

1. **[UBM India's 'India Pharma Week 2016' Debuts to Commemorate a Decade of the World's Leading Pharma Event, CPhI & P-MEC](#)** – Press Trust of India

UBM India, India's leading exhibition organizer, launched the India Pharma Week, a bouquet of over 10 trend-setting activities across the city of Mumbai, to mark the special 10th anniversary of CPhI & P-MEC India 2016, its flagship event and the world's leading pharma networking event. With the introduction of the India Pharma Week, the expo transformed itself from a three-day exhibition to a marquee show spanning a week (IPW, 17th-23rd November 2016).

A strategic gathering of industry thought leaders, the exclusive, closed door CEO Round Table on November 22 will congregate CEOs of leading Pharma companies to deep dive into thought-provoking, solution-driven discussions on key challenges within the industry, which will result in the

presentation of a White Paper Report to policy makers. Some of the key thought leaders who will be present at the meet are Sanjiv Navangul, Managing Director, Janssen India, (a pharmaceutical company of Johnson and Johnson; Sudarshan Jain, MD, Abbott Healthcare; Dr BPS Reddy, Chairman & Managing Director, Hetero Drugs; Dr Dinesh Dua, CEO, Nectar Lifesciences; DG Shah, President, IPA; Madan Mohan Reddy, Director, Aurobindo; **Kanchana TK, President, OPPI**; Prashant Nagre, CEO, Fermenta Biotech; Dr. Ketan R. Patel, Chairman & Managing Director, Troikaa and Dr. Dushyant R Patel, Chairman & Managing Director, Astral SteriTech.

Similar reports –

- [CEOs of pharma companies to discuss key challenges within industry](#) – The Economic Times
- [UBM India kicks off India Pharma Week 2016 in Mumbai](#) – Pharmabiz.com

2. **[Pharma R&D spending grows as focus shifts to specialty products](#)** – Mint

Indian pharmaceutical companies have increased research and development (R&D) investments in lucrative specialty drugs and complex generics, as greater competition and lower margins eat into their bread-and-butter generics business. Since such products cost far more to develop, investments are mostly made by top drug makers such as Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd and Lupin Ltd. R&D spending at all these companies has risen over the past three years. Benefits from a so-called patent cliff (when patents on many drugs expired, creating opportunities for Indian generic-drug firms in the US) petered out in 2014, while pricing pressure

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2. [Pharma R&D spending grows as focus shifts to specialty products](#) – Mint
3. [CDSCO puts plan to open office in China on hold](#) – Mint
4. [Rising resistance to antibiotics rings alarm bells](#) – Daily News & Analysis
5. [Drug pricing authority was not consulted on the proposal to dismantle it, says chairman](#) – Scroll.in
6. [Americans want Trump to focus on healthcare first: poll](#) – Reuters.com
7. [Centre bans tests on rabbits for drug development](#) – The New Indian Express
8. [Sanofi India inks MoU with NIPER Kolkata](#) – Mint
9. [Cadila develops India's first virus like particle vaccine for treating flu](#) – Business Standard
10. [AIOCD nationwide strike deferred](#) – Pharmabiz.com

and compliance issues have risen since then, creating a sense of urgency. Consolidation in the distribution channel has added to pricing woes.

3. [CDSCO puts plan to open office in China on hold](#) – Mint

India's drug regulator has put on hold the opening of an office in China to inspect the quality of manufacturing units that supply the bulk of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) required by Indian pharma firms. The Central Drug Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) took the decision because of the lack of experienced staff, two officials familiar with the development said. Besides, opening a dedicated office in China could negate plans by Indian drugmakers to ramp up domestic bulk drug manufacturing capabilities, the officials said on condition of anonymity.

With burgeoning growth in drug ingredients and intermediates being imported from China, which stood at Rs13, 853 crore in 2015-16, CDSCO proposed to set up a permanent quality inspection office in Beijing three years ago. The proposal, however, has seen various impediments.

4. [Rising resistance to antibiotics rings alarm bells](#) – Daily News & Analysis

Since the past year, NCDC has started Antibiotic and Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance in ten medical colleges across India for four bacterial infections - Klebsiella, Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, and Enterococcus species. These bacteria hit multiple organs in the body like genital areas, spinal cord, brain, liver, oral cavity amongst others and commonly cause infections like pneumonia or non-healing of wounds in patients. "Of all samples - blood, urine being assessed at government-labs, upto 30% of samples which have these infections are not responding to antibiotics like fluoroquinolones, third generation cephalosporins and carbapenems," said Dr Rajesh Bhatia, Former Director, Communicable Diseases, World Health Organization, South-East Asia Region Office.

