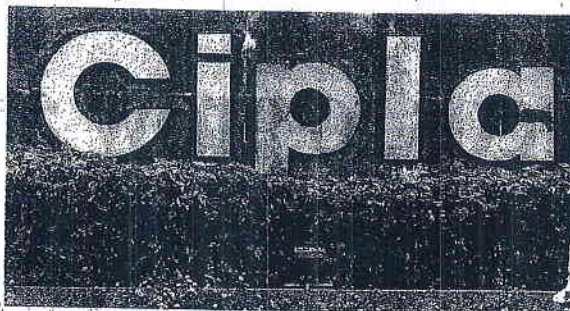


## Cipla signs pact with FIL Capital

LALATENDU MISHRA

MUMBAI: Pharmaceutical major Cipla Ltd., its wholly-owned subsidiary Cipla Health, and FIL Capital Investments (Mauritius) II Ltd. signed an investment agreement concerning the Cipla's consumer healthcare business, which was divested as a subsidiary in July this year. The amount to be invested has not been disclosed.

"The investment is subject to approvals from the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), the Competition Commission of India and the transfer of the consumer healthcare business to Cipla Health Ltd.," Cipla said in a filing with the stock exchanges.



Cipla's manufacturing unit on the outskirts of Mumbai.  
— FILE PHOTO

Earlier on July 21, the board of Cipla had approved an investment by Fidelity Growth Partners India and the U.S.-based Fidelity Biosciences, through FIL Capital Investments (Mauritius) for its re-

cently setup consumer healthcare business. In early July, the company's board had approved the divestment of this business to a wholly-owned subsidiary as a going concern by way of a slump

sale for Rs.10.5 crore. The objective was to enable the company to participate in the growing over-the-counter (OTC) market, which has vast potential for growth. Since this business required specialized FMCG kind of focus, it was decided to rope in an investor and specialists to run this business.

For the financial year 2014-15, the OTC division of Cipla had generated a sales turnover of Rs.34.88 crore which was 0.3 per cent of the company's total income. The net worth of this division was Rs.6.45 crore in 2014-15. Recently, this division had introduced its first product named Nicotex, a gum which helps smokers to quit smoking.

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