

1. **[OPPI releases 'Healthcare in India: New Milestones...New Frontiers'](#)** – **Healthtechnology.in**

At the culmination of the golden jubilee celebrations of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), Kalvakuntla Taraka Rama Rao (KTR), Minister for IT, Industries, Mining, NRI Affairs & Urban Development, Government of Telangana released a publication- 'Healthcare in India: New Milestones...New Frontiers' with McKinsey and Company as Knowledge Partner.

Releasing the report Kalvakuntla Taraka Rama Rao (KTR), Minister for IT, Industries, Mining, NRI Affairs & Urban Development, Government of Telangana said, "Availability, accessibility and affordability are the three mantras for healthcare. We are working with all the stakeholders towards realizing vision of healthy India. As the youngest state, not burdened by legacy, we are forging partnerships with private players and want to lay emphasis on innovation. I do believe this initiative by OPPI augurs well for a new state like ours. We are willing to partner with OPPI and work towards "Healthcare for All".

*Similar reports –*

- [Minister Sri KT Rama Rao released 'Healthcare in India'](#) – Manateluguguru.com
- [Delhi : Telangana Minster KTR at Organisation Of Pharmaceutical Producers of India : 14-12-2016](#) – Indian Political News
- [Delhi : Telangana Minster KTR at Organisation Of Pharmaceutical Producers of India : 14-12-2016](#) – Indian Political News

2. **[Centre should frame roadmap to raise expenditure on health: Parliamentary Committee report](#)** – **The Times of India**

In order to lower household health expenditure, the Centre should frame a solid fiscal roadmap to raise the expenditure on health to 2.5% from the current 1.2% of the GDP, a Parliamentary Committee said in its report on Thursday. The Committee said that low expenditure on health leads to high out-of-pocket payments by individual households on healthcare, which not only forms a barrier to accessing care, but also leads to households incurring catastrophic expenditure due to health costs that often push them into indebtedness and poverty. "The Committee observes that despite rapid economic growth over the past two decades, successive Union governments have not

1. [OPPI releases 'Healthcare in India: New Milestones...New Frontiers'](#) – Healthtechnology.in
2. [Centre should frame roadmap to raise expenditure on health: Parliamentary Committee report](#) – The Times of India
3. [Cash and care](#) – The Indian Express
4. [Maharashtra reports 31,548 child and infant deaths in 17 months](#) – The Times of India
5. [Govt should make fiscal roadmap for affordable healthcare](#) – Indiatoday.in
6. [Sacked executives of Emcure's US unit to enter guilty pleas in US generics case](#) – Mint
7. [Govt urges private health care providers to set up centres in rural areas](#) – The Times of India
8. [Baxter to acquire Claris Injectables for Rs 4,237 crore](#) – The Economic Times
9. [Obamacare repeal could take months; replacement, years](#) – Firstpost.com
10. [Pharmexcil, AIDCOC to organize symposium on 'IPR & Regulatory Perspective for Pharma & Biotech' on Dec 17 at IPC](#) – Pharmabiz.com

made the requisite level of financial investments in health and the growth in the Union health budgets have been lower than needed to achieve the 2.5 percent goal," the report said.

**3. [Cash and care – The Indian Express](#)**

More than a month after the government announced its demonetisation drive, the country has begun to realise its social, economic and political implications. As we know, the move has affected processes and practices that require cash transactions throughout the country. It will take some time for the full impact of the demonetisation process to manifest but its short-term implications are already visible. These need careful evaluation. One doesn't need rocket science to understand that one area where cash crunch has affected the common people, directly, is access to healthcare.

Working in the country's largest public health hospital, I have realised that demonetisation has hit healthcare access in a significant way. There have been requests to postpone surgeries, patients have dropped out from follow-up clinics and a significant number of appointments have been canceled. The AIIMS's orthopedic out patient department (OPD) saw a 22 per cent dip in patients in November (between November 11 and December 2) as compared to October 2016 (between October 4 and October 30). National festivals, inclement weather and school holidays usually cause a dip in patient attendance at the AIIMS but none of these reasons were at work during this period.

**4. [Maharashtra reports 31,548 child and infant deaths in 17 months](#) – The Times of India**

The state witnessed 31,548 child and infant deaths in the 17 months since April 2015 to August 2016.

Woman and child development minister Pankaja Munde in her written reply to a calling attention motion in legislative assembly revealed the data. At the same time, minister defended her department saying that every child death should not be connected to malnutrition issue.

"It is a sensitive and important issue. However, it would not be fair to connect every child or infant death to malnutrition. Both issues are different. The reason could be different such as physiological disorder, Pneumonia or other diseases. The state has taken major steps to reduce malnutrition cases and compared to the national infant mortality rate, the state infant mortality rate is low and on third rank, below Kerala and Tamil Nadu," said Munde. According to her written reply, total 9,563 children died of which 7,868 were infant and 1,695 were children in the five months, from April to August 2017 while in the year of 2015-16, total 21,985 deaths, 17,944 were infant and 4041 were children.

