

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [‘Innovation shaping future, helping State governments’](#) - The Hindu Business Line
2. [A flawed response](#) – Business Standard
3. [We Believe Innovation will Ultimately Triumph in This Country: Merck’s Kevin Ali](#) - The Economic Times
4. [Power of One](#) – The Economic Times

**Regulatory & Medical**

1. [Ban on Indian drugs based on scientific reasons: EU](#) – The Hindu
  - Other Stories on the EU ban on pharma products -
    - [Click here to read The Hindu Business Line Story](#) – Drugs and Deals
    - [Click here to read Mint story](#) – Strong medicine – The India-EU standoff
2. [India may drag EU to WTO if drugs ban is not lifted](#) – The Hindu Business Line
3. [Talking Heads](#) – Business Standard
4. [Here’s why Indian pharma firms need regulatory experts on their boards](#) – The Economic Times
5. [India to bring all pharma companies at par with global standards](#) – DNA

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [‘Innovation shaping future, helping State governments’](#) - The Hindu Business Line  
Innovation in India is shaping the future of businesses and government, but particularly, the state governments, said Mohan Shekhar, Senior Managing Director, Delivery Centers of Technology in India, Accenture.

Speaking at the CII’s 11th India Innovation Summit, Shekhar said: “We must invest in human capital. The workforce has to be made digitally ready.”

At the same time he emphasised the importance of investing in the digital ecosystem. The digital revolution, he added, was also reaching the consumer as businesses were evolving, bridging the geographical gap with a bouquet of services.

2. [A flawed response](#) – Business Standard  
India's trade negotiation strategy continues to be flawed, failing to serve sunrise, labour-intensive and export-oriented industries such as prioritised by "Make in India" - and hurting consumers and even industry in the bargain. In the most recent incident, [India](#) responded to the European Union's ban on 700 drugs tested by Hyderabad-based [GVK Biosciences](#) by using it as a pretext for putting off talks on the [India-EU free trade agreement](#) scheduled to be held in New Delhi later this month.

The problem is that India has failed to recognise that the rules of the trade game have changed. Rather than negotiating on tariffs, countries now negotiate on non-tariff barriers, including regulatory and licensing issues. But New Delhi is still obsessed with tariffs as the major instrument of regulating overseas trade, thereby giving short shrift to discussions on intellectual property rights, trade facilitation, sanitary and phyto-sanitary standards, climate change and the like.

3. [We Believe Innovation will Ultimately Triumph in This Country: Merck’s Kevin Ali](#) - The Economic Times

Extreme volatility in emerging markets (EMs) has made life difficult in the past two years, says Merck & Co's emerging markets head Kevin Ali. Despite these challenges, India remains one of the key growth markets for the US company, Ali tells Vikas Dandekar and Divya Rajagopal.

How do you see the intellectual property regime shaping up in India, especially in the context of patent challenge of (diabetes drug) Januvia by Glenmark? With regards to patents, I had said this before that we are committed to stay the course in India. We were disappointed over what happened. We believe in India and we are invested in India. We strongly believe that innovation will ultimately triumph in this country. One of the things that ultimately open for the innovation to come in is a stable, reasonable and practical patent rights. We have great faith in the court system.

4. [Power of One](#) – The Economic Times

Seats with changeable orientation. An airbag system for protecting pedestrians installed in SUVs. A hybrid rice seed which uses minimal inputs. A testing mechanism which brings down the rejection rate for watch 'gearboxes' from 40% to 0.5%.

These innovations didn't happen overnight. They are the fruition of a ten-year-old initiative of the Tata Group to foster innovation and collaboration across group companies. And that is not an easy thing to pull off given the sheer scale and breadth of its operations. In 2014-15, the group posted revenues of \$108.78 billion and a market capitalisation of \$134 billion. In 2013-14, it spent about \$ 2.6 billion on R&D, 2% of the group turnover. The other significant feature of this thrust on innovation has been that it has yielded results across companies, irrespective of their size.

## Regulatory & Medical

1. [Ban on Indian drugs based on scientific reasons: EU](#) – The Hindu

The country could lose about \$1-1.2 billion worth of drug exports because of the decision. A day after India deferred trade talks with European Union (EU), protesting the ban on 700 generic drugs, the bloc said the ban was based on scientific and not trade considerations.

"The Commission stresses that the decision concerning a ban on 700 generic drugs was based on scientific and not trade considerations and in accordance with the advice of the scientific committee of the European Medicines Agency (EMA)," Daniel Rosario, European Commission Spokesperson for Trade said in an email response to The Hindu.

2. [India may drag EU to WTO if drugs ban is not lifted](#) – The Hindu Business Line

India is considering the option of dragging the European Union (EU) to the World Trade Organisation for "unjustly" banning 700 Indian drugs that were clinically tested at the Hyderabad-based GVK Biosciences. The Commerce Ministry is examining at least two technical grounds to see if a case can be made against the 28-member bloc at the multilateral forum, an official told BusinessLine.

The core allegation of data manipulation of electrocardiograms (ECGs) of volunteers levelled by the French drug regulatory authority, ANSM, against contract research lab GVK can be challenged as the lab has denied it and also produced evidence to support its position, the official said.

3. [Talking Heads](#) – Business Standard

Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council (Pharmexcil) Director General P V Appaji said the government action on trade talks with the EU was just a first step in securing the interests of the Indian pharmaceutical industry. "Our commerce secretary is holding a meeting on this matter Friday involving the industry people to discuss further steps," Appaji told Business Standard. However, he refused to elaborate on what those further steps could be. Appaji said ban on products tested at GVK Biosciences was an unfair action taken by the EU even after the company and other regulators presented the actual facts before the European authorities. "Government's

seriousness on this matter is very evident. We want all steps to be taken to protect the Indian pharmaceutical sector from any adverse impact," he said.

4. [Here's why Indian pharma firms need regulatory experts on their boards](#) – The Economic Times  
Last month, the Indian pharmaceutical industry witnessed the largest cross border buyout by an Indian pharma company, when Lupin bought US based Gavis for \$880 million. This was Lupin's fifth foreign acquisition in the last 18 months. Ian Wilcox, VP and Global MD , Life Sciences at Hay Group is of the opinion that Indian pharma companies are ready to take the global stage but there are a few issues to be addressed before India can be a global force in pharma. Hay Group is a US based global management consultancy with a focus on people development.
5. [India to bring all pharma companies at par with global standards](#) - DNA  
India plans to enforce the quality standards for drugs and pharmaceutical products to become WHO-GMP compliant. The national drug regulator is working on a framework to gradually bring all pharmaceutical companies at par with the global standards in medicines.

The World Health Organisation has drawn up good manufacturing practice (GMP), to ensure healthcare products are "consistently produced and controlled," according to quality standards.