

1. [Impax buys generic drugs from Teva, Allergan for \\$586 million](#) – Reuters

Impax Laboratories Inc said it would buy a portfolio of generic drugs from Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd and Allergan Plc for about \$586 million. The deal is part of the divestiture process mandated by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission in relation to Teva's acquisition of Allergan's generics business for \$40.5 billion.

2. [FDI in pharma: No game changer, 'health security' worries still on the horizon](#) – The Hindu Business Line

In an editorial piece, Jyothi Dutta highlights how the Government went into a huddle, with Ministries like Commerce and Health wondering aloud if investment caps were required in a sector that was integral to keeping the “health security” of the country. In fact, multiple departments evaluated these concerns, including the DIPP (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion), the Arun Maira committee and a Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the pharmaceutical sector.

3. [FDI liberalization is one part of the puzzle](#) – Mint

The government’s announcement on Monday of easing foreign direct investment (FDI) norms in a number of sectors was a welcome one—and a natural progression from the slew of FDI liberalization measures taken in November last year. This has the potential to build on India’s already impressive performance as an FDI host—one of the top 10 last year as per the United Nations Council for Trade and Development (UNCTAD), with 2015’s FDI flows nearly doubling from 2014. However, Monday’s moves are as much about shaping a particular economic narrative as much as they are about concrete measures.

4. [HC puts on hold NPPA's cap on price of Itch Guard cream](#) – Business Standard

The Delhi High Court has put on hold the government's decision to cap the price of well-known anti-fungal cream Itch Guard, manufactured by drug major Reckitt Benckiser, on the company's plea challenging it. In its interim order, a vacation bench of justices G S Sistani and P S Teji said

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4. [HC puts on hold NPPA's cap on price of Itch Guard cream](#) – Business Standard
5. [FDI reforms to push US-India trade ties: USIBC](#) – Business Standard
6. [OPPI hails new FDI norms for pharmaceutical sector](#) – India Today
7. [Modi govt surrendering to pressure of US pharma lobby, says Congress leader Anand Sharma](#) – The Indian Express
8. [FDI policy change welcome but still more to do](#) – The New Indian Express
9. [Radiologists blame haze in rules for 'slips' in abnormal pregnancy reports](#) – The Times of India
10. [Human trial of Zika vaccine to start soon](#) – The Hindu
11. [Pharma M&As: value creator or value destroyer?](#) – Express Pharma
12. [Personalised medicine is soon going to be the dharma of practising medical oncology & haematology: Dr Vivek Radhakrishnan](#) – ET Healthworld.com
13. [FDC drugs have several beneficial aspects that had brought relief to patients: Former DoP secretary Subburaju](#) – Pharmabiz.com
14. [Maharashtra's HIV patients battle an acute shortage of drugs](#) – Scroll.in

the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority's (NPPA) decision should be kept in abeyance till it decides the company's plea to review the ceiling fixed on the product. Reckitt's application for reviewing the price control order is pending before the NPPA.

5. [FDI reforms to push US-India trade ties: USIBC](#) – Business Standard

A series of reforms announced by India in particularly increasing Foreign Direct Investment in a number of sectors will provide a fillip to the potential of US-India bilateral trade, a business advocacy group has said. "The widened scope of FDI norms in defence, civil aviation, broadcasting services, and pharmaceuticals will provide a fillip to the potential of the US-India bilateral trade," US India Business Council (USIBC) President Mukesh Aghi said while referring to a series of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) reforms by India yesterday.

6. [OPPI hails new FDI norms for pharmaceutical sector](#) – India Today

The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) today welcomed the Centres decision to allow up to 74 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in pharmaceutical sector under the automatic route. With the objective of promoting the development of this sector, it has been decided to permit up to 74 per cent FDI under automatic route in brownfield pharmaceuticals and government approval route beyond 74 per cent will continue. "We welcome (the) governments decision to make changes to the FDI policy. We believe that this will provide an impetus to employment and job creation in the country," OPPI Director General Kanchana TK told PTI here.

7. [Modi govt surrendering to pressure of US pharma lobby, says Congress leader Anand Sharma](#) – The Indian Express

Accusing the government of not being sincere in its intent, senior Congress leader Anand Sharma on Tuesday said easing of FDI norms in some sectors have been done while ignoring national interests and after "surrendering" to pressure of the US pharma lobby. Sharma, a former Commerce Minister, charged the government with easing "pre-conditions" imposed by the UPA dispensation that were necessary to protect the interests of the country and its people.

