Acknowledgements

The Task Force to recommend measures for increasing exports of pharmaceutical products was constituted in July, 2006. As this Report would show, the Task Force has gone into the subject at length and instead of limiting its task to examining only the 'front end' of pharmaceutical exports it has dwelt deep into corresponding domestic policy linkages which would help in increasing exports as well. This increased the ambit of work undertaken by the Task Force. It was a privilege to have been associated with this task. I would not have been able to prepare this Report without receiving fullest cooperation from other members of the task force and inputs from various agencies such as Pharmexcil, Indian Drug Manufacturers Association (IDMA), Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA), Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association, Ayurvedic Drugs Manufacturers Association (ADMA) etc. Besides these agencies, Departments of the Government of India, namely, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (now Department of Pharmaceutical), Department of AYUSH, National Medicinal Plants Board, Office of Drug Controller General of India, Department of Science & Technology and others were consulted, their inputs received and duly incorporated.

In this intense endeavour, I have been particularly assisted by Pharmexcil which is the export promotion council for pharmaceutical products, particularly its Executive Director, Dr. P.V. Appaji and his colleagues – to mention specifically Mr. P. Balram. This work would not have seen the light of the day, if I had not received most able and intensive contribution of facts, thoughts and suggestions from Mr. Lanka Srinivas – a distinguished expert on pharmaceuticals. He has been singularly responsible for responding to the roadmap which I had chalked out for deliberations and preparation of the Report. Mr. Srinivas deserves all my gratitude for his wholesome contribution to this exercise.

I have in the process of this exercise consulted a wide cross section of Indian pharmaceutical industry. Therefore, it is not possible to name everyone in this small piece of acknowledgement. However, some names need to be specially mentioned, such as Mr. Ranjit Puranik, and a few of his colleagues in the ADMA who gave very valuable inputs on the traditional medicine sector which in our opinion has tremendous potential for growth. I am intentionally not mentioning all those names whose contributions deserve to be acknowledged lest I miss out some others. Therefore, I would on behalf of the Task Force like to acknowledge with sincere gratitude their contribution in the preparation of this Report. While every effort has been made to ensure factual correctness and sources have been acknowledged, some inconsistencies and discrepancies are not ruled out. However, best efforts have been made to make this Report as comprehensive as we could within our limited capacities.

(Rajeev Kher)

Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce

Chairman, Task Force