

IPR & Innovation

Defending India's IPR, [The Hindu Business Line](#)

It is ten years since India amended the Indian Patents Act, 1970 to bring its laws in line with the agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. The most important of those amendments related to the introduction of product patents for 20 years, including for pharmaceutical products. Significant safeguards were built into the legislation. These included debarring of ever greening patents, a process by which the patent holder seeks to extend the life of patents by some minor tinkering with the products. The amended legislation also expanded the scope of compulsory licensing and introduced for the first time post grant opposition to patents (Provisions relating to pre-grant opposition were retained). The legislation raised the bar for what constitutes an invention and what cannot be patented in India.

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Sessions at World Homoeopathy Summit claim homoeopathic medicines can cure many diseases, [Pharmabiz.com](#)

The scientific sessions at the recently held World Homoeopathy Summit in Mumbai have proven that homoeopathy medicines are nano-materials and they can become remedies for various kinds of conventional and emerging infectious diseases. The sessions have also avoided all anxieties with regard to the action and efficacy of homoeopathic medicines in human bodies affected by germs of various diseases. Twenty-six scientists including molecular biologists, engineers, physicists, immunologists, pharmacologists, chemists, nanotechnologists, zoologists, homoeopaths and conventional doctors from some of the premium universities presented their papers on latest researches related to homoeopathy concepts.

Access to Healthcare

India to Give USD 2.1 Million to WHO, [The Economic Times](#)

India today announced that it would contribute \$2.1 million to the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a "reflection" of its commitment to the global health body and its mandate. Health Minister J P Nadda, who assumed the presidency at the 68th World Health Assembly that commenced here, said "inequities of resources has a direct correlation with the inequities of health" and there was a need to redouble efforts in the post-2015 development agenda to surmount "ever increasing public health challenges". These challenges include among others communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, anti-microbial resistance, impact of climate change on health and impact of universal health coverage.

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It's Time to See - Exclusive Preview of Exhibition Shown to Commonwealth Health Ministers, Focusing on Major Cause of Avoidable Blindness - Retinopathy of Prematurity - in India, [Zee News](#)

Today, at the 2015 Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting in Geneva, The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust and partner Standard Chartered have unveiled an exclusive preview of Time to See, a landmark photography exhibition which captures the human impact of avoidable blindness in the Commonwealth, and the solutions readily available. In this exclusive preview of Time to See, Commonwealth Ministers of Health were shown images taken by Poulomi Basu of work that the Trust and the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), are delivering in partnership with the Government of India to prevent premature infants from going blind as a result of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP).

Special vaccination camp, [The Hindu](#)

As many as 700 special camps would be held from May 21 for seven days in the district to immunise children and pregnant women against seven vaccine preventable diseases. Chairing a meeting at the Collectorate, Collector V. Dakshinamoorthy said that the Union Health Ministry launched 'Mission Indradhanush' last year to immunise children against preventable diseases like diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles and Hepatitis B by 2020. As many as 2,400 members including workers from Public Health Department, Anganwadi workers, field workers, women self-group members, nurses, college students and volunteers would carry out door-to-door survey and vaccinate them between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. from May 21 to 29.

Other News on Pharma

CPhI Worldwide announces members of 2015 expert panel, [Pharmabiz.com](#)

CPhI Worldwide has announced its expert panel for CPhI Worldwide 2015 ahead of the annual report (3rd edition) – to be released in September and October 2015, in three parts. The report presents a holistic overview of pharmaceuticals with key industry leaders providing expertise across the entire pharma supply chain. This year, the CPhI annual report will see the return of seven industry thought leaders from 2014, along with three new valuable additions; Vivek Sharma, Alan Sheppard and Kurt Nielson of Piramal, IMS Health and Sandoz respectively. Global regulatory expert and voice of Indian pharma, Dilip Shah (CEO of Vision Consulting Group) also returns to discuss the response of Indian companies to global regulatory standards, with Prabir Basu (president at pharma manufacturing - formerly of the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education (NIPTE) focusing on the industry's approach to innovation.

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