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## 'India has growth potential in pharma industry'

DNA Correspondent



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Speakers from the pharmacy industry, who met for the corporate symposium at NMIMS School of Pharmacy and technology management, unanimously claimed that the industry had a lot of potential for growth in the country. The conference, a part of the two-day event Isthmus, organised to bridge the gap between industry and educational institutes, saw speakers from the industry presenting their views on several emerging trends in the Indian pharma industry.

Bharat Parwani, senior director, business development, Sanofi-Aventis, spoke on the topic 'return on investment'. "The decline in research and development world-wide might benefit the industry as there will be more work outsourced to India. Investments might

also go up," said Parwani. Pharma industry is under pressure. There are not enough upcoming products. Hence, companies are trying to improve their performance by means of mergers and acquisitions, he added.

Milind Antani, head, Pharma and Life Sciences and Healthcare Practice Group, and also a member of Intellectual Practice Group at Nishith Desai Associates, dealt with the topic of mergers and acquisitions (M&As). "India has tremendous growth potential. Global players also look at India. The emerging trends are M&As, business transfers and joint ventures. Companies are also looking at geographical expansion," said Antani.

Dr Suresh Saravdekar, assistant director, medical procurement, JJ Hospital spoke on the concept of total healthcare, Dr VSV Rao, Nektar Therapeutics spoke on new drug discovery, Dr Paramjit Singh, manager, Pharma Research Panacea Biotec Limited, spoke on formulation development and Shrihari Shidhaye, GM, Abbott India, spoke on how nutrition is an emerging opportunity for health care.

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