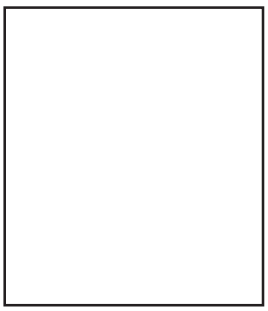
From Chairman's Desk



The pharmaceutical industry has grown in the 21st century as one of the most profitable in the world. The growth can be sustained by adequate availability of qualified technocrats to man and manage the ultra modern facilities for manufacture, quality management and research. Improved infrastructure design, better manpower intellect and automation of facilities are a must to cope with the challenges of globalization. The challenges affect the industry in a graded manner according to its size and it puts a big question mark on the survival of the small scale industries, because, the modern pharmaceutical industry is a highly competitive, extensively automated, non-assembled global industry. In house state-of–the art research facility is not every ones cake. After all research infrastructure and manpower are too costly for small players in pharmaceutical industry. As a result a number of companies have emerged to provide third-party consultancy services to the pharmaceutical industry in order to make the complex process of drug formulation development faster and easier for those who lack in house modern research facilities and environment. Although, it addresses the safety and efficacy aspects of the medicine, perhaps the cost part need to be analyzed in depth so as to ascertain the burden and its implications or reflections on consumers. The third party service utilization or out sourcing of research needs may also be addressed in a better and more economic way by resorting to outsource such important, delicate and difficult projects to academic institutions on turn key basis, where qualified and expert faculty as well as research scholars will most willingly collaborate with the industry to address its needs most efficiently and effectively on time bound basis. This will also ensure proper, better and full utilization of infrastructure of academic institutions or in other words optimum utilization of national resources.

The increase in the demand for new and more effective medicines, most safe medicines and affordable medicines at the same time global competition in the market place, poses more and more challenges before pharmaceutical industry day by day. Consumer awareness and ever changing stringent regulations to assure highest safety and efficacy of the formulations, demand research backing for each and every product irrespective of the length of their presence in market. Product innovation and continuous improvement in product profile is a must for existence in the market. A successful journey from research laboratory to market needs multi faceted collaboration between industry and research laboratories. Academic institutions provide vast infrastructure and knowledgeable faculty, who are always associated with research. Moreover, the area of research in academic is not only vast but multifaceted too. The volume of research projects undertaken by post graduate and doctorate students in pharmacy colleges are not only huge but multi dimensional as well. However, how many of these are successfully translated into products, need to be evaluated through a third party independent body, so that actual state of affairs in research environment can be ascertained and categorized into commercial and noncommercial ones and the tax payers can know as to what are they funding for, in the name of research.

Drug development program must aim at implementing the most effective regulatory strategy to achieve near and long-term goals because potential issues addressed early, definitely accelerate overall development time. Pharmacy colleges must aim at customer-oriented, research program based on the competition and intended delivery of the drug product. The outcome must ensure compliance with the changing regulatory guidelines and requirements of global market place. Simply publication of papers is not useful to society. Every research outcome must be commercially exploited to make the nation self-sufficient & meet the demands of developing nations.

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