

'Deal not to impact India business'

NEW DELHI: GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare on Tuesday said that the multi-billion dollar global deal between parent GlaxoSmithKline Plc and Swiss drug major Novartis won't affect its business in India.

The two companies agreed to form a joint venture by combining Novartis' over-the-counter division with GSK's consumer business to create a business with \$10 billion in annual sales. GSK will hold a 63.5 per cent stake in the venture.

'This consumer healthcare joint venture will exclude GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Ltd India, where GSK plc will continue to hold directly its interests in the listed entity,' GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare (GSKCH) said in a filing to the BSE. Earlier this year, GSK increased its stake in the Indian arm, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare, to 75 per cent following the completion of a Rs 6,400 crore

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open offer. GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare shares closed at Rs 4,368 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), up 0.06 per cent. Shares of Novartis India surged 20 per cent in intra-day trade. Novartis India's stock shot-up by 19.99 per cent to Rs 561.05 during the day. It later settled at Rs 497.20, up 6.34 per cent on the BSE.

On the volume front, 6.68 lakh shares of the company changed hands at the Bombay Stock Exchange during the day. PTI

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