

1. [Why a Donald Trump win is good news for Indian drug makers](#) – Mint

Indian pharmaceutical stocks breathed a metaphorical sigh of relief on Wednesday after Republican Donald Trump won the US presidential election. Unlike his opponent Democrat Hillary Clinton, who has been very critical of drug companies that raise the prices of old drugs to boost profits and was expected to take tough steps to curb drug prices if elected to power, Trump is seen as less of a threat to the sector, at least on this issue.

“Republicans have always believed in the spirit of ‘laissez-faire’ or free enterprise, so to my mind they will be very open to free market pricing rather than controlling prices,” said Dinesh Dua, chief executive officer (CEO) of Nectar Lifesciences Ltd.

2. [Trump win might mean opportunities for Indian Pharma](#) – Business Standard

Donald Trump's election as the US president will create opportunities for Indian generic drug makers, say pharmaceutical sector experts. While they and industry chief executives believe pricing pressure will continue in the US, the president-elect's proposal to lift entry barriers for safe, reliable and cheaper products bodes well for Indian companies, they said. As a part of his seven point health care agenda, Trump had said this would allow consumers access to better drugs made abroad. India contributes to nearly a third of all drugs sold in the US and this is unlikely to change for now, given the thrust of both Democratic and Republican parties on affordable health care.

3. [Trump victory to maintain status quo for Indian Pharma](#) – Forbes India

Despite the initial skepticism visible in the stock markets with respect to the future performance of Indian pharmaceutical companies, industry insiders say that Donald Trump's presidency will not have much impact on their fortunes. By Wednesday afternoon, construction tycoon and Republican candidate Donald Trump was announced as US' President-elect, as his opponent and Democrat Hillary Clinton conceded defeat. In the analysis and speculation that had built up till Wednesday's verdict, it was widely anticipated that Secretary of State in the current Barack Obama administration, Clinton will be US' next President. But as the results of the polls from various US states started pouring in, the tide increasingly turned in Trump's favour.

1. [Why a Donald Trump win is good news for Indian drug makers](#) – Mint
2. [Trump win might mean opportunities for Indian Pharma](#) – Business Standard
3. [Trump victory to maintain status quo for Indian Pharma](#) – Forbes India
4. [Indian pharma may benefit from prez-elect's pro-generics stance](#) – The Hindu Business Line
5. [India Inc hails Trump triumph, seeks US mkt access for pharma](#) – Moneycontrol.com
6. [Easing of drug policy will up prices: Activists](#) – The Times of India
7. [Government served legal notice over decision to cut NPPA's powers](#) – The Economic Times
8. [Panel says only low-risk medicines can be sold online](#) – Business Standard
9. [Govt taking steps to expedite patent applications](#) – Press Trust of India
10. [Government working to make people aware of stress: Nadda](#) – Business Standard

Pharma sector experts were of the opinion that a potential government with Clinton at the helm may have sought to curb the profits raked in by generic pharma companies that cater to the US market, the world's largest for generic drugs, which are versions of innovator medicines that lose patent protection. This, analysts believed, would lead to a pressure on the pricing power that drug-makers enjoy in the US.

4. [Indian pharma may benefit from prez-elect's pro-generics stance](#) – **The Hindu Business Line**

Drug prices and the worrying cost of healthcare featured prominently in the campaigns of both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Trump's victory has made Indian drugmakers hope and health advocacy workers worry over Trump's position on the import of generic medicine into the US and trade deals such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Trump has been vocal against the TPP, something that should have pleased health advocacy groups, as they fear it is structured against local industries, farmers, etc. And yet, many wonder if he will do a U-turn, given the pharma lobbies involved, says Leena Menghaney, a lawyer on the health rights of communities.

5. [India Inc hails Trump triumph, seeks US mkt access for pharma](#) – **Moneycontrol.com**

With Donald Trump set to become the next US President, India Inc today sought greater access for the country's pharmaceutical products in the US market and mobility of skilled labour. The industry also tried to allay concerns related to the billionaire businessman, expressing confidence that apprehensions linked to him would "certainly prove wrong", saying it looks forward to take the bilateral economic engagement to a greater level under the Trump administration. "We hope that challenges relating to mobility of skilled labour, market access for pharmaceutical products from India, and financial services institutions and SMEs will be addressed," CII President Naushad Forbes said.

6. [Easing of drug policy will up prices: Activists](#) – **The Times of India**

Public health groups have raised concerns over the government's plans to overhaul the drug pricing policy and ease regulatory framework, contending that such a move will impact access to affordable medicines. "Even the existing system of price control has been watered down and greatly compromised through years of industry lobbying. Instead of dismantling the system, the government must reform it to remove market-based pricing and replace it with a cost-based pricing mechanism," Narendra Gupta of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan said.

At a recent meeting at the Prime Minister's Office, officials from various ministries deliberated on a plan to revamp the drug policy to relax regulatory norms to facilitate smooth business environment for pharmaceutical companies. Sources said there were also discussions around evaluating the role of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority which currently monitors drug prices in the country. The meeting was attended by Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant, pharmaceutical secretary Jai Priye Prakash, health secretary C K Mishra and DIPP secretary Ramesh Abhishek.

7. [Government served legal notice over decision to cut NPPA's powers](#) – **The Economic Times**

Civil society group All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN) has sent legal notices to Niti Aayog CEO and secretaries to the health ministry, department of pharmaceuticals and department of industrial policy and promotion over their talks to cut powers of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

The group has termed the move "anti-national" and "anti-people", adding that it affects an ongoing case at the Supreme Court over various aspects of drug price control. The notice requests the officials to "maintain status quo" and do nothing that would interfere with the proceedings. Should

they fail to do so, AIDAN would bring the officials' discussions and decision to the notice of the Supreme Court and initiate contempt of court proceedings, according to the notice, served to the officials on Wednesday. ET has seen a copy of the notice.

**8. [Panel says only low-risk medicines can be sold online](#) – Business Standard**

A sub-committee formed under the Drugs Consultative Committee, a statutory body under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, has recommended that low-risk medicines or non-scheduled drugs such as Crocin, cough syrups and similar drugs could be sold online, a source in the know of the matter told Business Standard.

The source added that till the time online pharmacies prove that they can safely sell drugs and ensure there is no misuse of drugs, high-risk medicines such as oncology drugs cannot be sold online. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) plans to categorise drugs as low-risk, medium-risk and high-risk for drugs to be sold online.

**9. [Govt taking steps to expedite patent applications](#) – Press Trust of India**

The commerce and industry ministry is taking several steps including hiring more people and training them to reduce the time and pendency of patents and trademark applications, an official said today. Joint Secretary in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion Rajiv Aggarwal said that the "biggest bane of our system" is the time consumed in processing of intellectual property (IP) applications.

"Last year, the first examination of trademark applications was taking almost a year and a half. Today that time has come down to around 4-5 months and by March 2017, it will come down to only one month," he said here at the CII's India-UK Tech Summit. He said this is happening because the ministry has augmented its manpower and is training them.

**10. [Government working to make people aware of stress: Nadda](#) – Business Standard**

In a bid to tackle stress among people and improve productivity, Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda on Wednesday said that the government is working on "Catch them Young" programme to make people aware of stress-related problems. "There is a heightened focus on preventive health along with curative health now. Awareness is very important to keep away non-communicable diseases (NCDs)," he said after launching the "No More Tension" mobile app and the release of the "Healthy India Initiative/Swastha Bharat-ek pehal" magazine here. "People suffer from stress related problems due to their busy work life and hectic schedule, which in turn results in loss of productivity.