

Ref: CBEII/2022/LTR/042

Date: 05<sup>th</sup> May 2022

To,

Shri R. B. Barad, IAS

Chairman, Gujarat Pollution Control Board

Paryavan Bhavan, Sector 10- A

Gandhinagar – 382 043

Tel: 079-23222425, 079-23262603

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Reference: CBEII Letter no. CBEII/2022/LTR/037, Dtd. 17.02.2022

Subject: Mitigation of State Air Pollution with utilization of Biomass – Biofuels as carbon neutral and sustainable green fuel.

### Background

1. This is with reference to the request letter from CBEII reference no. CBEII/2022/LTR/037, Dtd 17.02.2022 and further meeting dtd 07.03.2022 at your good office with Lt Col Monish Ahuja (Retd), Chairman CBEII.
2. We would like to bring to your notice an article in The Times of India, newspaper (enclosed copy), dtd 04<sup>th</sup> May 2022 where in the Gujarat government are setting up huge API Parks and have issued licenses to 115 new manufacturing plant to come up in Gujarat for making bulk drugs and active pharmaceutical ingredients (API).
3. As per the TOI article, the state already has a strong base of formulation companies with a total 3,415 pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities of which 1,567 make bulk drugs with a greater degree of import-dependence on their Chinese counterparts for manufacturing APIs.

### Problem Statement

4. The Manufacturing plant utilises the Boilers in various process of heating through steam generation
5. These Boilers are mainly run on Fossil fuels and Coal etc.

### Request for your kind attention

6. Confederation of Biomass Energy Industry of India (CBEII) Website [www.cbeii.org](http://www.cbeii.org) is the apex industry body which represents all stakeholders of the Biomass industry, requests attention of your good office (Chairman, State Pollution Control Board) to issue notification/ mandate to the state for utilization of Biomass / switching over to Biomass – Biofuels completely with a timeline.
7. We once again reiterate to take note of the directions of CAQM for the use of biomass / bioenergy in industry as a guidance notification and issue ordinance towards use of biomass / bioenergy, clean fuel in letter & spirit as per directions passed by CAQM to mitigate the serious problem of air pollution and climate change / global warming.

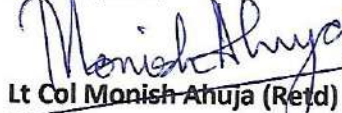


8. The notification of SPCB Gujarat to be released at the earliest allowing industries to design and plan the installation of equipments and boilers utilising clean biomass-bioenergy for process and energy generation.
9. With the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat vision of the Prime Minister and Make in India initiative, let us hold hands towards socio-economic development of rural India too.
10. As a State Pollution Control regulatory body, we request your kind support with issuing the notification to the state to create the positive impact on the society towards the Green Renewable Energy Revolution that CBEII is thriving towards.

Looking forward for your positive response

Jai Hind!

Kind regards,

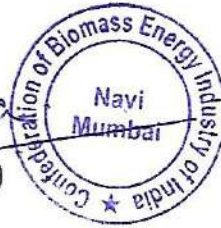
  
Lt Col Monish Ahuja (Retd)

Chairman

CBEII

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Encl: Enclosing TOI article Dtd. 04<sup>th</sup> May 2022

CC to

Shri. A.V. Shah

Member Secretary

Gujarat Pollution Control Board

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## 115 API manufacturing units to come up in Gujarat

TNN | May 4, 2022, 06:13 AM IST

Parag Dave / TNN / Updated: May 4, 2022, 06:16 IST

Read more at:

[http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/91300253.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/91300253.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)



AHMEDABAD: Reducing its import dependence, one innovation at a time, Gujarat's pharmaceutical landscape is soon to change and evolve. With some 115 new plants getting manufacturing licences for making bulk drugs and active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) since Covid-19 lockdown, the state is set to witness an investment of Rs 2,000 crore.

Presently operational companies in the state have a strong base in pharmaceutical formulations with a greater degree of import-dependence on their Chinese counterparts for manufacturing APIs.

"Gujarat has a total 3,415 pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities of which 1,567 make bulk drugs. Over the past two years, the department has given approval to some 288 new pharmaceutical manufacturing units, 40% of which would manufacture APIs," said Dr H G Koshia, commissioner of Food and Drugs Control Administration (FDCA) - Gujarat

MSMEs keen to produce APIs

Gujarat and India's pharma industry is highly dependent on China for procuring bulk drugs for vitamins, antibiotics, and steroids. This will reduce in a big way with new units coming up. Once the API park comes up, bigger companies will also invest here," said Dr H G Koshia, commissioner of Food and Drugs Control Administration (FDCA) - Gujarat.

According to Gujarat FDCA, till 2019-20, the average number of new units manufacturing APIs stood at 30 per annum, which has now nearly doubled.

Industry sources say that API prices saw an unprecedented increase due to supply disruption from China after Covid-19. If indigenous API production increases in Gujarat, prices of medicines will come down too, suggest experts.

Existing pharma makers in state make active pharma ingredients such as Cephalosporins, steroids, inorganic salts, proton pump inhibitors, analgesics, antipyretics and anti-inflammatory drugs like paracetamol, Diclofenac sodium, aceclofenac, ibuprofen, anti-hypertensives, anti-diabetics and anti-virals but the key starting materials for most of these are imported according to industry players.

With new units coming up, APIs for oncology, hormones, vitamins, steroids, and antibiotics will be locally manufactured in Gujarat, which were earlier imported mainly from China.

"Several pharma sector players are keen on their foray into API manufacturing. Some 1,500 units are currently into producing APIs; however, most are small and medium scale with limited range of APIs being manufactured. The upcoming units will not just augment capacities but also offer a wider range here with APIs for oncology and hormone medicines. This will help reduce India's imports from China for API manufacturing," said Shrenik Shah, chairman, Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) - Gujarat chapter

The upcoming units are mainly MSMEs eyeing at manufacturing of high-value products.

Apart from API Parks, the central government has introduced the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Key Starting Materials, drug intermediates and APIs.