

1. [Price cap in 530 essential medicines: Govt](#) – Times of India

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed the ceiling prices for 530 essential medicines, including 47 for cancer and 22 for HIV, Lok Sabha was informed today.

In addition, maximum retail price has been capped under the Drug Price Control Order 2013 (DPCO) in respect of 106 non-scheduled medicines, of which 84 are used for treatment of cardiovascular diseases and 22 for diabetes.

NPPA has also fixed the retail prices of 247 'new drugs' under the DPCO 2013, he said.

Also appeared in [Business Standard](#), [DNA](#), [Financial Express](#)

1. [Price cap in 530 essential medicines: Govt](#) – Times of India
2. [Govt mulls controlling prices of medical equipment](#) – Economic Times
3. ['No government firm under pharma department produces cancer drugs'](#) – Economic Times
4. ['Cutting health aid to states will have catastrophic results'](#) – Business Standard
5. [US regulatory norms to hit Indian pharma majors](#) – Reuters
6. [Aurobindo eyes Europe deal for biosimilar push](#) – Mint

2. [Govt mulls controlling prices of medical equipment](#) - Economic Times

The government is considering controlling prices of medical equipment such as stents and implants, Parliament was informed today.

Following a meeting of the Department of Pharmaceuticals with representatives of various manufacturers of medical devices, it was decided that the companies will voluntarily propose a reduction in the marketing expenses of these products and consequentially on the MRP by the first week of December.

3. ['No government firm under pharma department produces cancer drugs'](#) – Economic Times

The DoP has appointed retired government personnel as consultants to advise on the technical issues on pharmaceuticals.

On Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP), Ahir said majority of the companies have favoured making the code mandatory. "A review on the implementation of the UCPMP was held wherein it was found that majority of the companies favoured making the UCPMP mandatory," he said.

The government had prepared UCPMP which was to be adopted voluntarily by the pharma companies for a period of six months with effect from January 1, 2015. The code was later extended up to December 31.

4. ['Cutting health aid to states will have catastrophic results'](#) – Business Standard

A parliamentary panel today said that cutting down on central budgetary support to states for health sector will have "catastrophic consequences", and recommended the Health Ministry to provide them additional financial resources.

None of the states had increased the budget allocation for health during 2015-16 despite 10 per cent increase in the states' share post new tax devolution formula, it said.

"The Committee recommends that an assessment be made urgently and communicated to the Committee as to what extent the 10 per cent rise in states revenue is reflected in the allocation of additional resources for health by them," the report said.

5. [US regulatory norms to hit Indian pharma majors](#) – Reuters

Investors in India's \$15 billion pharmaceutical industry are favouring smaller firms with little or no exposure to the United States, where increasingly tight regulatory controls have burnt two of the country's biggest drugmakers over the past month.

Heavyweight generics makers, led by Sun Pharma and Dr Reddy's Laboratories, have long been seen as a conservative bet for domestic and foreign funds eyeing India, as these firms rely on the United States - the world's biggest pharmaceuticals market - for the bulk of their revenue.

Also appeared in [The Hindu](#)

6. [Aurobindo eyes Europe deal for biosimilar push](#) – Mint

Aurobindo Pharma Ltd is in advanced talks with a European company to obtain permits for at least four biosimilar drugs to treat cancers and autoimmune disorders in a deal valued at about \$200 million, according to two people familiar with the matter.

The deal will pit the Hyderabad-based drug maker against the likes of industry behemoth Biocon Ltd and others such as Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd and Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd, which are looking to launch biosimilars for Europe and other highly regulated markets.

The four biosimilars under Aurobindo's radar include trastuzumab, bevacizumab, infliximab and etanercept, according to the two people cited above.