**5. [Govt should make fiscal roadmap for affordable healthcare](#) – Indiatoday.in**

In order to realise the vision of affordable healthcare for all, the Centre should frame a solid fiscal roadmap to raise the expenditure on health to 2.5 percent from the current 1.2 per cent of the GDP, a Parliamentary Committee said in its report today. The Committee said that low expenditure on health leads to high out-of-pocket payments by individuals' households on healthcare which not only forms a barrier to accessing care, but also leads to households incurring catastrophic expenditure due to health costs which in turn push them into indebtedness and poverty. "The Committee observes that despite rapid economic growth over the past two decades, successive Union governments have not made the requisite level of financial investments in health and the growth in the Union Health budgets have been lower than needed to achieve the 2.5 percent goal.

**6. [Sacked executives of Emcure's US unit to enter guilty pleas in US generics case](#) – Mint**

Two executives of a small generic-drug maker are preparing to plead guilty to price-fixing charges and will cooperate with US prosecutors examining allegations of widespread collusion among drug manufacturers, according to people with knowledge of the matter. Jeffrey Glazer, a former chief executive officer of Heritage Pharmaceuticals Inc., and Jason Malek, an ex-president, were charged

in Philadelphia, according to court filings unsealed on Wednesday. Each was charged in a criminal information with two counts of conspiring with other drugmakers, which weren't identified, to fix the prices of an antibiotic and a drug used to treat diabetes. Heritage, which is identified only as Company A in the documents, is a subsidiary of Emcure Pharmaceuticals Ltd., based in Pune, India.

**7. [Govt urges private health care providers to set up centres in rural areas](#) – The Times of India**

The government urged private health care providers to set up centres in semi-rural and rural areas in order to bridge the disparity in availability of healthcare services between urban and rural areas. "We need poor people to have accessibility to private hospitals in rural areas and for that we have to explore and develop models that can provide healthcare at affordable cost," health minister JP Nadda said while addressing India Health Summit, an annual flagship event on healthcare, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). He also said that providers should make services affordable, while also maintaining viability of their businesses. Such an arrangement would help in plugging the health gaps in the country, he said.

*Similar reports –*

- [J P Nadda pitches for centres of private hospitals in semi-rural areas](#) – The Financial Express
- [Healthcare needs to be affordable, accessible and adhere to quality standards: J P Nadda](#) – Business Standard
- [Bring pvt care to the interiors](#) – Daily News and Analysis

**8. [Baxter to acquire Claris Injectables for Rs 4,237 crore](#) – The Economic Times**

Baxter International, the US-headquartered maker of a broad set of injectable and infusion medicines, announced it will buy Claris Injectables, a wholly owned subsidiary of Claris Lifesciences, for \$625 million or Rs 4238 crore. Baxter has been on the prowl in India for at least a year. It had lost out to Chinese drug maker Fosun in the race for Hyderabad-based Gland Pharma, which was acquired for \$1.4 billion in July.

ET had first reported about Baxter's preliminary interest in Claris in its edition of October 3. Top private equity players like Blackstone, Apax and Warburg Pincus were also among the few names that made the rounds in the initial phases of the deal process.

In a statement, Baxter, which grossed revenues of \$10 billion during FY2015, said Claris Injectables will add proven capabilities in production of essential generic injectable medicines, such as anesthesia and analgesics, renal, anti-infectives and critical care in a variety of presentations including bags, vials and ampoules. The boards of directors of both companies have approved the proposed acquisition, which is expected to close in the second half of 2017.

*Similar reports –*

- [Claris Lifesciences sells injectables biz to Baxter for Rs 4,237 crore](#) – Business Standard
- [Claris to sell Baxter its generic injectables business for \\$625 million](#) – Mint
- [Baxter to acquire Claris' injectables line for \\$625 m](#) – The Hindu Business Line

**9. [Obamacare repeal could take months; replacement, years](#) – Firstpost.com**

Repealing Obamacare could take months and developing replacement health insurance plans could take years, senior Republican aides in the U.S. Congress said on Thursday, discouraging talk of a quick end to the program after President-elect Donald Trump takes office on Jan. 20. Trump has promised to repeal Obamacare, and Republican lawmakers have said repealing President Barack Obama's signature domestic initiative will be the first thing they take up in the new year, saying it should be rushed to Trump's desk for signing into law. But the project is going to take time, said

senior Republican aides in the House of Representatives, asking not to be named."We are talking a matter of weeks, in two months - but not a matter of many months" for Congress to pass a repeal, one aide said, adding that Republicans "certainly" hope Trump will sign the repeal into law in the first half of 2017. Congressional Republicans are consulting with the Trump transition team on when the effective date of the repeal should be, another aide said. Setting it a few years out will provide lawmakers time to debate whether and how to replace some elements of the Obamacare law.

**10. [Pharmexcil, AIDCOC to organize symposium on 'IPR & Regulatory Perspective for Pharma & Biotech' on Dec 17 at IPC – Pharmabiz.com](#)**

The Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) in association with the All India Drugs Control Officers' Confederation (AIDCOC) is organizing a symposium on 'Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Regulatory Perspective for Pharma & Biotech Sectors' on December 17, 2016 at Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, A.P. The event will coincide with the 68th Indian Pharmaceutical Congress (IPC) being held at Visakhapatnam from December 17 to 19.

IPC is organizing its 68th edition with the theme "Quality Pharmaceuticals and Patient Welfare". It is a dynamic forum, where thousands of professionals from industry, academics, research institutes & drugs control organizations assemble to meet, deliberate and recommend policy inputs to government for growth of pharma sector.