

Access to Healthcare

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Access to Healthcare

1. [Cut in healthcare budget hits India's war on TB](#) – The Times of India
MUMBAI: After a slash in India's healthcare budget and key public health initiatives, now the country's ambitious tuberculosis control programme is facing a serious challenge, which could jeopardise supply of medicines, and lead to inadequate diagnostic services for TB patients. The proposed funding cuts in the country's TB control programme could lead to serious consequences like stock-outs of key TB medicines, and inadequate or shortage of specialised diagnostic kits, leaving patients in the lurch, and, in certain cases, to either face a relapse of the disease, or lead them to the dreaded drug-resistant form.
2. [LHMC, other hospitals gear up to tackle dengue](#) – Business Standard
With the arrival of monsoon, Lady Hardinge Medical College and other associated hospitals in the city have started taking measures, including regular surveillance and setting up dedicated beds for patients, to prevent dengue and other vector-borne diseases. This comes after Union Health Minister J P Nadda had recently directed the hospitals to prepare an action plan on advance preparedness regarding dengue and other diseases during monsoon. "Patients (at Lady Hardinge and other associated hospitals) are being advised to report to medical OPD or casualty (Emergency). Since the start of this year, the college has received 302 suspected clinical cases of dengue fever, 18 of which have been laboratory confirmed," a health ministry statement said.
3. [GNRC launches free ambulance service](#) – Financial Express
GNRC has launched a fleet of ambulances, to complete GNRC's emergency services portfolio. Dr Nomal Chandra Borah, Chairman cum MD, GNRC Hospitals, informed that the fleet of 100 ambulances will aim to provide basic life support instantly after receiving a call for an ambulance and will have on board a

paramedic and a pilot – both trained in basic life support and safe medical evacuation the programme in the unfortunate event of an accident befalling them.

4. [Good response for Collector's FB post on health plan](#) – The Hindu
An idea of a Contributory Community Health Care programme for the lesser privileged mooted by District Collector N. Prashanth in his Facebook page has been receiving tremendous response from the general public, eager to be part of a development process. It was last Monday that the Collector posted the idea on his popular Facebook page, 'Collector, Kozhikode'. His invitation for the general public to give their ideas to improvise the project has been received well. Some of the comments are very vocal as even doctors, lawyers and other professionals are pitching in with very relevant and well thought-out plans.
5. [Drug pricing reforms in changing times](#) – Pharmabiz.com
In a developing economy of India, there is a range of people who can be very rich and very poor, the living background on geographical location also have an influence on economic classification of the people across the country. The input of the education propelled by exposure to mass media has given an interest to push the people from lower economic class to middle class, and upper middle class. The economic growth is penetrating in various under developed families and are becoming not only self sufficient but also progressive, irrespective of economic background. Which are poor, requires quality medicines for the management of the diseases. The prices of the medicines are an important aspect of therapeutics which has profound influences on the accessibility and compliance.
6. [Maharashtra govt to set up 83 new blood storage centres as part of Blood-on-Call scheme](#) – Pharmabiz.com
The Maharashtra government is planning to roll out 83 blood storage centres in remote districts of the state as part of its Blood-on-Call scheme. The scheme as of today has 124 blood storage centres functioning in coordination with healthcare institutions of the state. These centres will be operational after completion of electrical and civil work under the government's Project Implementation Plan (PIP). Around 46 per cent of blood storage centres are concentrated in the four districts of Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune and Thane. Remaining 54 per cent of storage centres are scattered in the remaining 30 districts of Maharashtra.

Medical & Regulatory

1. [Health ministry initiates sampling on spurious, NSQ drugs at 12 notified ports](#) Pharmabiz
Following completion of sampling of spurious and not-of-standard quality (NSQ) drugs as a part of a nationwide survey on spurious and NSQ drugs, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) in association with National Institute of Biologicals (NIB) has initiated collection of all formulations and APIs imported into the country through 12 notified ports. The survey is being done in collaboration with Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).

Others

1. [Buyer-seller meet at Pharmac South expo encourages pharma SMEs in south India for exports to ASEAN countries](#) – Pharmabiz.com
The international buyer-seller meet (BSM) organised by the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) last week in Chennai as part of the pharma trade exhibition (Pharmac South) has evoked good response and helped the pharmaceutical manufacturers in south India establish a direct link with buyers from ASEAN and Gulf countries. The two-day meet, inaugurated by Suthamshu Pande, joint secretary, ministry of commerce, on July 3 at Chennai Trade Centre, was organised by the Tamil Nadu branch of the Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) in association with Pharmexcil.

2. [Good response for Collector's FB post on health plan](#) – The Hindu

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3. [Chinese business majors to invest \\$1 bn for medical devices & telemedicine technology in Bengaluru](#) –

Pharmabiz.com

Karnataka is on the radar of Chinese business conglomerate from Yunnan province which is expected to invest up to \$1 billion in an industrial park at Vasanthnarasapura, 70 km from Bengaluru. Particularly, Yunnan-based Sunpa Group of companies, which specializes in telemedicine systems, digital medical devices, medical information system and related hardware and software, is now keen to provide its expertise to the healthcare providers in the state. Yunnan is a south western province of China bordering Myanmar, Lao and Vietnam.