

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [Next round of RCEP meet from tomorrow in Myanmar](#) – Business Standard
2. [Patent Office refuses Eli Lilly's application for anti-cancer drug](#) – Business Standard
3. [Shortage of manpower: 2.26 lakh patent applications pending for government nod](#) – The Economic Times

**Medical & Regulatory**

1. ['9,092 drug samples found to be substandard in last 3 years'](#) – Business Standard
2. [Build bar-coding capacity first, industry tells Govt](#) - The Hindu Business Line
3. [Government mulling 'structured regulatory regime' for AYUSH drugs](#) – The Economic Times
4. [Health ministry to make it mandatory for physicians to prescribe drugs with generic names](#) – Pharmabiz.com

**Others**

1. [Insurers now offer covers for Ayush treatments too](#) – Financial Chronicle

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [Next round of RCEP meet from tomorrow in Myanmar](#) – Business Standard  
Aug 3, 2015: Senior officials of the 16-member RCEP, including [India](#) and China, will meet tomorrow in [Myanmar](#) to provide impetus to the negotiations on the mega trade deal. The deal aims to cover goods and services, investments, economic and technical cooperation, competition and intellectual property. The ninth round of talks, to be held on August 3-7, on [Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership](#) (RCEP) agreement will follow the recent ministerial level meet that concluded in Kuala Lumpur.
2. [Patent Office refuses Eli Lilly's application for anti-cancer drug](#) – Business Standard  
July 31, 2015: The [Patent](#) Office has refused to grant patent for a crystalline form of Eli Lilly's cancer drug Pemetrexed, in favour of the pre-grant opposition filed by three pharma firms - Fresenius Kabi Oncology Ltd, Cipla Ltd and Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd. The opponent companies filed the pre-grant opposition on the grounds that the claimed invention was anticipated by prior publication, there is prior public knowledge or use, obviousness and lack of inventive steps and that it is not an invention within the meaning of the Patent Act, 1970, among others.
3. [Shortage of manpower: 2.26 lakh patent applications pending for government nod](#) – The Economic Times  
July 31, 2015: As many as 2,26,339 patent applications are pending due to shortage of professionals, Parliament was informed today. In the four patent offices, Delhi (at 83,291) has maximum number of applications pending followed by Chennai (74,390), [Kolkata](#) (40,558) and Mumbai (28,100). Sitharaman said the government has taken steps to clear the pendency. The government has approved additional 252 posts of examiners and 76 posts of controllers

## Medical & Regulatory

1. ['9,092 drug samples found to be substandard in last 3 years'](#) – Business Standard  
July 31, 2015: The Centre today said that out of the 2,05,448 drug samples tested from 36 states and union territories in the last three years, 9,092 samples were declared 'not of standard quality' while 271 were found to be spurious or adulterated. Measures like increase in the number of sanctioned posts in Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), development of IT enabled system for online submission of clinical trial application, development of e-governance module for CDSCO and re-equipping the drug testing laboratories with state-of-art equipment, have been initiated, Nadda said.
2. [Build bar-coding capacity first, industry tells Govt](#) - The Hindu Business Line  
Aug 3, 2015: A barcode on every medicine pack or bottle -- that was the Government's ambitious plan to help consumers check if the medicine they'd bought was genuine. But the implementation of this plan has not been thought through in terms of logistics and cost, say top industry representatives, even though the Government expects them to be bar-code ready in the domestic market by December. Initiatives of this scale affect the industry and Government needs to have a phased implementation where capacities are first built and then it is rolled out, says Satish Reddy, Chairman, Dr Reddy's Laboratories. Reddy is also President, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA), a platform for large domestic drug companies including Sun Pharma, Lupin, Cipla and Natco.
3. [Government mulling 'structured regulatory regime' for AYUSH drugs](#) – The Economic Times  
July 31, 2015: The government is considering setting up a structured central regulatory regime for AYUSH drugs, Lok Sabha was informed today. Government has considered setting up of a structured central regulatory regime for AYUSH drugs," AYUSH Minister Shripad Naik said in a written reply in Parliament. He said that the current proposal is to have a vertical structure for AYUSH in the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO).
4. [Health ministry to make it mandatory for physicians to prescribe drugs with generic names](#) – Pharmabiz.com  
Aug 3, 2015: In a bid to further promote the use of generic drugs and also to encourage the rational use of drugs, the Union health ministry will soon make it mandatory for all the physicians in the country to prescribe drugs with generic names. A decision to this effect was taken by the ministry in consultation with the Medical Council of India (MCI) and the Indian Medical Association (IMA). Rational prescription of drugs and use of generic name as against the brand name has been an issue in medical profession in the country for quite some time now. Accordingly, a clause (clause 1.5) was inserted in the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 which read as "Every physician should, as far as possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs".

## Others

1. [Insurers now offer covers for Ayush treatments too](#) – Financial Chronicle  
Aug 3, 2015: INSURANCE companies are increasingly providing cover for Ayush (ayurveda, siddha, unani and homoeopathy) treatments in their policies. However, utilisation of the cover still remains negligible. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Irdai) too wants inclusion of these alternative treatment methods in health covers. "Irdai had sent communication to insurers on including Ayush as part of the health cover. But the regulator has not made it mandatory.