8. [FDI policy change welcome but still more to do](#) – The New Indian Express

The announcement of wide-ranging changes in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) regime will dispel doubts over the government's intent to usher in widespread reforms. Though the government has been making incremental changes, a perception was gaining ground that the expected and promised substantial reforms had yet to materialise. The new amendments to FDI policy, aimed at simplifying norms and removing or lowering barriers, will reiterate the government's reform credentials. The government is confident FDI reforms would result in growth and employment generation.

9. [Radiologists blame haze in rules for 'slips' in abnormal pregnancy reports](#) – The Times of India

Radiologists have blamed the lack of clarity over categorizing birth defects as "normal" or "abnormal" for the shortcomings in reporting abnormal pregnancies to civic health authorities. The radiologists, who are on a strike, said on Monday that health authorities have been sitting on their requests to set clear guidelines for the definition of normal and abnormal congenital anomalies in an unborn foetus.

10. [Human trial of Zika vaccine to start soon](#) – The Hindu

The first Phase-1 human clinical trial of a vaccine for the Zika virus is set to begin in the coming weeks, with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) green-lighting it. The DNA vaccine (GLS-5700) developed by the U.S.-based Inovio Pharmaceuticals and GeneOne Life Science, South Korea, has already been tested on animals and found to elicit "robust" antibody and T cell responses. The human trial will be carried out on 40 healthy adults to evaluate safety, tolerability and immunogenicity and the interim results are expected before the end of the year. But it may take a couple of years to know if the vaccine works against Zika. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), four of the 14 companies working on a candidate vaccine have reached the preclinical stage.

11. [Pharma M&As: value creator or value destroyer?](#) – Express Pharma

In an analysis, Anil Khanna, partner with Tai Pi Advisors talks how The cumulative deal value doubled in 2015 largely due to the announced acquisition of Allergan by Pfizer. This mother-of-all deals worth \$ 160 billion skewed the data significantly. With the exclusion of the Pfizer-Allergan deal, the number and value of deals between the US and Western Europe went down in 2015, and much less money was spent on targets located in Western Europe, as compared to 2014, largely due to a wave of 'tax inversion' deals in 2013 and 2014. In the Indian market too, 2015 saw an increase in M&A activity, with value of deals reaching \$3.7 billion. Of this, outbound deals contributed around \$2 billion, largely due to generics consolidation in the US market.

12. [Personalised medicine is soon going to be the dharma of practising medical oncology & haematology: Dr Vivek Radhakrishnan](#) – ET Healthworld.com

Dr Vivek Radhakrishnan, Consultant, Oncologist/ Haematologist & BMT Physician, Aster Medcity, Kochi, Kerala, talks to ETHealthworld about the rapid changes that are taking place in the healthcare industry. He said how the health scenario in Kerala has always been among the top run in the country as life expectancy in Kerala and other health indicators have been consistently been good. The new challenges that we face as clinicians is the increasing burden of non communicable diseases of which cancer is emerging as a serious health issue in the state.

13. [FDC drugs have several beneficial aspects that had brought relief to patients: Former DoP secretary Subburaju](#) – Pharmabiz.com

Stating that a decision pertaining to the future of Fixed Dose Combination (FDC) products will soon be decided by the courts, former secretary of the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), Dr V K Subburaju has commented that there were some beneficial aspects for the FDCs which had brought relief to many people. In place of consuming several types of medicines at a time, the FDCs could solve the situation with one tablet or capsule. The major beneficiaries of the combination drugs were the HIV patients. During 1980s the HIV patients were advised to take about 30 types of drugs (tablets/capsules) a day. But, by the emergence of FDCs, an HIV patient could go with one tablet a day. This was a major advantage and relief to the patient community. Likewise, several diseases could be addressed by consuming these FDCs, he added. However, he agreed on the point that there were some irrational combinations among these products.

14. [Maharashtra's HIV patients battle an acute shortage of drugs](#) – Scroll.in

Maharashtra has among the highest rates of HIV in India. While 1.7 lakh HIV positive patients take basic first-line ART treatment in the state, 4,300 take the more advanced second-line treatment, which patients are put on when first-line treatment fails. In India, there are 9.4 lakh patients on first-line ART treatment, and 15,567 on second-line treatment. With funding cuts affecting the supply of anti-HIV drugs across India, Maharashtra has been particularly badly hit. Though the Union Budget increased the allocation to the Department of AIDS Control from Rs 1,397 crore to Rs 1,700 crore earlier this year, the stock-outs continue in the state.