

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMPUTER APPLICATION AND MANAGEMENT

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PROSPECTS FOR EXPORT OF AYURVEDIC PRODUCTS TO RUSSIA

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RAU

INDORE

ABSTRACT

Ayurveda is the most ancient system of healthcare. India's share in the export of herbals is just 0.2% of the total global herbal market. So there is obviously vast scope for Indian manufacturers for entering the growing worldwide opportunity of business in Herbal Pharmaceutical field. The worldwide market of Herbal Medicines is US \$ 60 billion (WHO 2002). The world health organization predicts the overall automotive medicine market to reach US \$ 5 trillion by 2050. According to WHO, up to 80% of the world's population still depend heavily on TCM for treatment. Traditional Medicines (TM) have been used by Russia since ancient times India's exports are much less than what they import from other countries. The major objective of this study is to critically appraise the potential for herbal ayurvedic products and identify the problems and prospects of these in Russia

KEYWORDS

Ayurveda, Exports, Russia, Traditional Medicines.

INTRODUCTION

yurveda is the most ancient system of healthcare. India's share in the export of herbals is just 0.2% of the total global herbal market. So there is obviously vast scope for Indian manufacturers for entering the growing worldwide opportunity of business in Herbal Pharmaceutical field. Traditional Medicines (TM) have been used by Russia since ancient times India's exports are much less than what they import from other countries. Demand for medicinal plants is increasing in Russia as the population grows. But constraints and challenges exist at all levels.

TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN INDIA

India is one of the world's twelve leading biodiversity centers, with the presence of over 45,000 different plant species; out of this about 15,000-20,000 plants have good medicinal properties, of which only about 7,000-7,500 are being used by traditional practitioners. Indian herbal medicine market has been growing at a steady pace of between 15% and 20% every year. The market size of domestic herbal industry is currently estimated at over Rs.5000 crore. In India, the value of medicinal plant related trade is about US \$ 10 billion per annum and this industry is growing at the rate of 7.15% annually with exports of US \$ 1.1 billion per year.

GLOBAL MARKET FOR TRADITIONAL MEDICINES

The worldwide market of Herbal Medicines is US \$ 60 billion (WHO 2002). The world health organization predicts the overall automotive medicine market to reach US \$ 5 trillion by 2050. Indian planning commission estimates massive increases in the export value to Rs.30 billion by 2006 and to Rs.100 billion by 2010. Germany, France, UK, Switzerland, Japan & USA are major importers of Indian Medicinal Plant Products

Demand for nutraceuticals and functional food has been rising in developed markets, particularly in USA, Europe and Japan. Nutraceutical market in USA is estimated at about US\$ 80 billion to US\$ 250 billion, with a similar market size in Europe, and Japanese nutraceutical market is estimated at ~ US\$ 1.5 billion. Global market for Functional Food is pegged at ~US\$ 60 billion to US\$ 80 billion, growing by around 10% per year. Indian nutraceutical market is estimated to be around ~ US\$ 270 million growing at a CAGR of 18%, against the CAGR of 7% witnessed in global market

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

WHO (2002) Traditional and folklore medicine handed on from generation to generation is rich in household remedies and community practice. According to an estimate of World Health Organization (WHO), nearly 80% of the populations of developing countries rely on traditional medicine, mostly plant drugs for their primary health care needs.

Gautam V.S (2003). Researchers here designed product market segmentation matrix in to four zones. They have placed Indonesia and other countries in Zone A where Indian system of medicines is recognised as alternate source of traditional healthcare system and variety of products can be sold there.

M. Daniel (2004) India is on the threshold of a herbal revolution. With the rich wealth of herbs, we can command the world herbal scene. But there are so many obstacles we have to cross before we become a superpower in the herbal scene

Assocham Report 2008 Herbal product exports can be accelerated with the setting up of EPZs in about 12 Indian states as their demand soars at a rate of over 25 percent in countries like the US, Britain, Spain, Australia, Russia and Indonesia,

Exim Bank Study (2003) Authors have observed that developed countries have been the traditional markets for ayurvedic products. There was decline in Germany from US \$8 million to less than 4 million dollars in 2001-02 along with decline in destinations Russia, UK, Nepal, Indonesia & Nigeria. It was a matter of concern for authors since global market was continuously rising while India's exports remained stagnant during 2001-02

OBJECTIVE

The major focus of this study is to critically appraise market scenario of last 5 years and identify the opportunities and challenges for ayurvedic products, so as to develop a suitable strategy for export of Ayurvedic products to Russia

METHODOLOGY

This study is supported by desk research, which includes sources like World Health Organization, UN Comtrade Database, World Intellectual Property Organization, Dept. of Indian System of Medicines and Homeopathy, Department. of Commerce, Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council their conferences and various articles and papers published in various magazines and news papers.

