

Session Name	India-Africa Health Forum
Speaker / Panelist	Programme attached
Key data shared	<p>Share of pharmaceuticals in India's total exports has increased from 2.1 per cent in 2000-01 to 3.7 per cent in 2014-15. The exports of pharmaceutical products were valued at USD 11.6 billion in 2014-15. The major export destinations for India's pharmaceutical sector during 2014-15 were: USA (with a share of 32.5 per cent) followed by South Africa (4.1 per cent), UK (3.8 per cent), Russia (3.5 per cent) and Nigeria (3.3 per cent). Africa's total pharmaceutical imports from world was US\$ 3.69 billion in 2000 which grew at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 10.47 per cent in the last 15 years and reached USD 16.45 billion in 2014. Africa's total pharmaceutical imports from India is increasing significantly from US\$ 114.47 million in 2000 to US\$ 1.79 billion in 2014 at a CAGR of 20 per cent followed by China 18 per cent, US at 8 per cent and EU at 9 per cent in the span of 15 year. Africa's imports of total pharmaceuticals including both bulks drugs and formulations are at its peak in 2013, mainly due to Ebola outbreak in western Africa in this period. India's pharmaceutical sector plays a significant role in the African health sector. India is the third largest formulation supplier US\$ 1.39 billion in 2014 (equivalent to 13 per cent of Africa's imports of formulations) after France US\$ 1.84 billion in 2014 (17 per cent) and Germany US\$ 1.59 billion in 2014 (15 per cent). India is the fourth largest bulk drug supplier in Africa with US\$ 403 million in 2014 or 6.79 per cent after China (US\$ 971 million, 16 per cent), Germany (US\$ 593 million, 10 per cent) and Australia (US\$ 493 million, 8 per cent). It is evident that India's exports of pharmaceutical products to Africa has been significantly growing from USD 247.64 million in 2000 to USD 3.5 billion in 2014. Currently, India's exports of formulation to Africa are almost five times higher than that of the bulk drugs.</p>
Topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare in Africa and India: A Contemporary Snapshot • Successful Partnership Business Models to Enhance Healthcare Delivery in Africa • Key Priorities for Building a Robust Healthcare Ecosystem Scope for Collaboration
Issues highlighted Including during Q&A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of medical equipment • Shortage of trained manpower • Harmonisation of standards between Africa countries • Financial support for setting up healthcare facilities in Africa

Solutions suggested	<p>The Governments will have to play the role of a facilitator than that of a doer. This could take the form of incentives. Some possible areas for such incentives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Export of pharma products to Africa • Local manufacturing in Africa by Indian firms through joint ventures; May be a Govt. Fund for technology transfer • Setting up health care facilities including in traditional medicine by Indian firms • Export of human resources • Opening more telemedicine centres • Medical tourism in India (e.g. Ayurveda and Allopathy) • The government machinery also will have to ensure that quality of Indian pharmaceutical products is not compromised. <p>Government initiatives can also be for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarships for Africa in medical and nursing colleges • Setting up medical colleges • Training and exchange of experts in policy and law in IPRs and also in drug regulation <p>Support from African Governments'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faster drug marketing approval for generic pharmaceuticals, speedier measures for various clearances required for setting up new ventures in the pharmaceutical sector and also in the health care sector are required. • Indian private and public sector as well as non-governmental agencies could also consider taking initiatives in bringing together philanthropists to contribute towards Africa's determination to achieve health for all in the shortest possible period. • Such efforts would contribute towards Africa achieving its health goals in the proposed Sustainable Development Goal No. 3 of the United Nations and Africa Union's own Agenda 2063, and India will be a proud partner in Africa's efforts.
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Date : 17 May 2018

Note by E B Rajesh