

China major supplier of APIs to Indian pharma companies

NEW DELHI: Indian pharmaceutical industry imports majority of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and intermediates worth billions of dollars from China. According to the official data, till February 2012 (2011-12), total imports of APIs and intermediates from various countries stood at USD 3.07 billion, of which imports from China stood at USD 1.65 billion. Indian firms imported APIs and intermediates worth nearly USD 3 billion in 2010-11, with China alone accounting for USD 1.88 billion, the data showed. During 2009-10, Indian firms imported APIs worth USD 2.4 billion while imports from China stood at USD 1.14 billion. Indian firms import majority of their raw materials from China as they get benefit of cost by sourcing from the neighbouring country, Angel Broking Head of Research Sarabjeet Kaur said. "It's not a threat to Indian pharma sector as Indian pharma sector is more of a formulations focused industry, while China is more of APIs," she added.

Industry