OPPI

Daily News Monitor

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IPR & Innovation

Is weak IP law enforcement in India a deterrent to Indian industry and innovators? The Economic Times

IP laws or the intellectual property system plays a pivotal role in framing industrial, trade and financial policies, for scientific and technological development of any country. Strong IP legislations ensure the progress in varied fields and result in the growth of a country's knowledge bank. However, it is of utmost importance that the strong IP laws must be ably supported by an equally strong enforcement mechanism, as without enforcement there is no enjoyment of an Intellectual Property Right ..

Poultry case in WTO: commerce, agriculture ministries in talks, The Times of India

The government is looking at ways to implement the WTO order that has ruled that the ban imposed by India on imports of America's poultry products was inconsistent, a senior official said on Monday. The US-India TPF is an inter-agency collaboration led by the USTR. It is the principal trade dialogue between the countries. It has five focus groups: Agriculture, Investment, Innovation and Creativity (intellectual property rights), Services, and Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers. He said that both the sides have done three rounds of talks on intellectual property rights (IPRs) issue through video conferencing. Time and again the US has raised concerns over India's IPR regime, particularly in the pharmaceutical sector. India has consistently maintained its laws are compliant with global and WTO norms.

Similar reports have appeared in:

The Economic Times

Business Standard

Press Trust of India

Access to Healthcare

Now, ATM-like machines to dispense free medicines, The Times of India

Taking free medicine distribution to the next level, state health department will soon introduce automated medicine dispensing machines. Similar to ATMs, the new and unique machines will be able to recognize prescriptions and dispense medicines. According to director health in charge hospital maintenance, Dr KK Thassu, a trial run of the project will take place at five rural health centres in Betul district, some 180 km from the state capital. Project is likely to begin in July.

Medical & Regulatory

Pharma industry's struggles to tighten standards paves way for M&A deals, The Economic Times

Smaller generic drugmakers struggling to cope with a bruised reputation and tougher regulation in the United States, are under pressure to consider branching out to new, less-profitable markets or sell out to larger rivals. Two years after its most high-profile regulatory setback to date in the United States - Ranbaxy's $500 million U.S. fine for drug safety violations - India's $15 billion a year generic drug industry is still rebuilding its image in its biggest market. Many of its top firms are facing sanctions at some of their factories, as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) tightens checks and its approvals process.

Similar reports have appeared in:

Business Standard

Asian Age

Deccan Chronicle

NDTV

MoneyControl

Pharma Focus Asia

Set up 'office of drugs safety' in DC depts to handle drugs safety issues & post-marketing surveil, Pharmabiz.com

A separate entity attached to each drugs control department is necessary to handle drug safety measures and post-marketing surveillance which can help the enforcement agencies to monitor adverse drug reactions in a big way. So, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and the Indian Pharmacopeia Commission (IPC) must look into the feasibility of this separate wing and direct all state governments to consider setting up of an 'office of drugs safety' (ODS) under their drugs control administrations to coordinate all aspects of drugs safety, opines Dr S Satheesh Kumar, former drugs controller, Kerala.

DoP begins process for implementation of PTUAS to assist medium enterprises to upgrade their units to WHO-GMP compliant, Pharmabiz.com

After several years of dilly-dallying, the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has finally started the process for the implementation of its ambitious project the Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (PTUAS) as it has now called for expression of interest (EOI) for selection of a financial institution to manage the scheme. The PTUAS scheme is being implemented by the DoP to assist pharmaceutical medium enterprises (Mes) in the country to upgrade their units to make them WHO-GMP compliant. Under this much awaited scheme, around 500 medium scale pharmaceutical enterprises are intended to be covered through soft loans upto Rs. 4 crore per unit at a concessional rate of 5 per cent per annum.

Expert committee on track and trace system meets stakeholders in Mumbai, Pharmabiz.com

The expert committee, set up by the commerce ministry for the implementation of the track and trace system for export of drug formulations, met the stakeholders from Mumbai on June 26 to deliberate and get their inputs on this matter. The meeting was aimed at finding feasible solution to the issues relating to the implementation of track and trace with authentication of system and suggest possible resolution, especially for the small and medium scale manufacturers.

Other News on Pharma

UP poised to emerge medical devices' manufacturing hub by 2020: ASSOCHAM study, The Times of India

Uttar Pradesh is fast emerging as a cost-effective manufacturing centre for medical and dental instruments owing to significant availability of trained manpower including labours and technicians, reveals a study by apex industry body ASSOCHAM. "UP could emerge as a hub for medical devices manufacturing by 2020 if an incentive package by way of tax concessions was made available to the industry in the state," said DS Rawat, national secretary general of Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) while releasing the study titled 'Indian Medical Devices Industry: The way ahead,' here on Monday.

Similar reports have appeared in:

Business Standard

Financial Express

The Indian Express

Asian Age

State drug regulators take action against not-of-standard quality medical devices under D&C Act, Pharmabiz.com

Even as the racket of forcing manufacturers of medical devices to sell their products only to

distributors and hospitals bypassing retail medical stores has become rampant, state drug regulatory authorities from across the country have been detecting cases of not-of-standard quality (NSQ) devices and also taken action as per the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. Cases of NSQ devices have been detected after drawing samples of devices like condoms, male contraceptives, disposable syringes, IV sets and blood testing kits.