

Reddy's says developing steroids from horse urine

Company says also developing new cancer treatment, but refuses to divulge more

K V Ramana HYDERABAD

Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd (DRL) is conducting research to produce steroids from horse urine.

The project is at a development stage and the company does not have a timeline to formal discovery yet.

"We are developing a natural steroid from horse urine. It will be a natural extract," K Anji Reddy, chairman of DRL, said at a Pharmexcil conference here.

Satish Reddy, managing director and COO, said, "We can't give out any details on that since it is competitive information."

Satish Reddy also said the company is in the process of

developing a new drug to treat cancer, again refusing to divulge more citing "competitive reasons".

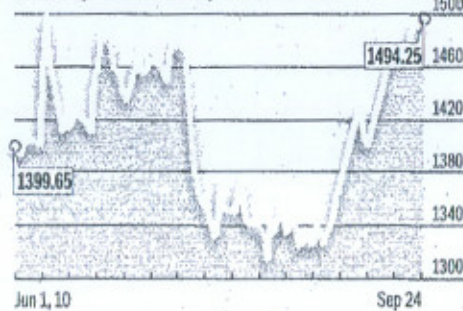
Research has been conducted world over to extract anabolic steroids from horse urine for decades. Such steroids are typically used to enhance athletic performance because they build muscle and bone mass by stimulating the muscle and bone cells to make new protein.

Their usage is banned by the International Olympic Association.

Meanwhile, Satish Reddy has expressed displeasure over the new Parliamentary standing committee recommendations on inclusion of new drugs under the price

Horse power

Dr Reddy's Labs share price on BSE in ₹



control mechanism and capping the profit margins on those drugs.

While recommending a cap on profit margins on the select drugs, the committee was also in favour of promoting the usage of generic medicines for making medical care more affordable.



has to make" Reddy said on the sidelines of the Pharmexcil conference.

According to him, the drug companies are investing significant funds to develop new drugs and that implies reasonable returns once the drug hits the market.

"When there is so much of competition, when there are so many brands available, there is so much choice available at this point of time. That has brought the prices down. So where is the need for government to step in again to say that when the prices have gone down that they still further control the prices by taking a cost plus model which is where the issue is," he said.