

Access to Healthcare

41pc rural people borrowed to finance healthcare expenses:Govt, [Business Standard](#)

Around 41 per cent of rural population and 23 per cent of urban masses relied on borrowings for financing expenditure on hospitalisation, the government today said."As per the NSSO 60th round (2004) report on Morbidity, Healthcare and Condition of the Aged, about 41 per cent of rural population and 23 per cent of urban population relied on borrowings for financing the expenditure on hospitalisation," Health Minister J P Nadda informed Rajya Sabha.He said that as per one analysis of NSSO 2004 data, around 63.22 million people were impoverished due to healthcare expenditure in 2004.

Medical & Regulatory

Two-drug combination reduces colon cancer by 67 percent, [The Times of India](#)

An international phase one clinical trial published on Monday and led by Barcelona's Vall d'Hebron Hospital shows that a combination of two new antibodies, that act against the same protein, reduces by 67 percent tumours in colorectal metastatic cancers that no longer respond to conventional treatment.Josep Taberero, head of Medical Oncology at Vall d'Hebron Hospital and director of the Vall d'Hebron Oncology Institute, said "this is important progress because we have showed this improvement for the first time in a clinical phase, although it is just one more step, it does not cure cancer, it only gives us more control time".

CII: India needs greater market access in China for IT, drugs, [The Hindu Business Line](#)

Submits note to PM ahead of his visit to ChinaIndia should seek greater market access from China in sectors such as IT, drugs and pharmaceuticals, and media and entertainment by insisting on removal of various non-tariff barriers, industry body CII has said.In a memorandum submitted to the government prior to Prime Minister Narendra Modi China visit this week, CII said India should take urgent steps to address concerns faced by Indian companies in China to increase exports and reduce the trade deficit which touched \$48 billion in 2014-15.

Govt to set up regulatory regime for AYUSH medicines: Naik, [Business Standard](#)

The government is considering to set up a structured central regulatory regime for yoga, ayurveda and other traditional medicines, Rajya Sabha was informed today."Government has considered to set up a structured central regulatory regime for AYUSH medicines," Minister of State for AYUSH Shripad Yesso Naik said in a written reply.Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy (ISM&H) was created in March 1995 and re-named as Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) in November 2003.

Health Ministry recommends post-trial access of NCE to trial participants, [Pharmabiz.com](#)

In order to permit expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment of a patient, the Union health ministry has recommended that in case a New Chemical Entity (NCE) is found to be beneficial in clinical trial, the trial participants should have post-trial access to such NCE.It was recommended by the Ministry that post trial access of the investigational products may be provided to the subject found beneficial during the course of the trial on the basis of recommendations of the investigator and ethics committee.

IDMA organises workshop on Laboratory Data Integrity in Mumbai, [Express Pharma](#)

Indian Drug Manufacturers Association (IDMA) recently organised a day-long workshop on Laboratory Data Integrity™ in Mumbai. The conference provided information on detailed quality parameters required in a laboratory data management system. Daara B Patel, Secretary & General, IDMA delivered the welcome address. He said, "Data Integrity is today one of the most crucial problems being faced by most pharmaceutical companies and it is well demonstrated by the number of registrations we have received."

REGULATION FOR NUTRACEUTICALS, [Pharmabiz.com](#)

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, some time back, had set up a task force to put in place some sort of a regulatory mechanism for special food products like nutraceuticals and food supplements marketed in the country. The 17-member task force submitted its report to FSSAI last week. The recommendations of this panel are basically a set of guidelines for the approval of dietary supplements and nutraceuticals manufactured and marketed in the country. The report is prepared based on a detailed study of these products conducted in consultation with all the stakeholders.

BDCDA objects to functioning of MedPlusMart.com as it violates D&C Act, Rules & DPCO, [Pharmabiz.com](#)

The Bangalore District Chemists & Druggists Association (BDCDA) has pointed out to MedPlusMart.com that its concept of "click, pick and save"™ business model is against the Drugs & Cosmetics Act & Rules, Drug Price Control Order (DPCO), condition of retail licenses issued by the state drugs control department which also covers storage and maintenance of medicines. Medicines are not a commodity like pizza, furniture, electronic goods which can be bought with just a click, pick and save mode.

Other News on Pharma

Expect cheaper medicines as PGI plans to open pharmacy, [Hindustan Times](#)

Vishav Bharti, Hindustan Times, Chandigarh To check fleecing by chemists, the administration of Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, is very near to start its own pharmacy. According to sources, a highpowered committee formed to set up the institute-run pharmacy met on Thursday under the chairmanship of Dr Arvind Rajwanshi. Other members of the committee include PGI's deputy director (administration) Chetan PS Rao and financial adviser Sushil Thakur, besides other faculty members.

Reports Say Tobacco Use a Major Risk Factor For Cancers: Nadda, [Outlook India](#)

Nearly half of the cancers affecting men and one-fourth among women are related to tobacco as per a report, the Rajya Sabha was informed today. "As per the report of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), National Cancer Registry Programme, Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates 1982-2005 (2009), nearly half of the cancers in males and one-fourth of cancers among females are tobacco related," Health Minister J P Nadda said.

Rights Panel Missive to Govt on Banned Drug, [The New Indian Express](#)

BHUBANESWAR: Even as the Centre has banned diclofenac, a livestock painkiller which has been responsible for pushing vulture population in the country to near extinction, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed the Union Government as well as States to take stern measures for implementation of the ban. The commission has directed the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to constitute a committee for monitoring the misuse of the banned drug and also instructed the State governments to keep a close watch on the markets.

OPPI in News

2015 USTR Special 301 Report: Reactions and the way forward, [Express Pharma](#)

Express Pharma presents reactions to the recently released 2015 USTR Special 301 Report. Ranjana Smetacek, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India. The Draft IPR Policy is a positive step towards an IP regime that has the potential to support and drive a number of economic and socio-cultural benefits. Our country already has the elements required to realise the PM's Make in India vision: consistent growth, a highly educated workforce and established science-based research institutions. We can extend Make in India to Develop in India and Innovate in India, if we develop a robust, predictable, and enforceable legal framework for the protection of IPR.
