

## Assam may soon emerge as SE Asia's pharma hub

05 June 2015 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

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**Singapore:** India's seventh National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research is to be set up in Guwahati, Assam's largest city. Speaking at the founding ceremony, the country's Union Minister for chemicals and fertilizers, Mr Ananth Kumar said that Guwahati could soon emerge as the pharmaceutical hub for South East Asia.

The cost of the total project will be close to Rs 550 crores and the institution will be spread across 89 acres of land. "Guwahati can be a pharmaceutical hub for entire South East Asia, and the seed for this to happen has been sown today. It would also become a hub for integrated medicine ensuring holistic care and treatment," highlighted, Mr Kumar.

Mr Kumar also mentioned that Guwahati could be the first of the 10 proposed 'Pharma Parks' that are being envisaged by the Central government across India.

Meanwhile, Assam's chief minister, Mr Tarun Gogoi recently met Indian Pharma Industry Association leaders, to bolster pharma investments in Assam.

He added that Assam enjoyed an industry conducive climate and said that the state would provide logistic and security support with tax benefits to industries that set up operations in Assam.