



**French Republic confers Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar with
Officier de l'Ordre national du Merite
(Officer in the National Order of Merit)**

~One of France's highest national distinctions in recognition of Shailesh Ayyangar's outstanding achievements in business, and commitment to Indo-French relations~

Mumbai, November 15, 2016: On behalf of the President of the French Republic, H.E. Mr. Alexandre Ziegler, Ambassador of France to India conferred the prestigious *Officier de l'Ordre national du Merite* (Officer in the National Order of Merit) upon Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar, Managing Director - India and Vice President - South Asia, Sanofi.

Dr. Ayyangar received this recognition for his 'distinguished merit' and outstanding achievements in the field of business and commitment to French-Indian relations.

H.E. Mr. Alexandre Ziegler, Ambassador of France to India said, "It is an honour to confer the *Ordre national du Mérite* on Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar, a dedicated and successful corporate leader who placed Sanofi in a solid position in India, turning it into a remarkable example of Make in India, and initiated numerous projects to promote public health, particularly for children and people suffering from diabetes."

On receiving the award, **Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar, Managing Director - India and Vice President - South Asia, Sanofi** said, "I am very privileged and honoured to be conferred with the French Government's recognition of the *Officier de l'Ordre national du Merite*. I owe this recognition to my entire team at Sanofi India and the trust and confidence I have been privileged to enjoy with my parent company in France. This Indo-French collaboration in the field of medicine has helped transform scientific innovations into therapeutic solutions that empower people to enjoy a healthier life, every day."

About Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar and his journey at Sanofi

Dr. Ayyangar is a visionary leader who, through his rich career spanning over three decades, has inspired people across India's healthcare industry to come together to bring focus to issues and the patients' needs. For the fourth consecutive year, Dr. Ayyangar has been unanimously elected as the President of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), to lead the organisation in their commitment to work with all stakeholders to achieve their collective dream of a healthy and innovative India.



Since 2002, Sanofi India has diversified and grown manifold and the journey of creating a most admired healthcare company has covered a lot of ground.

Sanofi remains the fastest growing Pharmaceutical MNC amongst its peer companies in India, going by the growth in the past 5 years as per IMS. Sanofi's brands are category leaders and its Vaccines and Medicines have earned a great deal of trust and respect from patients and healthcare professionals. Over 90% of Sanofi India's products marketed in India are 'Made in India'. Sanofi is rated amongst the best brand building companies with several of its brands receiving coveted Marketing Excellence awards. Sanofi has a happy and engaged workforce enjoying the culture of mutual respect, a passion to make a difference and energy to excel in every sphere of its diverse activities in India and South Asia.

Dr. Ayyangar has been ranked amongst 'India's Best CEOs' in the mid-sized Companies category by Business India in 2014, and in 2013, he was recognized as the 'Most Valuable CEO' in mid-sized companies category by Businessworld.

Dr. Ayyangar holds a Masters in Business Management from the distinguished Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad and is a graduate in Veterinary Science.

About Ordre national du Mérite

Ordre National du Mérite (French National Order of Merit) was instituted in 1963 by General Charles de Gaulle. It is awarded for distinguished services rendered in public, civil, military posts, or a private profession.

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