

1. [Trump's attack on pharma industry won't harm Indian generic drug makers: analysts](#) – Mint

Shares of Indian drug makers sank on Thursday after US president-elect Donald Trump attacked pharma companies for high drug prices and manufacturing in overseas locations. Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd fell 0.6% while Lupin Ltd plunged 2% and Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd declined 1.2%. However, industry experts and analysts brushed aside these concerns, saying the incremental impact on Indian pharma industry won't be significant. The US accounts for nearly half of the revenue of many Indian drug makers. "As far as the constituents of US healthcare inflation are concerned, healthcare services, innovators and biologics are the biggest culprits. Generics deflate the net healthcare bill, so beyond the rhetoric, we don't see much impact to overall profitability metrics of Indian pharma companies," said Anmol Ganjoo, director at JM Financial Institutional Securities Ltd.

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2. [Shot in arm for pharma, medical devices](#) – The Times of India

It was raining MoUs for the pharmaceutical and medical devices sector at VGGs on Thursday. The seminar on 'Opportunities and Challenges in Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Manufacturing', witnessed the signing of 249 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) worth Rs 14,700 crore, the highest seen at VGGs so far. The last edition of VGS had seen 201 MoUs worth Rs 5,000 crore in the pharma sector. Major MoUs were signed by Zydus Cadila - for five projects worth Rs 2,200 crore, Torrent Pharmaceutical Ltd - for Rs 1,800 crore, Colgate Palmolive - for an expansion project of Rs 374 crore, USV India Pvt Ltd - for Rs 200 crore and Unique Pharma Laboratories - for Rs 120 crore. The seminar was attended by Mansukh Mandaviya, Union minister of state for chemicals and fertilizers and Shankar Chaudhary, MoS health and family welfare, along with senior officials of the FDCA, industrialists and industry representatives. Pankaj Patel,, CMD, Zydus Cadila, and president of FICCI, represented the industry and underlined the need for innovation and nurturing of the next generation. He credited VGGs for roping in countries like Saudi Arabia, which had almost no presence in the Indian pharma industry.

1. [Trump's attack on pharma industry won't harm Indian generic drug makers: analysts](#) – Mint
2. [Shot in arm for pharma, medical devices](#) – The Times of India
3. [DoP exempts pharmaceutical companies from lowering drug prices based on WPI](#) – Business Standard
4. [Pharma company executives debate drug pricing increases](#) – Reuters
5. [Wearable brain scanner among healthcare innovations](#) – The Economic Times
6. [We need a common regulator for pharma sector: Ficci chairman](#) – Business Standard
7. [No scope of US intervention in Indian pharma cos: Wockhardt](#) – Moneycontrol.com
8. [Kerala govt plans to launch new scheme 'Kerala Generics' in place of Jan Aushadhi stores](#) – Pharmabiz.com

3. [DoP exempts pharmaceutical companies from lowering drug prices based on WPI](#) – **Business Standard**

In a relief to the pharmaceutical industry, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has ordered that companies already selling drugs at a price lesser than the ceiling price fixed by the NPPA will not have to revise prices based on the Wholesale Price Index. The Department of Pharmaceuticals said that the pharma pricing regulator "erred" when it said that even prices of the drugs with Maximum Retail Price below the actual ceiling price fixed by the NPPA should be revised. The Department's order says, "NPPA is therefore directed to revise the Ceiling Price of Schedule I medicines each year in accordance with the WPI revision. Individual companies/ brands/ medicines which are already having an MRP below or equal to such WPI adjusted Ceiling Price shall not be required to reduce the MRPs any further vis-a-vis the WPI."

