

1. [We are committed to being a part of what India is building](#) – Mint

Members of the US-India Business Council's (USIBC) are on track to fulfil their commitment of investing \$41 billion in India over the next few years, USIBC former chairman Ajay Banga and current chairman John Chambers said in an interview.

Sticky issues such as taxation and intellectual property rights remain, but the opportunity offsets everything, Banga and Chambers said. Government programmes such as Skill India, Start-up India, Digital India and Make in India would actually create an ideal ecosystem for growth and for investing in India, they said.

1. [We are committed to being a part of what India is building](#) – Mint
2. [Patents within 18 months of application promised](#) – Business Standard
3. [Make In India: Pharma entrepreneurs urge industry to address compliance issues](#) – Economic Times
4. [Pharma CEOs want Brand Pharma like Brand India](#) – Times of India
5. [India drug monitoring programme struggles to grow fast enough](#) – Reuters
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2. [Patents within 18 months of application promised](#) – Business Standard

Patent approvals might soon come as early as 18 months. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion Secretary Amitabh Kant said such a process would be enabled within a year, speaking at an industry-academia symposium at the Make in India Week. "We will also outsource some of this work to the Indian Institutes of Technology. Apart from that, we are also hiring few hundred officers to inspect new patent applications and approve these quickly," said Kant. At the event, academic heads of engineering institutes said more tie-ups between industry and institutes were necessary.

3. [Make In India: Pharma entrepreneurs urge industry to address compliance issues](#) – Economic Times

Some of India's top pharmaceutical entrepreneurs have urged the industry to fix their compliance issues with regulators to create an image of India as the producer of best quality medicines and give fillip to the government's Make in India initiative. Dilip Shanghvi, managing director of the country's largest drug maker Sun Pharma, Pankaj Patel, chairman and MD of Zydus Cadila, and Rajiv Modi, CMD of Cadila Pharmaceuticals, also urged drug makers to innovate to leap to the next level of growth in the sector.

4. [Pharma CEOs want Brand Pharma like Brand India](#) – Times of India

After 'Brand India', drug companies need to create 'Brand Pharma' for which the government should tweak laws, create a robust infrastructure which fosters innovation, and strengthen regulatory compliance to world standards. This will accelerate growth and help industry to achieve the \$55 billion turnover by 2020, pharma CEOs at the Make in India session said.

Kicking off the inaugural session on 'Indian Pharmaceuticals Industry - Aligning with Make in India Vision', Pankaj Patel chairman and managing director, Zydus Cadila, said the Indian pharmaceutical industry is poised to reach \$55 billion, of which \$30 billion will be exports.

The crucial factors to make this happen are affordability, strong infrastructure, and, most important, the ease of doing business.

5. [India drug monitoring programme struggles to grow fast enough](#) – Reuters

Within days of being given a diphtheria jab during a school vaccination drive, 5-year-old Meraj Shabbir Khan's leg became so swollen that he was hospitalised.

In a cramped Mumbai paediatric ward, third-year pharmacology student Nitin Shinde opens the boy's file and notes the vaccine, his age and the doctor's diagnosis of a skin infection. That information is later logged into a computer programme linked to a national database, part of India's fledgling efforts to track, analyse and ultimately warn patients about unknown side effects of drugs on the market.

India's six-year-old pharmacovigilance programme, which collects and submits suspected adverse drug reactions to a World Health Organisation (WHO) database, is key to improving drug safety in a country where medicine consumption is high, experts say.

Similar article appeared in [Economic Times](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Business Today](#)

6. [New bulk drug policy to be unveiled in one month](#) – The Hindu

Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is expected to come out with a new bulk drug policy in less than one month, with an objective to grow the Indian pharmaceuticals sector to a \$200 billion industry by 2030.

Under this policy, the government wants to build an ecosystem to help pharma companies to move up in the value chain and come out with new molecules through innovations.

Similar article appeared in [Economic Times](#)

7. [HC orders notice to Centre on PIL against online sale of drugs](#) – Business Standard

The Madras High Court today issued notice to the Centre on a PIL seeking to ban websites from selling scheduled medicines online in violation of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules. Despite a communication sent by the Joint Drugs Controller to all officials in states and Union Territories to "put a vigil on online sale of medicines and take action against those indulging in online sale of medicines, there is no proper action," the petitioner alleged.

8. [Collect health insurance cess](#) – The Hindu

Since independence India has come a long way in terms of improving the health of its citizens. In just three decades, the country has added at least 11 years to the average life expectancy at birth, raising it from only 55 years in 1980 to 66 in 2013. Robust investments and expansion by the private sector has had a significant role to play in the development apart from other related factors especially innovations in medical technologies.