5. [Drug pricing authority was not consulted on the proposal to dismantle it, says chairman](#) – Scroll.in

The chairman of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Agency said that the body was not consulted on the Centre's proposal to dismantle it. Bhupender Singh said that the NPAA, established in 1997 to monitor the prices of essential drugs, was not part of the two meetings held to discuss the proposal. "Both meetings were held at short notice," Singh said. "This has been a rushed decision. For any policy change, there needs to be consultation," he said, adding that the file was currently pending with the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for approval.

This came even as a civil society group – the All India Drug Action Network – served legal notices to the secretaries of the ministries of health, chemicals and fertilisers and commerce as well as National Institution for Transforming India Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant over the matter. On October 19, the four officials decided to dismantle the NPAA and said the power to regulate drug prices will be "vested with the government".

6. [Americans want Trump to focus on healthcare first: poll](#) – Reuters.com

Healthcare is the top issue Americans want Donald Trump to address during his first 100 days in the White House, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Thursday, an apparent rebuke of outgoing President Barack Obama's signature reform, Obamacare. Some 21 percent of Americans want Trump to focus on the healthcare system when he enters the White House on Jan. 20, according to the Nov. 9-14 poll, conducted in the week after the Republican won the U.S. presidential election. Jobs took second place with 16 percent of Americans hoping it would be Trump's first agenda item, while immigration came third - picked by 14 percent of Americans, according to the poll. Some 11 percent picked race relations.

7. [Centre bans tests on rabbits for drug development](#) – The New Indian Express

In a major victory for animal lovers, the Centre has finally banned the archaic and cruel eye and skin tests on rabbits for drug development. Toxicity studies shall now be done by using non-animal

alternative as per guidelines of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Called as the Drugs and Cosmetic (seventh amendment) Rules, 2016, it was notified on November 4. The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has mandated the use of currently available non-animal test methods instead of forcing rabbits to endure eye and skin irritation and corrosion tests. In fact, many animal welfare organisations had been pushing for a complete ban on Draize tests on rabbits as it involves restraining live rabbits while chemicals are applied to their eyes or shaved skin. The animals often suffer from ulcers, bleeding and even blindness.

8. [Sanofi India inks MoU with NIPER Kolkata](#) – Mint

Sanofi India (SIL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NIPER Kolkata, an autonomous body set up under the aegis of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India, to promote academic excellence and research in the areas of pharmaceuticals and consumer healthcare products, to cater to the current and future needs of the Pharmaceutical industry.

Through this initiative, Sanofi India will participate in revision or formulation of curriculum for a Post-Graduate (M.S.)/Ph.D. programme; provide opportunities of internship or project work to NIPER Kolkata M.S./Ph.D. students at manufacturing sites; ensure association of R&D heads with the dissertation work of NIPER Students; provide career growth opportunities; and undertake collaborative research activities in identified areas.

Similar report –

- [Sanofi India inks pact with NIPER Kolkata to boost academics and research](#) – The Indian Express

9. [Cadila develops India's first virus like particle vaccine for treating flu](#) – Business Standard

CPL Biologicals Pvt Ltd, a joint-venture biotechnology company of Cadila Pharmaceuticals Ltd, India and Novavax Inc, USA, has indigenously developed 'Cadiflu-S' becoming the first Indian company to develop a vaccine to treat seasonal influenza. Cadiflu-S is also the world's first influenza vaccine to be based on virus-like particle (VLP) technology, a company statement said. The company has set up a facility at Dholka near Ahmedabad in Gujarat and made an initial investment of Rs 100 crore. The plant has the capacity of producing up to 25 million doses of vaccine every year.

10. [AIOCD nationwide strike deferred](#) – Pharmabiz.com

All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD), a representative body of 8 lakh chemists in India, has deferred its day-long nationwide strike scheduled to be held on November 23 following assurance by Union ministry of health and family welfare to take strict steps to rein in operations of online pharmacies until the finalization of framework for e-pharmacy. At a meeting held with AIOCD on November 16 at Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi, a team of officials from health ministry led by joint secretary, ministry of health K L Sharma had accepted the trade body's demand for stern action against illegal online pharmacies. Joint secretary, ministry of health also invited B. Suresh, president of Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) for the meet but he was not present in the meeting.

Following the senior health official's positive attitude about taking concrete steps to resolve their demand, AIOCD postponed the bandh, said Suresh Gupta, general secretary of AIOCD.