

1. [How to avoid a bad trip](#) –

Economic Times

Dinesh Thakur in his blog on ET highlights the quality of products being manufactured in India and the response received from global regulatory bodies on it. He makes comparisons with Modi Governments mission statements like 'Make in India' and 'Zero Defect, Zero Effect'. "We should manufacture goods in such a way that they carry zero defects and that our exported goods are never returned to us. We should manufacture goods with zero effect that they should not have a negative impact on the environment," said PM Modi. Basis ET reports, USFDA rejected 13,334 Indian-made food and drug products over the last five

years. In 2015, the EU cancelled 700 drug approvals because the supporting safety data generated at GVK Bio was suspected of being either manipulated or fabricated

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7. [HC nod to desi cos' version of cancer drug, but with curbs](#) – Times of India
8. [When doctors take bribes](#) – Times of India
9. [Here is why India is becoming drug resistant](#) – Hindustan Times
10. [Cure for high medicine bills: A generics prescription law](#) – The Hindu
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2. [DIPP looks to reduce delays in clearing intellectual property applications](#) - Mint

DIPP secretary Ramesh Abhishek says the department had set a target of lowering the time taken to clear pending IPR applications from the current five to seven years to 18 months by March 2018. DIPP has hired 100 odd additional examiners for trademarks and the examination time has come down to eight months. To give a boost to start-ups, the government has reduced patent filing fee for them by 80% and has built a panel of 80 lawyers to provide them free legal advice. The US has been complaining against India's policy towards compulsory licensing of pharmaceutical products, holding that it may weaken the global patent regime under TRIPS.

Similar story in Business Standard - [Govt to make patent clearance process faster](#)

3. [NITI Aayog meet seeks reforms in public healthcare system](#) – Mint

Outsourcing primary healthcare to private doctors, competition between govt, private hospitals proposed. The NITI Aayog and think tank meetings discussed about the proposals on universal healthcare. Proposals call for outsourcing primary healthcare to private doctors and promoting competition between government and private hospitals at the secondary level, which involves services of medical specialists. It proposes that the primary health centres (PHCs) will carry out government initiatives such as immunization and provide laboratory services and free medicines.

4. [Lok Sabha passes biotech centre bill](#) – Business Standard
The Lok Sabha passed a bill that seeks to give legislative backing to the Regional Centre for Biotechnology and empower it to award Master's and PhD degrees. The Regional Centre for Biotechnology Bill, 2016, says the objectives of the regional centre will include disseminating knowledge by providing teaching and research facilities in biotechnology and related fields, facilitating transfer of technology and knowledge in the Saarc region and generally Asia, creating a hub of biotechnology expertise, and promoting cooperation at the international level. The centre, located in Faridabad in Haryana, will be a state of the art institute and a regional hub for interdisciplinary education, training and research in biotechnology, Harsh Vardhan said.
5. [ICMR, Sun Pharma come together to eradicate malaria](#) – Business Standard
The research body has signed an agreement with the pharmaceutical company and Madhya Pradesh government to establish a malaria elimination demonstration project titled 'Malaria Free India' under the PPP model. The malaria elimination demonstration programme will start in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh, which along with five other states contributes 60 percent of malaria cases in India.
6. [GSK pitches to participate in the Universal Immunisation Programme](#) – The Hindu Business Line
GSK has offered their participation to India on the Universal Immunisation Programme. GSK operates in the pharmaceuticals, consumer products and vaccines segments and is presently the world's largest producer of vaccines by volume. Its rotavirus, pentavalent and cervical cancer vaccines are available in the Indian private market. GSK's India chief Annaswamy Vaidheesh added that they would participate in the Centre's next round of bids for rotavirus.
7. [HC nod to desi cos' version of cancer drug, but with curbs](#) – Times of India
The Delhi high court on Monday allowed the sale and manufacture of breast cancer drug trastuzumab by Biocon and Reliance Life Sciences, with certain restrictions. Legal sources say Justice Manmohan Singh, while delivering the order on the case of Swiss pharmaceutical firm Roche against Biocon and Reliance, said that biosimilars (non-originator biological products) will need to follow stringent guidelines framed in 2012 for getting regulatory approvals.
8. [When doctors take bribes](#) – Times of India
How entrenched conflict of interest in Indian healthcare endangers patients. Doctors might say they cannot be bought with expensive meals and holidays but there is strong evidence that even the smallest of gifts or favours can alter their prescribing practices. Similar studies may not have been done in India, but they prove the point (unless Indian doctors would like to claim they are more honest/ honourable/ morally incorruptible than their counterparts in the rest of the world).
9. [Here is why India is becoming drug resistant](#) – Hindustan Times
There is another looming crisis that deserves attention: The unregulated availability and irrational use of beneficial drugs. The first State of the World's Antibiotics Report published last year found that country annually popped the highest number of antibiotic pills— 13 billion as against 10 billion in China and seven billion in the US. The reasons behind such overuse include oversight and rampant corruption — the 11,000-odd companies have approval to manufacture 70,000 medicines and these are distributed with little regulatory control through a network of pharmacies that stretch into the vast country side.
10. [Cure for high medicine bills: A generics prescription law](#) – The Hindu
There is a need to engage small scale drug industries to produce quality generics, according to the Universal Health Coverage report. It will help patients access affordable medicines provided through state-run Jan Aushadhi stores. The Central government is considering the introduction of a law to make it mandatory for doctors to prescribe generic drugs so that patients can access affordable medicines provided through state-run Jan Aushadhi stores.

11. [Playing Cat and Mouse](#) – Business World

With the on-going case on FDC ban in India, the industry opposition to it has become routine. Several expert committees appointed by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) in the past have recommended controlling irrational drug combinations. But, no ban has lasted under pressure from industry. This situation is unique to India, where sales growth of companies is closely connected to brand launches. A company can only launch as many single drug brands as the total number of molecules available in the market. So, once the single drug brands are matured, the companies have to depend on combination brands for new launches to keep their sales growing.

12. [Recalling stocks to re-label drugs with revised prices not mandatory: NPPA](#) – Express Pharma

A letter to member companies of the IPA states, “Recalling or re-labelling or re-stickering on the label of container or pack of released stocks in the market prior to date of notifications, is not mandatory, if manufacturers are submitting revised price list, and are able to ensure price compliance at the retailer level.” It exempts pharma manufacturers from mandatorily recalling all stocks from retail chemists, wholesalers and distributors to re-label them with the revised prices