

‘Make in India’ to boost Medical Devices for the world

India is growing as the key market for medical devices and diagnostics. Given the large unmet healthcare need and the current thrust of the Indian government, this sector has naturally lent itself as a priority for [‘Make in India’](#).

Indigenous manufacturing is expected to boost product quality and price control making healthcare more accessible and more affordable. Today Indian engineering have acquired relative strengths in the manufacturing and exports in the medical devices, pharmaceutical machineries and surgical equipments sector. Today, in the wake of global economic slowdown, global majors are looking for emerging markets to tap manufacturing and market opportunities.

Some of the major strengths of India are as follows:

- i. India is well placed in some segments of the sector such as outsourced contract design, development and manufacturing segment.
- ii. Manufacturers in India have significant focus on 'designing-to-cost' factor owing to the price sensitivity in Indian market. This in turn has led Indian products gain competitive position in majority of the global markets.
- iii. Indian manufactures range of predominantly low value to high end medical equipments catering to one of the most diverse set of consumers.
- iv. India has steadily built capabilities in designing and development of vast range of electro mechanical diagnostic and therapeutic devices. Besides implantable devices and active implantable like pacemakers are also developed for most stringent quality norms.
- v. Today, all segments of medical devices are being developed in India and they also includes high precision components, sub-assemblies, printed circuit boards assembling, implantable grade materials and sterile packaging, bio gradable implantable materials, noble metals and biomaterials like nitinol, polymers, silicones, epoxy, microelectronics, polymers, laser welding-hermetic sealing etc.
- vi. Recently, National R&D labs DRDO (Defense Research & Development Organization) have increased their focus on the technologies for the sector. Some of them were recently developed and commercialized. They involved some of the most complex implantable devices made of titanium alloys for diverse engineering applications including Osteo-integration for integrating with surrounding tissues with implanted devices. These technologies are now extensively used in the private sector.

- vii. India has steadily widened the ambit of markets and now exports to more than 150 countries. There is a growing awareness about sunrise sector and Government of India extends full support in promoting exports of the sector.