

explain all the quantitative details of present day observations. Slight modifications, for example as suggested in the above, may indeed be necessary.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

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### INDIAN CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION LECTURE SERIES

The Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association organised a one-day Lecture Series on "Recent Advances in Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry" on the 24th November, 1983 in Bombay. Dr Nitya Nand, Director, Central Drug Research Institute chaired the Lecture Series in which senior representatives of the industry, Government, research and educational institutions participated.

Presiding over the Lecture Series Dr Nitya Nand referred to the high cost and long gestation period, required for developing new drugs and emphasised the need for intensified research on areas of tropical diseases and nutritional disorders. He referred to the vast and promising areas for research work in the fields of natural products and called for an effective comparative study of the traditional and modern systems. With regard to the oft repeated claims of complete eradication of malaria, he warned against the present tendency to flout the basic principles of immunology and called for the need to develop alternative newer drugs to face the likely recurrence of malaria in an epidemic form, as has occurred in South East Asian Countries and in South America. He said that research on our needs will have to be carried out in our own country to suit the local conditions. He pointed out that the expenditure on research in India has been inadequate and there was urgent need to develop our R & D capabilities.

Shri M. B. Mehta, President, ICMA said that the pharmaceutical industry was one of the most dynamic segments of the Indian Chemical industry and has made considerable contribution to the betterment of health of the people and earns valuable foreign exchange through exports. He state that in our country the benefits of pharmaceutical have hardly reached 25% of the population.

Referring to price control on bulk drug manufacture, he stated that bulk drug production required not only heavy investment but also far sophisticated technology where changes are rapid. Shri. Mehta strongly felt that a fresh look at our policy for development of pharmaceutical sector was over due.

The papers presented at the deliberations were: Recent advances in new drug development by Dr M. D. Nair, Hindustan Ciba-Geigy Ltd., Bombay, Recent advances in drugs of Natural origin by Dr Sukh Dev, Malti-Chem Research Centre, Baroda, Recent advances in drugs for tropical diseases by Dr J. Reden, Hoechst Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Bombay, Recent Advances in Contraceptive Drugs by Dr T. C. Anand Kumar, Institute for Research in Reproduction, Bombay, Newer Techniques in Drug Production by Mr. I. A. Modi, Cadila Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad, and the Shape of things to come in drug industry by Dr G. B. Ramasarma, Raptakos, Brett & Co. Ltd., Bombay.