AYURVEDIC PRODUCTS

We can classify Ayurvedic products in following product groups.

- Medicine Plants Crude Drugs & Plant Portion.
- 2. Herbal Products Their formulation and natural extracts.
- 3. Ayurvedic Drugs Medicine

 $For the purpose of this study to analyse the potential \ markets, \ data \ in following \ categories \ only \ have \ been \ considered.$

HS Code 1211: PLNTS & PRTS OF PLNTS INCLD SEDS & FRUTS USD FOR PRFUMRY PHRMACY/INSCTCIDL:

OR SMLR PURPOSES FRSH/DRID W/N CUT CRSHD OR POWDRD Unit

HS Code 30039001/11: Ayurvedic medicaments (Not put up for Retail sale)

HS Code 30049001/11: Ayurvedic medicaments put up for retail sale

MARKET TRENDS OF ABOVE THREE CATEGORIES OF PRODUCTS IS SHOWN IN TABLE 1

TABLE 1: TOTAL EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF AYURVEDIC PRODUCTS

			Value in US. I	Value in US. Dollar Mn.	
Year/Category	1211	30039001	30049001	Total	
2002-03	69.05	108.57	9.75	187.37	
2003-04	65.75	21.83	20.12	107.7	
2004-05	61.66	64.06	24.93	150.65	
2005-06	79.29	18.36	34.28	131.93	
2006-07	86.07	19.95	37.36	143.38	
2007-08	117.77	31.1	48.74	197.61	

Source- Compiled from Dept of Commerce Export Import Data bank

The above data shows that growth was at peak in 2002.03. There after it declined suddenly next year. The exports have positive trend after words. Individually category 1211 has shown 16.64% growth during the period under study. While other two categories have slow growth trends in between.

TABLE 2: EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF AYURVEDIC PRODUCTS TO RUSSIA Values in US\$ Million

Year/Category	1211	30039001	30049001	Total
2002-03	0.41	5.8	4.85	11.06
2003-04	0.11	2.37	5.02	7.5
2004-05	0.14	3.14	4.7	7.98
2005-06	0.06	2.4	6.23	8.69
2006-07	0.1	2.62	6.06	8.78
2007-08	0.1	11.89	7.08	19.07

Source- Compiled from Dept of Commerce Export Import Data bank

Table 2.Reveals the status of export performance to Russia showing that the product group has increased from 11.06 mn.US \$ to19.7 mn US \$ with 78.12 %growth in years. Products category 1211 is stagnant, while 3003 category has shown 105 % growth. and category 3004 has shown 46% growth.

TABLE 3 IMPORT TRENDS OF RUSSIA US.\$ Million					
Year/Category	121190	300390	300490	Total	
2002	4.53	0.61	882.34	887.48	
2003	7.37	0.99	1296.69	1305.05	
2004	8.01	1.18	1671.77	1680.96	
2005	6.9	5.86	2613.12	2625.88	
2006	8.84	16.39	3768.02	3793.25	

Source: UN COMTRADE Database

Overall import trend of Russia showed 327.38% growth during 2002- 2006

RUSSIAN MARKET

OPPORTUNITIES

A close evaluation of the CIS market reveals a hugely untapped market segment for herbal medicines. The concept of herbal, natural and nutraceutical is very well accepted and people are looking for products that deliver on their promise.

Until recently, herbal medicines were viewed as 'alternative' treatment options. However, this scenario is changing and scientifically backed herbal medicines are being accepted as the first line of treatment or as complementary treatments in several cases. The pharmaceutical market in the CIS region and Russia is dominated by several leading international players. Acceptance of international products is therefore on the rise. There is a steady increase in the number of Aptekas (pharmacies) facilitating better reach and access. The growth of regional pharmacy chains is a positive development as it promotes price competitiveness and makes several products available under a single roof. Quality of products is also maintained. Consumer awareness of herbal medicines is on the rise with media constantly covering this subject.

Purely from the geographic standpoint, the market is vast, covering several different time zones. This poses a huge logistic challenge requiring a strong distribution and marketing network. The market is crowded with new players and it is therefore a highly competitive business environment.

