

## Pharma Exports Grew By 146% In Apr-Jun '22

India is a huge pharma production industry where Visakhapatnam has emerged as a hub of both exports and imports especially with the major producers of APIs presence in the port city. Moreover, the country is one of the world's biggest vaccine producers. Its pharmaceutical industry is growing its arms in all the corners across the Globe to support the needy. Foreseeing the need of the hour pharma companies in India have ramped up their production.

India's pharmaceutical exports has risen by a whopping 146 per cent from Rs 15,260 crore in April-June 2013 to Rs 37,609 crore in April-June 2022. The exports of made in India pharmaceutical products continue to touch new heights.



With tremendous success, the role of the special economic zones has expanded from trade to investment technology, Research and Development, service, and training. Free zones have become the center of activity in modern economy. SEZs have played a significant role in economic enrichment of developing countries by improving international business. Visakhapatnam, rightly called the 'City of Destiny' is a major industrial center in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Visakhapatnam is blessed with major pharma companies in its vicinity of 40 -70 km i.e., Parwada, Pydi-Bhimavaram and Duvvada regions with around 100 pharma and chemical industries having their presence. There are two pharma SEZs, and Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone spread across Visakhapatnam and Anakapalli districts. Visakhapatnam is the leading producers of bulk drugs now.

Visakha Container Terminal is the ideal gateway for their EXIM movement of Chemical / Pharma products making Visakhapatnam the Pharma hub. The reefer container movement from the port city is quite high and at VCT there is adequate infrastructure complemented with sufficient reefer plug points to support the reefer movement. With the production of Vaccines and other injectables being ramped up exports are more likely to increase thus import will complement the volumes with raw material supply making VCT their preferred gateway for the cargo movement in containers.

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## Steel Exports May Rise

India is the third-largest manufacturing hub of steel pipes in the world. Steel pipes constitute 8-10% of the steel consumption. India has become one of the top exporters of steel to China as manufacturers explore global opportunities with the slowdown in domestic demand. The United States and China are the top destinations for steel exports from India, while China and Germany stood as the top sources of imports for India.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict is expected to reduce the supply of steel in global trade by 40-50 million tonnes.

India has a cost advantage over China with the restrictions levied to contain pollution and achieve greenhouse emission targets. Moreover, India has established itself as a reliable exporter and managed to capture some of the market vacated by China. Lower steel production by China and the Russia-Ukraine



conflict will create a demand-supply imbalance globally, especially in Europe, creating an opportunity for India to expand its export to Europe, Middle East and the US. Production in China is expected to decline by around 50 million tonnes.

Therefore, the production shortfall from China and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine crisis has created an opportunity for steel producing countries like India, to tap deeper into export markets.

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## FTAs With UK, EU, GCC To Boost India's Exports

The proposed free trade agreements (FTAs), including with the UK, European Union and GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) would open new opportunities to boost India's exports in these markets. Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) also said the government initiatives are helping the country record a healthy growth rate in exports.

The GCC was established in 1981 and its six members are the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain. India and the EU formally resumed negotiations on the proposed agreement, after a gap of over eight years. Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) talks between India and the 27- country block were initiated in 2007, but the talks stalled in 2013 as both sides failed to reach an agreement on key issues, including customs duties on automobiles and spirits, and the

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movement of professionals. After a break of more than eight years, formal negotiations on the proposed deal between India and the EU resumed on June 17, 2022.



To further boost exports, the government should implement certain measures such as linking issuance of RoSCTL (Rebate of State & Central Taxes and Levies) and RoDTEP (Remissions of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products) with export realization for better value and inclusion of sectors like iron and steel, pharma, and chemicals under the ambit of RoDTEP.

Moreover, with increase in the prices of inputs, skyrocketing freight and delays in shipments and payments have resulted in the need for additional credit. While container shortage has eased due to peak season supplies for Christmas, New Year and Chinese New Year getting over. With the new FTA in pipeline there are possibilities of many more EXIM activities to take place between these countries. These developments will showcase new horizons for the development of trade where VCT would be ideal gateway having global connectivity and especially into the UK, EU & GCC.

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## World Environment Day

World Environment Day 2022 is the biggest international day for the environment. Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and held annually since 1973, it has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach. It is celebrated by millions of people across the world.

World Environment Day 2022 is hosted by Sweden. "Only One Earth" is the campaign slogan, with the focus on "Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature". The following activities were observed as a part of World Environment Day at VCT. World Environment Day pledge was conducted at main gate during the operational toolbox talks. An awareness was spread on the world environment day and its objective was explained to the employees and contract employees during the toolbox talks and the pledge was conducted at the gathering.

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On the eve of World Environment Day, a plantation drive in the terminal at the container terminal. As part of World environment day, Environmental videos were shown to the employees virtually and quiz was conducted. The video was compiled based on the topics related to environment and analyzed on different aspects as suggested in the theme of the year “Only One Earth.

E – Waste was collected as part of World Environmental Day and the e waste bins were kept at different locations in the terminal and once the bin is filled with the e waste, it was planned to dispose by giving the waste to authorized E- waste recycler as a part of environmental initiative.

VCT has taken several initiatives towards becoming more-green reducing the carbon footprint in the terminal. The equipment deployed in Terminal 2 are fully electric driven instead of diesel RTGCs and the process of converting all the diesel driven RTGCs in Terminal 1 is in progress and will be completed during Sep’22. 130 kw solar power panels are also being installed in the terminal for generating power. Apart from this usage of plastic bottles and bags is banned with an aim to become a plastic free terminal.





## Visitors @ VCTPL



Delegates From Nepal Embassy Visited on 02.07.22



(From Left) Mr. Phool Chand Meena, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. Prafull Kumar & Mr. Varun Dev from Food Corporation Of India Visited on 20.07.22



(From Left) Mr. Samir Padhi, Mr. Raghuwar Singh, Mr. Sanjoy Kumar & Mr. Arun Babu from Hindalco Visited on 20.07.22



(From Left) Mr. Ganesh Bhimrao, Mr. Anish Jayaprakash & Mr. Vikalp Dikshit from ATC Tyre Visited on 22.07.22



(From Left) Mr. A K Madhusudhan, Mr. D Premchand, Mr. Prakash Kumar Ajmera & Mr. Raviteja from Sattva Visited on 28.07.22



(From Left) Mr. Padullaparthi Hanumantharao, Mr. A. Jeyabal, Mr. Ramavath Prasad Naik & Mr. Ravi Kumar from MPEDA Visited on 30.07.22