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## **Novartis India Announces Improved Results for the Half-Year ended 30 September 2008**

At a meeting held in Mumbai today, the Board of Novartis India Limited approved results for the half-year ended 30 September 2008. During the period under review Sales of Rs 308.2 crore registered a growth of 7.5% over sales during the corresponding previous six months period.

During the half-year under review, our core business, Pharmaceuticals with sales of Rs 210.5 crore grew by 5.3% over the corresponding previous period. The Generics business recorded sales of Rs 33.1 crore showing a growth of 23.2%. The Animal Health business also registered growth of 17.1% over previous comparable period with sales of Rs 24.9 crore. The OTC business with sales of Rs 39.7 crore registered a growth of 2.7% during the period under review.

Profit before tax was Rs 97.4 crore (prior year Rs 84.2 crore). After providing for tax of Rs 38.5 crore (prior year Rs 30.9 crore), profit after tax stood at Rs 58.8 crore (prior year Rs 53.2 crore).

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