

Press Note on Recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia in Foreign Countries

As per the Second Schedule of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) is designated as the official book of standards for drugs imported and/or manufactured for sale, stock or exhibition for sale or distribution in India. In order to ensure the quality of medicinal products, the legal and scientific standards of IP are published at regular intervals by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC). Standards prescribed in the IP are authoritative in nature and are enforced by the regulatory authorities for quality control of medicines in India. IPC has been making sincere efforts towards recognition and acceptance of IP in foreign countries and proposals in this regard have been submitted to various countries through Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, and Ministry of External Affairs.

It is a matter of delight to share that in pursuant to sincere efforts and guidance provided by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare to get IP recognized in foreign countries, IP has been accepted as a book of standards in a total of four countries with details as appended below:

- **Afghanistan**

IP has been recognised formally by the National Department of Regulation of Medicines and Health Products of the Ministry of Public Health of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and also will be used based on the requirement as reputable pharmacopoeia in the laboratory of medicines and health products quality. With this, a new beginning has been made as Afghanistan has become the first country to recognize the IP. ([Click here to view letter issued by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan](#))

- **Ghana**

IP is considered as an approved reference when its monograph compares with the monographs in recognized pharmacopoeias in the Fourth Schedule of the Public Health Act. ([Click here to view letter issued by Food & Drugs Authority of Ghana](#))

- **Nepal**

IP is recognised as the book of standards in Drugs Category Rules 1986 of Nepal. As per the list of pharmacopoeia or encyclopedia related to the category of drugs under Schedule 1 (related to Rule 5) of the Drugs Category Rules 1986, "Pharmacopoeia of India" published by the Ministry of Health of Government of India has been included at Sr. No. 3. ([Click here to view Drugs Category Rules 1986 of Nepal](#))

- **Mauritius**

In order to include IP in the standards of pharmaceuticals authorized in Mauritius, Section 2 of the Pharmacy Act 1983 has been amended through Section 50 of the legal supplement published in August 2020 and in the definition of "specified standards" of the Section 2 of the Pharmacy Act, the word "or European" has been deleted and replaced with the words "European or Indian". Accordingly, the amended section reads as: "specified standards" means such standards as are specified in the British, French, United States, European or India Pharmacopoeia; ([Click here to view Pharmacy Act 1983 of Mauritius and its amendment](#))

Efforts are on to add more countries in the list and stakeholders are encouraged to take advantage of these recognitions.