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## IPR and Innovation

1. [New method to develop highly-potent drugs uncovered](#) – The Financial Express  
July 10, 2015: A new approach to developing highly-potent drugs has been uncovered by researchers, which could overcome the shortcomings of low drug efficacy and multi-drug resistance in treating cancer and other diseases. The study by University of Kentucky researchers identified a new mechanism of targeting multi-subunit complexes that are critical to the function of viruses, bacteria or cancer, thus reducing or possibly even eliminating their resistance to targeted drugs.

2. [SDI woos Indian pharma, biotech cos, impels to invest & collaborate with its life science resources](#) – Pharmabiz.com

July 11, 2015: Scottish Development International (SDI), the inward investment and export trade arm of the Scottish government is keen to woo Indian biotech and pharma companies to benefit from the life sciences infrastructure covering labs and pilot production plants and manufacturing houses. In order to enable innovations and collaborations, SDI has highlighted that Scotland has funding mechanisms to support R&D including R&D tax credits, tax credit support for larger companies, patent box. There are active angel investors and VC funds dedicated to life sciences. The country is also home to leading universities.

### Access to Healthcare

1. [In Delhi, government promises basic healthcare at your doorstep](#) – Hindustan Times

July 11, 2015: Taking note of the issues raised in HT's Sick Hospitals investigation, Delhi health minister Satyendar Jain on Friday promised to bring primary healthcare to the doorstep of every Delhiite with neighbourhood clinics, diagnostic labs and free ambulance services.

2. [TS govt launches e-aarogya, online e-medicine centres, in govt hospitals](#) – Pharmabiz.com

July 11, 2015: Telangana government has embarked on 'e-aarogya', an online e-medicine centre in all the government hospitals. The main aim of this programme is to provide quality healthcare services to poor patients in the rural areas. As part of government's initiative to provide high quality healthcare services to the poor patients and to improve the existing healthcare system in the state, the health department in Telangana has launched 'e-aarogya' centres to provide round the clock healthcare services to the patients in the rural areas.

3. [Public-private partnership can tackle challenges in health sector, TN health secretary says](#) – The Times of India

July 10, 2015: Cost of services and the uneven distribution of human resources are the biggest challenges faced by the government sector in delivery of health services, said [Tamil Nadu](#) health secretary Dr J Radhakrishnan on Friday. The important sectors where healthcare in the country needs a boost is data management, telemedicine, skill development and innovation, said Sushoban Dasgupta, president of NATHEALTH. "So we have decided to focus on the 'Digital India' initiative where NATHEALTH has joined hands with NASSCOM to maximize digitization in India," he said.

4. [Delhi government to set up panels to monitor health schemes](#) - The Economic Times

July 12, 2015: The Delhi government has decided to set up committees to monitor the implementation of health schemes in the national capital, especially Mission Indradhanush, which was launched by the Union Health Ministry to immunise children against vaccine-preventable diseases.

5. [Chhattisgarh scores better than national average on health insurance scheme](#) – Business Standard

July 10, 2015: [Chhattisgarh](#) had surpassed the national average in the implementation of the national [health insurance](#) scheme in the state. According to health department officials, 89.3% of the target families in state had been covered under the scheme in Chhattisgarh as against the national average of 54%. They said Kerala had achieved 84% target while 49% of the target families in Madhya Pradesh have been issued cards under National Health Insurance Scheme.

### Medical & Regulatory

1. [DoP starts process to bring medical devices under its ambit](#) – Business Standard

In a move aimed at regulating medical device prices in India, the government has started the process to bring the USD 4-billion sector under the ambit of pharmaceuticals department. In this regard, it has been suggested that the pharmaceuticals department's name be changed as "Department of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices".

2. [Amendments to drug prices](#) – The Hindu Business Line

July 10, 2015: The Department of Pharmaceuticals is to meet representatives of industry associations and civil society on July 15 to discuss amendments to the Drugs Price Control Order 2013. The revised DPCO 2013 had widened the net of price control across all 348 medicines in the National List of Essential Medicines. The implementation of the revised price control regime on medicines witnessed many face-offs between industry and the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority. The stage is now poised for medical technology as well to be brought under the price control net. A key device at the centre of this storm is the stent.

