

Lupin to set up new Lovastatin plant A move to consolidate presence in lifestyle drugs_____

Mumbai, February 13: In a move to consolidate its presence in the lifestyle drug segment, Lupin Limited is setting up a new plant for manufacturing Lovastatin, a cholesterol lowering active pharmaceutical ingredient (API). The new plant is being built to meet USFDA standards.

The plant, which has an initial capacity of above 12 metric tonnes per annum, will be set up at the company's facilities in Tarapur, Maharashtra. Lupin is expecting to invest Rs. 100 million in this plant.

Lupin has already entered into a long-term contract with a global pharmaceutical player for the supply of Lovastatin API, even as the company begins implementing the project.

The total global market size for lovastatin and simvastatin (derived from lovastatin) is above USD 6 billion. With its more than 12 metric tonne capacity, Lupin would be among the world's top five manufacturers of Lovastatin API.

The decision to set up the Lovastatin plant, soon after the commissioning of the multi-prils plant, is in continuation of Lupin's strategy to build up global scale API capacities in the lifestyle drugs segment.

Lupin recently commissioned a plant for manufacturing Prils, a class of cardiovascular drugs, at its facilities in Mandideep, Madhya Pradesh. The plant will supply Prils to advanced markets of the US and Europe.

Lupin is already a global force in anti-TB and cephalosporins APIs. The idea of these expansions is to emerge as a similar force in the lifestyle drugs segment.

About Lupin :

Lupin Limited, founded in 1968, is focused on excellence through technology and research. Through its facilities in Aurangabad and Tarapur (Maharashtra), Mandideep (Madhya Pradesh) and Ankleshwar (Gujarat), Lupin manufactures intermediates, bulk actives and dosages, including phytomedicines. Seven of Lupin's API plants have been approved by the USFDA and two plants (one dosages and one API) have been approved by the UKMCA. Its revenues in FY 2001-02 (April-March) were Rs 9.57 billion (\$199 million). The therapeutic areas include, among others, anti-TB, cephalosporins, cardiovasculars and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).

Lupin is a global leader in the anti-TB segment; it is the world's largest manufacturer of Ethambutol and Rifampicin (through the complex fermentation process). Its Rifampicin plant is one of only three plants in the world approved by the USFDA.

The company caters to generics markets in the US and Europe through strategic marketing alliances. Lupin's Research Park, in Pune city near Mumbai, conducts leading-edge research in generics, new chemical entities (NCEs), novel drug delivery systems (NDDS), oral controlled release systems (OCRS) and phytomedicines. For more information, please visit <http://www.lupinworld.com>

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