

Aventis Pharma renamed to 'Sanofi India Ltd'

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Bangalore: The Sanofi Group recently announced the company's change of name from Aventis Pharma Limited to 'Sanofi India Limited', effective May 11, 2012. Aventis Pharma Limited is the group's listed entity in India and the change of name is said to reflect the synergy between the global group and local entity "Sanofi Group's listed entity in India recently announced the company's change of name from Aventis Pharma Limited to 'Sanofi India Limited', with effect from May 11, 2012. The shareholders of the company had earlier approved the name change at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on May 3, 2012.

Commenting on the name change, Dr Shailesh Ayyangar, managing director, stated, "Just like Sanofi Group, the company in India is also evolving and diversifying at the same time. The new name reflects Sanofi's ambition to become a diversified global healthcare leader focused on patients' needs, and the synergy between the Group and local entity."

The decision to change the name of the group's listed entity in India comes a year after the name of the parent company was changed globally from Sanofi-aventis to Sanofi in May 2011. Dr Shailesh Ayyangar further added that "the change in name of the listed entity to Sanofi India Limited will also provide a common identity to the Sanofi Group across the world."

Sanofi currently operates through five entities in India - Sanofi India Limited (formerly Aventis Pharma Limited), Sanofi-Synthelabo (India) Limited, Sanofi Pasteur India Private Limited, Shantha Biotechnics and Genzyme India Private Limited.

In India, the group's presence dates back to 1956, when the Company was incorporated as Hoechst Fedco Pharmaceutical

Private Limited. From thereon, the Company's name was changed to Hoechst Pharmaceuticals Private Limited; Hoechst India Limited and Hoechst Marion Roussel Limited in the years 1959, 1984 and 1996 respectively. In 2001, Aventis Pharma Limited became the group's listed entity in India. Sanofi is listed in Paris and in New York.