

To: The Patel family → for info (SCRIP article).

Themis Chemicals renamed

THEMIS
MEDICARE
LTD.

The Indian company, Themis Chemicals, has changed its name to Themis Medicare. The change reflects the re-organisation of its activities, the company says.

Themis, which has a strong position in the tuberculosis segment, has over the past few years re-organised itself to focus on new drug development and novel drug delivery systems in segments like antimalarials, anticholesterol drugs and anti-ulcers.

The company, of which Gedeon Richter of Hungary and the Indian Patel family control 25% and 50% respectively, achieved net sales of Rs500 million (\$10.7 million) for the year ended March 31st, 2001. Net profit for the year was Rs30 million.

It has developed E MAL (alpha-beta arteether) for the treatment of *Plasmodium falciparum* cases of malaria and cerebral malaria. E MAL has been licensed to Sanofi-Synthelabo and the tie-up includes a 10-year agreement, extendable by another 10 years, for the sale of the product in about 52 countries including a number of African countries. Themis has also developed a second molecule, a novel topical haemostatic/antiseptic, Hemolok (feracrylum).

... Artemis Pharma renamed

Artemis Pharmaceuticals, an associate company of Themis Medicare, has been renamed Artemis Biotech. The company is streamlining its activities towards developing biotech-based specialised products. Artemis Biotech, which is the first Asian company to develop lovastatin, conducts exclusive manufacturing for Ceva of France and Wyeth Lederle. The company registered net sales of Rs107.5 million and net profit of Rs20 million for the year.