

Rajendra Pratap Gupta President & Member Board of Directors

September 28, 2015

Dr Harshadeep Kamble *IAS*

Commissioner , Food & Drugs Administration Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East Mumbai 400051

Email: comm.fda-mah@nic.in

Subject: Ref F.No.7-5/2015/Misc/091 Dte. General of Health Services, Office of DCGI. W.R.T. Sale of medicines over internet under Drugs and Cosmetics rules 1945

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Disease Management Association of India, a not-for-profit organization working in the area of healthcare policy & reforms.

We are amongst a few organizations from across the world, and the only one from India in the area of Healthcare, that have been granted a *'Special Consultative Status'* by the United Nations – ECOSEC for our contributions to healthcare policy and reform.

Appreciate your seeking public comments on the important decision that your sub-committee has been entrusted with .

Internet sale of medicine is a big challenge, and hence we submit the following for your kind consideration

Drug sales license from online pharmacies be allowed only after the following considerations;

- 1. The interest of the offline retailers be protected. Online pharmacies if allowed, should work through offline pharmacies for the delivery of medicines to the patients
- 2. Steps be taken to prevent self medication and drug abuse through online pharmacies
- 3. Prescription authentication be done securely, and scanned prescriptions not be allowed at all
- 4. National license be issued to online portals selling medicines

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- 5. We do hope that the steps will be taken that the drugs are sold only to Indian residents and for prescriptions originating from India.
- 6. Shipping outside India should not be allowed

Having worked as a COO of the world's leading pharmacy chain in India for over five years and advised many pharmacy retail ventures across India , I would be glad to assist the committee voluntarily . I believe that the sub-committee will take a decision that will be in the best interest of healthcare of this country. We assure you of the best of our support.

Best wishes

Lajendi

P.N.: Currently, I am traveling to the US, and would be back to India on 01st Oct.