

Sun Pharma settles row with Novartis over cancer drug

New Delhi

Sun Pharma has inked a settlement pact with Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation over cancer drug Gleevec, paving the way for the Indian drug major to launch a generic version of the medicine in the US market in 2016.

One of the subsidiaries of Sun Pharma has executed a settlement agreement with Novartis, stipulating a dismissal of the lawsuits filed in the United States against the company regarding submission of an Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) for a generic version of Gleevec, the Indian drug major said in a statement.

"Under the terms of the settlement agreement, Sun Pharma's subsidiary may launch its version of generic Gleevec in the United States on February 1, 2016," it

**TO LAUNCH
DRUG IN '16**

added. The other terms of the agreement are confidential, the Mumbai-based firm said, adding that the agreement is subject to customary regulatory approvals. Sun Pharma's subsidiary holds a tentative approval from the US Food and Drug Administration for its ANDA for a generic version of Gleevec.

As per IMS sales data, Gleevec had annual sales of around \$2 billion in the US. Gleevec, which is the registered trademark of Novartis, is indicated for the treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia. Sun Pharmaceutical has a first-to-file status for generic Gleevec that entitles it to sell the generic version exclusively for the first six months after launch.

Company