3. [Govt decision to cap condom prices illegal: Delhi High Court](#) – The Financial Express

July 10, 2015: In a relief to pharma majors, the [Delhi High Court](#) today held as “illegal and unsustainable” the Centre’s decision to put a ceiling on the price of condoms, including the luxury variety. A bench of Chief Justice G Rohini and Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw set aside the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA’s) orders capping prices of male contraceptive devices, saying it exceeded the powers conferred upon it under the Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) of 2013.

4. [Skill Development Ministry in pact with Health Ministry](#) – Zee News

July 11, 2015: Skill Development Ministry and the [Ministry of Health and Family Welfare](#) have signed an agreement to address the need for skilled manpower in the health sector. Besides achieving the national goals of skilling youth so as to increase their employability, the agreement shall also seek to upgrade the quality and reach of human and infrastructural resources that is at the core of a quality healthcare system, an official statement said.

5. [Drugs Consultative Committee to deliberate on online pharmacy norms at its meeting on July 24](#)  
– Pharmabiz.com

Drugs Consultative Committee is all set to deliberate on the norms to be devised for the online pharmacies. The meeting, led by Dr. GN Singh, drugs controller general of India (DCGI) is scheduled to be held on July 24, 2015 at New Delhi in this regard. The focus of the meeting will be on key licensing norms for online pharmacies.

6. [Pharma industry captains in TN to approach state govt seeking Excise Free Zone for pharma sector](#) – Pharmabiz.com

July 13, 2015: Following the success of the trade exhibition in Chennai, the pharma professionals and industry captains in Tamil Nadu are gearing up to call on the state government to take favorable steps for setting up an Excise Free Zone (EFZ) for pharma industry in the state as, they feel, it is a potential tool for promoting industrial development and trade.

7. [Task Force recommends several trade promotions for private sector to lead growth of pharma industry UNDISING SUPPORT](#) – Pharmabiz.com

July 13, 2015: The high-powered Task Force on 'Enabling the private sector to lead the growth of pharmaceutical sector', constituted by the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) in November last year, has recommended several export-import trade promotions for the private sector to lead the growth of pharmaceutical industry in the country.

8. [FIPB to take up 47 investment proposals today](#) – The Financial Express

July 12, 2015: The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) will vet 47 foreign investment proposals on Monday, including one from Bandhan Financial Services, which has received the Reserve Bank of India’s approval to set up a bank. Among others, 15 investment proposals are related to pharma sector. They involve companies such as Glaxo SmithKline Pharmaceuticals, Novartis Healthcare, Mylan Laboratories and Natco Pharma.

9. [Regulatory framework for medical devices](#) – The financial Express

July 10, 2015: Rajiv Nath, Forum Coordinator, Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AIMED) opines that there should be a separate law book and separate regulatory authority or a revamped CDSCO as Indian Healthcare Products Regulatory Authority.

## Others

1. [Vast opportunities in medical tourism to help Healthcare sector in coming time](#) - Mint

July 11, 2015: The country inherited basic and limited healthcare infrastructure which was grossly inadequate to meet the demands of a large and diverse populace. From that starting point, India has emerged as a serious player in the global healthcare services delivery landscape with a multitude of world-class healthcare institutions imbibing the highest standards of clinical excellence. The Indian hospital and healthcare industry has grown at a rapid pace over the past few years. The private sector has emerged as a vibrant force in the industry, accounting for almost 74 per cent of the country's total healthcare expenditure.

2. [Ensuring drug adherence, the IT way](#) – The Hindu

July 11, 2015: Remote monitoring of drug intake by patients possible. A prompt reminder at home to take one's medicines can ensure fast recuperation. A software developed by Microsoft, on behalf of the World Health Organisation (WHO), to monitor drug adherence by HIV patients with tuberculosis as co-infection, will do exactly this.

3. [Top 100 pharma cos report 1.8% growth in profit, sales grew by 7% during 2014-15](#) – Pharmabiz.com

July 13, 2015: The top 100 pharmaceutical companies in the country reported a poor profit growth of just 1.8 per cent during the year ended March 2015. They failed to show good profit growth mainly on account of quality problems with US FDA, new price control order, higher input costs, significant higher provision for depreciation and stiff global competition.