4. [Pharma company executives debate drug pricing increases](#) – **Reuters**

Grappling with a backlash against high U.S. prescription drug prices, more pharmaceutical companies are pledging to limit annual increases to under 10 percent - but the tactic is doing little to salve critics, including President-elect Donald Trump, who on Wednesday said drugmakers are "getting away with murder." The pharmaceutical industry is typically reluctant to talk about U.S. drug prices, generally the highest in the world due to a combination of market fragmentation and free market policies. But recent high-profile price hikes by Mylan NV (MYL.O), Turing Pharmaceuticals and Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc (VRX.TO) have raised the ire of consumers and lawmakers. AbbVie Inc (ABBV.N) on Wednesday became the third global drugmaker to publicly promise to cap annual price increases at under 10 percent, following earlier pledges by Allergan Plc (AGN.N) and Novo Nordisk A/S (NOVOB.CO). Allergan last week raised the price of two dozen of its drugs by between 7 percent and 9.5 percent. "I do think that the industry is off to a good start in terms of good behavior," Allergan Chief Executive Officer Brent Saunders told investors here this week during J.P. Morgan's annual healthcare conference, the largest industry meeting of the year.

5. [Wearable brain scanner among healthcare innovations](#) – **The Economic Times**

A low-cost, brain-scanning device for detecting neurological emergencies swiftly, a biochip integrated with smart phone for DNA-based test malaria test, a point-of-care microscope that detects infection using artificial intelligence (AI) are some of the top 20 ventures selected in the Tata Social Enterprise Challenge (TSEC) 2016-2017. Of the over 400 applications for the latest edition of TSEC, the maximum (20 per cent) are from the healthcare sector. This is followed by (at 18 per cent) participants from the agriculture, food, dairy segment and the education vertical. For example, Kolkata-based Arogya Meditech Pvt. Ltd, has developed a product called CEREBROS, a low-cost, portable, radiation-free brain scanning device that detects brain injuries, strokes and other neurological emergencies. It comes in the form of a wearable head-gear and combines two technologies-Near Infrared Spectroscopy and Electroencephalography.

6. [We need a common regulator for pharma sector: Ficci chairman](#) – **Business Standard**

The pharmaceuticals and medical devices sector, which is currently governed by multiple regulators and ministries, needs a common regulator to simplify processes, said Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci) chairman here. Speaking at the sidelines of a seminar at the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit here, Pankaj Patel, chairman and managing director of Cadila Healthcare and said that there was a need to simplify the regulatory processes governing the pharmaceutical sector. "A common regulator for the entire sector covering drugs, medical devices and others would simplify the processes and improve ease of doing business," Patel who is also the chairman of Ficci said. He added that now there were multiple regulators including the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and others which come under the purview of various ministries.

7. [No scope of US intervention in Indian pharma cos: Wockhardt](#) – Moneycontrol.com

Wockhardt chief Habil Khorakiwala says that Indian generic company as a whole is a competitive industry in US and therefore there is no scope for government intervention there. Anmol Ganjoo of JM Financial says if drug prices come down then Indian pharma companies will benefit. When US President-elect Donald Trump in his first press conference yesterday railed against local pharmaceutical companies, drug firms back home felt a chill. Shares of Sun Pharmaceutical, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Aurobindo Pharma, among others were down in the range of 1-2 percent on the BSE today.

8. [Kerala govt plans to launch new scheme 'Kerala Generics' in place of Jan Aushadhi stores](#) – Pharmabiz.com

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP)'s attempt to start 600 retail outlets of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Scheme (PMJAS) in Kerala is unlikely to succeed as the state government, instead of promoting the central scheme, plans to introduce a new scheme 'Kerala Generics' in its place to sell generic drugs. The new scheme will be launched next month in five Karunya Community Pharmacies (KCP) operated under the control of Kerala Medical Supply Corporation (KMSCL). Karunya Pharmacies were launched by KMSCL on January 12, 2012 to sell branded versions of all medicines on reasonable prices. The retail outlets are operated in the premises of medical colleges and general hospitals. Currently, 54 KCP stores are operating in all the 14 districts of the state. Sources in the KMSCL said that initially, the sale of generic drugs will be restricted to five KCPs working at medical colleges and district hospitals as a pilot project. In another three months, all the 54 Karunya Pharmacies of KMSCL will have separate counters for generic versions.