

RELATED KEYWORDS: [US Pharma Companies](#) | [IP Protection Issues](#) | [Intellectual Property Rights](#)

US pharma companies want dialogue with India on intellectual property rights

PTI | Jun 28, 2014, 12.38PM IST

BOSTON: Top executives of American pharma companies favour "dialogue" with India and "not confrontation" to address their concerns on key issues like the protection of intellectual property (IP) and clinical trials.

Arguing that global pharma companies share the same goal of "patient first" with that of the government of India, corporate executives attending the daylong "US-India BioPharma and Healthcare Summit" organized by the USA-India Chamber of Commerce said they should not be considered as adversaries by New Delhi.

While asserting there can be no compromise on [IP protection issues](#), executives from top [US pharma companies](#) said that they are willing to work with India like — tier pricing — to come out with a solution, which is acceptable to the both the parties.

[MORE ▾](#)

82
 121
 12

Tweet



Dr Robert Langer, David J Koch Institute Professor at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), argued that not protecting intellectual property would destroy innovation in the long term.

Ads by Google

Lambert & Associates

Intellectual Property Protection. Book a Free Consultation Online
www.lambertpatentlaw.com

Trusted Digital Advisor

Recognized Authority on Web and Mobile for Mid-Sized Businesses.
jeffreyjahn.com

"We can sit around a table and have a dialogue. We need to move from seeing the industry as adversary to work together to help patients. The only way we can do it is by collaboration and actually having a dialogue," Bahija Jallal, executive vice-president of MedImmune, a prominent bio-tech company, said.

6 TIMES POINTS EARNED

"We want to work together with the Indian government. But we can't right now, go (to India) in a meaningful way if there is no IP protection," she Jallal adding that New Delhi's compulsory licensing policies would force pharma companies to go to some other countries.

"The government has to understand, the first thing that we care about is the patient. We can have a dialogue. Every country that we go to, we understand the different layers that exists economically," she said.

Dr Robert Langer, David J Koch Institute Professor at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), argued that not protecting intellectual property would destroy innovation in the long term.

Patents system, he said, is very important for encouraging many aspects of innovation.

Hi there,
 Login with your Facebook ID to see what your friends are reading on Times of India.

YOUR FRIENDS ARE READING

Log In with Facebook

SPOTLIGHT

Slideshows Not to Miss



A sneak peek into ISRO's PSLV C23 launch pad

The 49-hour countdown for launch of ISRO's PSLV C23 commenced in Sriharikota on June 28. ISRO has so far launched 35 satellites of foreign nations.

- [Delight for travellers: Air France unveils new cabins](#)
- [Around the world in single-engined Beechcraft A36 Bonanza](#)

"Having investment capital, and having laws that encourage investment into innovation is important," Langer said.

Price control discourages innovation in pharmaceutical sector, he argued, adding that India needs to address concerns of the global pharma companies with regard to protection of intellectual properties.

Outstanding universities, a strong and enforceable patent regime and an entrepreneurial environment are key to creating an innovation eco system in any country, Langer said.

Observing that American pharma companies want to be active in India to provide innovative medicines to the citizens of the country and that it fully understands the issues of access including the issue of cost and value; William Chin, executive vice-president of PhRMA, a top trade group representing the pharmaceutical research and biopharmaceutical companies in the US said they also understand that India must balance citizen patients and other needs with resources.

Noting that American companies are interested in India as it offers a huge market of 1.3 billion people, Chin said when companies are creating medicines for the world, it really is a shame that they would not be available to Indian patients.

"I am hoping that leaders of the country can see that fixing these problems could lead to a better innovation eco system that benefits ultimately Indian citizens," he observed.

"I do hope that there can be a conversation about understanding the benefits and risks," Chin said.