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# A love story that cost GVK its international reputation

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**NEW DELHI:** A torrid love affair between two employees resulted in the international scrutiny of GVK Biosciences and a ban on marketing of around 700 generic drugs tested by the facility.

The employee, in love with a junior, left with her in 2011, prompting the girl's parents to approach the police. As a

## EXCLUSIVE

result, GVK Biosciences — one of the largest Contract Research Organisations based in Hyderabad — dismissed the employee.

The police, during the investigation, went through the employee's emails and found that he had written to every major drug regulatory authority in the world raising doubts about the quality of clinical research conducted at GVK Biosciences. The disgruntled employee's emails served their intended purpose, at least for him when international medicine agencies sought to inspect GVK Biosciences' Hyderabad facil-

ity and alleged manipulation of data by the organisation. The European Union banned 700 drugs tested by GVK Biosciences in July this year after which the Indian government suspended the EU Free Trade Agreement (EU FTA) talks that were to resume in August after a two-year break.

A GVK Biosciences spokesperson, in a written statement to *The Hindu*, confirmed the developments. "Based on the anonymous emails received, a joint inspection was triggered by various International Regulatory Authorities at

GVK Biosciences, Hyderabad, Clinical Unit between June 25 and July 4, 2012.

"It was found that the employee, though married and blessed with two children, had an illegitimate affair. He resigned from GVK Biosciences in September 2011 to sort out/resolve this issue but started blaming GVK Biosciences for his personal issue," said Dorothy Paul, the company's spokesperson. The employee did not respond to email queries sent by *The Hindu* on October 6.

## AN AFFAIR GONE AWRY

A GVK Bio whistle-blower's personal crisis led to EU suspending approval for its generic drugs

• The GVK staffer wrote to global drug authorities raising doubts on clinical trials

• This was after his termination for eloping with a colleague

• Based on his emails, EU banned GVK Bio's generic drugs

• India suspended talks on the FTA



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*International Regulatory*