

Gujarat — pharmacy to the nation

Small businesses, research organisations and academic institutions in Gujarat filed nearly 1,000 patents over the last five years.

turing of drugs. Only 20 per cent of these are medium or major manufacturers while 80 per cent are small-scale units. These include 384 units approved by the World Health Organization's Good Manufacturing Practice certification (WHO-GMP), and 11,000 others.

The State houses not only

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Besides, there are other allopathic units (2,558), 712 (Ayurvedic), homeopathic products including tablets, capsules, dry syrups, external preparations, cytotoxic drugs, vaccines, small and large volume parenterals.

in the State include health-care, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, biotechnology, industrial enzymes, biofertilisers, contract research, marine and environmental biotechnology.

The press annual turnover in biotechnology in Gujarat has been \$150-175 million (Rs 700 crore). The Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2011 reported investment intentions of \$1.2 billion with 35 MoUs signed between State biotech players and industrialists from three-promised states. F

abroad and outside Gujarat instance, in Ahmedabad India's domestic pharma- Vaava Industrial hub, with ceutical market size was nearly 70 manufacturers.

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units, it formed "Quality circles", each comprising WHO-GMP approved and four non-approved, for exchange of ideas or sharing of experience or to improve performance. R. S. Joshi, Executive Retiree to the Gujarat Board of the Indian Manufacturers' Association, urged the Centre to formulate problems for at least 12 months sustained growth of the pharmaceutical industry. He also warned all doctors. The pharmaceuticals consultation procedures on their business rather than waste time in handling paperwork and bureaucracy.