factors Influencing Growth of the Pharmaceutical Industry in India

- India exports drugs worth US$ 15 billion to more than 200 countries including highly regulated markets in the US, Europe, Japan and Australia
- Large domestic pharmaceutical companies have continued to grow, assuming leadership position in many therapies and segments in the Indian market as well as creating a strong international exports
- Indian players have also developed expertise in significant biologics capabilities
- Multinational companies have continued to invest significantly in India and are making their presence felt across most segments of the Indian pharmaceuticals market. Companies have also begun to invest in increasing their presence in tier II cities and rural areas and making medical care more accessible to a large section of the Indian population
- Low cost of production including low R&D costs
- Innovative and scientific manpower
- Excellent and world-class national laboratories specializing in process development and development of cost effective technologies
- Increasing balance of trade in Pharmaceutical sector
- An efficient and cost effective source for procuring generic drugs

The Indian pharmaceutical market size is expected to grow to US$ 100 billion by 2025, driven by increasing consumer spending, rapid urbanization, and raising healthcare insurance among others. Going forward, better growth in domestic sales would also depend on the ability of companies to align their product portfolio towards persistent remedies for diseases such as cardiovascular, anti-diabetes, anti-depressants, anti-cancers, etc. The Indian government has taken many steps to reduce costs and bring down healthcare expenses. Speedy introduction of generic drugs into the market has remained in focus and is expected to benefit the Indian pharmaceutical companies. In addition, the thrust on rural health programmes, lifesaving drugs and preventive vaccines also leads to sustainability of the pharmaceutical companies.

This issue also presents a good number of articles on the cover story theme '***Cost Management in Pharmaceutical Industry***' by distinguished experts and authors. We look forward to constructive feedback from our readers on the articles and overall development of the journal. Please send your mails at editor@icmai.in. We thank all the contributors to this important issue and hope our readers enjoy the articles.