1. How can DCGI approved drugs be banned: HC asks govt – PTI Flash
Appeared in Times of India, The Hindu, Moneycontrol.com
2. Government can ban drugs approved by drug regulatory authority: Centre to Delhi HC – Economic Times
3. FDC ban order was legislative exercise, government tells Delhi HC – Mint
4. India's attractive again for clinical trials: Quintiles CEO – Times of India
5. Indians among the hardest hit as global diabetes footprint expands – Mint
6. The GSK gesture – Hindu Business Line
7. Botox maker Allergan, Pfizer scrap $160bn deal – Economic Times
8. USFDA actions hurting exports; need govt intervention: Dr Reddy's Laboratories – Economic Times
9. Boost for bulk drug making – Mint
10. Pfizer may leverage European approval to pneumonia vaccine in Indian market – Economic Times
11. Give exemption from drug price control for 5 years: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw - Economic Times

1. **How can DCGI approved drugs be banned: HC asks govt** – PTI Flash
Pharma companies affected by the ban claimed the government has not properly implemented the powers under section 26A of the Act. They told the court that there were three categories of drugs mentioned under section 26A which are "harmful, boastful and those that lack therapeutic justification."

As per the government's expert panel, all banned FDCs fell in the third category and hence they should have been regulated by saying which ingredient of a combination was not required or if needed then in what dosage.

Appeared in Times of India, The Hindu, Moneycontrol.com

2. **Government can ban drugs approved by drug regulatory authority: Centre to Delhi HC** – Economic Times
The government maintained in the Delhi High Court in defence of its ban on several combination drugs that the Centre can ban even those drugs approved by the highest drug regulatory authority.

When Justice RS Endlaw asked Additional Solicitor General Sanjay Jain, the government's counsel, what guided the Centre's decision to ban the drugs with approval from the DCGI, he said the central government was conducting a legislative exercise detached from the regulator's past decisions and approvals.

Also appeared in Mint

3. **FDC ban order was legislative exercise, government tells Delhi HC** – Mint
Justice Endlaw questioned the basis for holding that the drugs have ceased to have therapeutic justification after being approved by the DCGI. In response to the question raised by Delhi High Court, who asked the centre how it could disregard the approvals by the DCGI at earlier stages; the central government said that it was a "legislative exercise" that was not influenced by earlier approvals granted by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI).

4. **India's attractive again for clinical trials: Quintiles CEO** – Times of India
   Quintiles, a Fortune 500 company and the world's largest provider of biopharmaceutical development and commercial outsourcing services, tells TOI that the regulatory changes last year relating to clinical trials of new drugs on patients will help bring more drugs to India.

5. **Indians among the hardest hit as global diabetes footprint expands** – Mint
   A study by the World Health Organization (WHO) and medical journal The Lancet was released on Wednesday, ahead of the World Health Day on 7 April. The study shows that diabetes is fast becoming a health problem in low- and middle-income countries such as China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Mexico.

6. **The GSK gesture** – Hindu Business Line
   According to experts, the current approach by GSK that it will not file patents for its drugs in "low income" and "least developed" countries, enhancing access to medicines in a significant slice of the globe; will force generics companies to have "case-by-case" deals with drug companies in order to make copycat drugs. That's not going to help access to medicines, except in certain pockets, like Africa.

7. **Botox maker Allergan, Pfizer scrap $160bn deal** – Economic Times
   In a big win for President Barack Obama who has been pushing to curb tax-slashing "inversion" deals, US drugmaker Pfizer and Ireland-based Allergan formally announced the scrapping of their $160-billion merger

   Also appeared in Hindustan Times, Business Standard, Indian Express, The Hindu, Mint, Financial Express,

8. **USFDA actions hurting exports; need govt intervention: Dr Reddy's Laboratories** – Economic Times
   Dr Reddy's Laboratories Chairman Satish Reddy, among the industry leaders who attended the Board of Trade meeting, said exports have been hit due to USFDA actions. He emphasized on the need for a sustained dialogue between the commerce ministry and the US FDA.

9. **Boost for bulk drug making** – Mint
   Commerce and industry minister Nirmala Sitharaman said a number of norms on environment clearances related to bulk drug manufacturing will be relaxed in order to encourage Indian drug makers and reduce the country's dependence on Chinese imports.

   R.K. Agrawal, general secretary, Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association, an industry lobby group shared the environmental hurdles faced by the industry.

10. **Pfizer may leverage European approval to pneumonia vaccine in Indian market** – Economic Times
    In an interview with Economic Times, Susan Silbermann, president for Pfizer's global vaccines operations said they are keen on working with the Indian government to ensure that the multi-dose vial is introduced as soon as possible to help protect the children from pneumococcal disease.

11. **Give exemption from drug price control for 5 years: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw** - Economic Times
    Kiran Mazumdar Shaw stressed on the need to incentivise investments in the pharma sector and disapproved of the ad-hoc the manner in which the government has tried to bring more medicines under price control.