1. **Combating NCDs effectively – The Financial Express**

You cannot sugar-coat diabetes. A global study by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington found that the number of people who died from diabetes and related complications rose from 100,000 in 1990 to 223,000 in 2010. There are 63 million people in India living with type-2 diabetes, giving us the dubious distinction of being the 'diabetes capital of the world'. The International Diabetes Federation (IDF)—an umbrella organisation of 230-plus diabetes associations from 170 countries—says 33% of adults with diabetes are undiagnosed.

2. **Global Innovation Index: India moves up to 66th rank this year – The Economic Times**

India scored a major improvement in its Global Innovation Index ranking this year, moving up to the 66th place from 81 in 2015. India's better performance in the latest index readings was due to its strengths in tertiary education, software exports, corporate R&D and market sophistication. Among middle income countries, India (25) came second after China (17) in innovation quality, overtaking Brazil (27). China figured at the 25th position (29 in 2015), the only middle-income country in the top 25

Also appeared in The Times of India

Also appeared in Bloomberg Quint

Also appeared in The Financial Express (Editorial – Innovate away)

3. **Property Rights: India Has Potential To Improve Global Standing – Business World**

The India Property Rights Conference (IPRC2016) with the 2016 global launch of the International Property Rights Index (IPRI2016) was held in New Delhi recently.

The conference was organized by the India Property Rights Alliance, a network of organisations and individuals committed to promoting rule of law and strong property rights through dialogue, research and advocacy.

India ranked 59 out of 128 countries globally and 10 out of 20 regional countries in the 2016 edition of the 2016 IPRI, almost with no change in scores compared to last year even though there is a huge difference in the scores of the individual components that make up the overall score.

4. **'High on innovation, city can own more patents' – The Times of India**
   The city has a huge potential for successfully applying for more intellectual property rights (IPR) as it has the second highest number of technology business incubators (TBI) in the country, the member secretary of department of science and technology, Government of India, H K Mittal, said. The new IPR policy, he said, would encourage more students to apply for IPR for their innovation.
   In Coimbatore, the department of science and technology also sees potential in areas like textile and automobiles. "The TBI set up at PSG Institutions is focused on nanotechnology. They cover textile sector, healthcare and related areas. We are open to helping institutions set up TBIs," Mittal said.

5. **Govt plans to open 300 Amrit pharmacies to dispense low-cost drugs – Business Standard**
   The government is planning to open 300 outlets of Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (Amrit) pharmacy in the country with the aim to reduce the expenditure incurred by common patients on treatment of cancer and heart diseases. “We are planning to open 300 outlets in the country. Amrit pharmacy reflects our strong commitment to reduce the cost of treatment for the patients,” said Minister for Health & Family Welfare, J P Nadda, who inaugurated a new Amrit outlet at SafdarjungHospital in New Delhi on August 12, 2016.
   Nadda added, “We are exploring the possibility of scaling up the facility and also making it accessible to larger number of people in various parts of the country. The state governments have been informed about the Amrit pharmacies and have been advised to consider opening such pharmacies.”

6. **Medical industry needs stable environment: US-India Business Council – The Economic Times**
   A stable and predictable market environment is essential for those companies that are looking to invest in research and development (R&D) and manufacturing in the medical device industry in India, the US-India Business Council (USIBC) today said. This issue, among others, came up for discussion at meetings of the USIBC's Medical Device Trade Mission here.
   Given the unmet medical need in India, there are "grand possibilities" for greater FDI into India in the medical device sector, USIBC said in a statement today.

7. **CSIR scientists develop BGR - 34, highly effective in Type 2 diabetes management – ETHealthWorld**
   India, 2016: "Ayurvedic anti diabetic drug BGR-34 is scientifically tested and very effective in treating type 2 Diabetes," said Shripad Naik, Union Minister of State, Ministry of AYUSH in Rajya Sabha. While answering the question raised on the efficacy of BGR-34 Naik shared that the medicine has been launched in the market after undergoing all the required scientific tests. He further added that the drug has been successful in improving the blood glucose levels of the diabetes patients and is available on all major chemist counters across the country.

8. **Centre removes ICMR approval for import/export of human biological samples - DNA**
   In another bid to give momentum to research and clinical trials in the country, the centre eased regulations governing the import and export of human biological samples for commercial purposes. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade issued a notification, August 4, saying that the import and export of such samples "should be permitted by Customs authorities at the port of entry / exit without prior approvals (import licence / export permit) from any other Government agency."
   As long as "the concerned Indian company/agency submits an undertaking that they are following and will follow all the applicable rules, regulations and procedures for safe transfer and disposal of the biological samples being imported/exported as per the related norms/regulations" to the Customs authority at the port of entry or exit, any other approval is no longer required. Prior to this change, such a company or agency had to submit an application to the Indian Council of Medical Research, which then made decisions case-by-case.

9. **Cadila Healthcare gets EIR from US FDA for Changodar facility – Business Standard**
   Drug firm Cadila Healthcare on Tuesday said it has received Establishment Inspection Report (EIR) for its Changodar manufacturing plant located near Ahmedabad from the US health regulator after successful completion of inspection. "The company's topical manufacturing facility located at Changodar, Ahmedabad, has received an EIR from theUS FDA (US Food and Drug Administration) following the inspection carried out in March 2016," Cadila said in aBSE filing.
   It further said: "The receipt of EIR indicates the successful closure of the inspection points (483s) raised. The topical plant is a dedicated facility for manufacturing ointments and does not form a part of the Moraiya formulations manufacturing plant."

10. **US FDA issues establishment inspection report for Natco's Kothur facility - Business Standard**
    The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an establishment inspection report (EIR) to the Hyderabad-based Natco Pharma Ltd for its Kothur facility in Mahaboob Nagar (Telangana). “The company is pleased to announce successful establishment inspection report (EIR) from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the inspection conducted at its drug manufacturing facility in Kothur Village, Mahaboob Nagar District, Telangana, during the period February 29-March 7, 2016,” said Natco in a BSE filing today.

11. **Relaxing clinical trial rules – Pharmabiz.com**
    Drugs Controller General of India early this month decided to do away with the restrictions on the number of clinical trials an investigator can undertake at a time in the country. Currently, no investigator is allowed to conduct more than three trials at any given period of time. However, the health ministry empowered the ethics committee to take a final call on the number of clinical trials an investigator can do at a time after examining the risk and complexity of the trials. The decision to relax the rules on clinical trials comes in the wake of widespread resentment against restrictions on clinical trials during the last few years.

12. **More blood banks under FDA scanner for non-compliance to Schedule F of D&C Act – Pharmabiz.com**
    Following Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration's suspension orders on blood banks of 4 civic run hospitals over non-compliance, the state regulator has now served stop sale notices to other two municipal hospital blood banks for non-compliance to Drugs Act. KEM Hospital and Nair Hospital blood banks which were served suspension orders have managed to get stay from the FDA Minister thus averting any abrupt closure. The state FDA Minister is the appellate authority for hearing such cases and delivering the final verdict.
    As per the provisions of the law, the blood banks can function after the issuance of suspension orders during the appeal period of three months, in which case they can appeal to the appellate authority to be heard in a judicious manner.