The CIS region offers huge potential for herbal drug manufacturers since these countries already have a long tradition of using herbs for medicinal purposes. In recent times the demand for well-researched herbal medicines is increasing as more and more doctors practising allopathic medicine are open to prescribing herbal medicines to their patients, as stated by Mr.Heydan CEO Himalaya Pharmaceuticals. Further he states "Our flagship product Liv 52 is doing exceptionally well in the CIS market and has become a household name. The key achievements in the CIS market are that Himalaya ranks 4th among Indian pharmaceutical companies in the Russian market. The company has recorded high growth in terms of value as well as unit sales in 2007. Cystone is the top herbal therapy for kidney stones (urolithiasis) and cystitis. Speman ranks third among tablets for prostatic disorder. Other products being marketed in this region include Septilin, Rumalaya, Pilex, Tentex Forte and Speman.

Ayurveda is gaining popularity in Russia and the CIS region. The medical fraternity is also open to using complementary and alternative medicines, as long as the safety and efficacy of the formulation can be well-established.

J B Chemicals has a presence in the ayurveda segment with Fitovit, a natural fitness capsule, and Doktor Mom cough syrup which is exported to the CIS countries. The company had a significant exposure to the Russian market with export turnover from that region amounting to Rs 65 crore, in 1996-97.

CHALLENGES

The guidelines for registration of Ayurvedic products, as medicine, are stringent. There is no international pharmacopoeia for poly-herbal products. The comparison/similar registration requirements for allopathic products are insisted for herbal products. In addition, the dossiers need to be prepared in vernacular. Further, there is also a need to submit extensive supporting documentary evidence including local clinical studies done in the CIS region. At the "Business Exchange Workshop" conducted by Pharmexcil in the 3rd World Ayurveda Congress held on 17th December 2008 at Jaipur, Rajasthan., Dr.S.N.Balyuta from Russia gave a very transparent picture of the herbal market of Russia. He informed that the Russian herbal market is increasing very fast. He suggested that the product categorization should be kept in mind. The biologically active food supplements & the herbal cosmetics have good market. He advised to have precaution in registering pharmaceuticals. On the negative point's side, he informed that language barrier can be countered by dealing with Russians having command over English and having Indians with knowledge of Russian language.

For a question on number of documents required for registration of the products, it is informed that about 18 are required. Mostly they are required to be notarized including the free sale certificate. The official fee for registration has not been made specific but is expected to be approximately 2000 USD. It could be at a maximum of 5000 USD. The time needed is 3 months to 6 months. The cost of travelling 3 - 4 times to be taken into consideration. For another question on number of plants in the list banned for use in formulations, it has been indicated that 276 plants have been identified. Formulations having combination up to 10 herbs may be allowed with chyawanprash as exception. The special point is that Russia is not over regulated. The list of banned items in Russian and Latin are available

GOVT SUPPORT

The Indian Government is continuing to focus on economic reforms and it is increasing its investment in the healthcare segment. It is expected that it will take further measures to sustain market growth of pharmaceutical products.

In 11th plan scheme (2007-12) the Government has given subsidies to the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH), which include major plans for the ayurveda industry like:

- To upgrade quality control department, improve quality-manufacturing unit as per GMP, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and the European Union (EU) guidelines.
- To set up GMP standards for botanical products as well as it be should defined as per WHO's standards.

Recently, AYUSH has provided the first scheme for ayurvedic manufacturing companies, known as 'Ayush Cluster', where it will give assistance of Rs 10 crore for forming such clusters anywhere in India.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

According to a study the industry is envisaged to grow at a level of Rs. 5,500 crore after 2010 Commonwealth Games (CWG), and Ayurvedic industry alone is envisaged to earn a business of Rs. 500 crore during the Games. The study also envisages that Indian Spa industry to receive an investment of US\$ 35 billion over the next 3 to 4 years.

STRATEGIES SUGGESTED

- 1. To be a global supplier of herbal medicines conforming to international specifications, India needs to process medicinal plants in an increasing level of scientific, economic and safe way by adapting GAP, GLP and GMP.
- 2. Should undertake adequate pharmacological and clinical studies to ascertain product efficacy and safety.
- 3. Standardize products to ensure uniformity; protect and maintain IPR in the domains of herbals and other natural product development technologies; and undertake documentation research.

CONCLUSIONS

We have seen that India's Export of Ayurvedic products is on rise. Russia is a growing market for herbal ayurevedic products. We can capture good share of Russian market if Quality control, Good Manufacturing Practices, Good Agriculture Practices,, Good Clinical Practices are followed. This has to be supported by backward integration of harvesting of medicinal plants of good quality and support from government organisations to promote it in overseas markets. Industry should better understand regulatory hurdles faced in Russia and develop long- & short-term strategies to cope with. Create Ayurvedic Cosmetics category, Ayurvedic Supplements category and remove the hurdles for industry.

Projections being made that after IT industry; the herbal industry will be India's second biggest revenue earner it will be a reality soon.

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