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Effects on R&D

The Madras High Court ruling against Novartis on August 6 points out the long-term effects this decision will have on research and development for the pharma industry in India.

The lesson learnt from this case is that despite having introduced product patent protection for pharmaceuticals since 2005, the Indian Patent law has come under critical limelight, especially in lieu of proving the incremental efficacy of an already existing drug.

The pharmaceutical industry targets not just original innovations, but also accommodates incremental innovation without which further research might be stifled.

The case signals red to possible future innovation prospects for domestic pharma companies that may want to pursue research and development of an incremental nature.

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