

1. [200 'high-risk' drug firms come under Indian regulator lens](#) – **Business Standard**

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is learnt to have classified more than 200 pharmaceutical companies as high-risk, in a first such move to cleanse the Indian pharmaceutical sector. CDSCO officials refused to divulge the names. Sources said the Indian authorities have taken a decision to follow the model of the US regulator (US Food and Drug Administration, or USFDA) in cracking down on pharma companies violating compliance norms.

Similar report –

- [Drugs made by govt cos come under the lens](#) – The Indian Express

2. [Drug counterfeiting & IPR contravention: WHO relief for Indian generics exporters](#) – **The Financial Express**

Counterfeit can mean different things in different countries. While according to WHO standards, the term can be applied to medicines that do not have the right ingredients or have ingredients in wrong quantities or contain false claims of where they are from, developed nations have often thwarted competition by branding high-quality generics as counterfeits. More important, the term has been liberally used in trademark

agreements to define drugs that are in contravention of intellectual property rights granted to a pharma company in a particular jurisdiction. But, with WHO now separating the issue of IPR from actual counterfeiting of drugs, there is some relief in store for many drug exporters. The organisation's newly-constituted committee to define substandard/spurious/falsely-labelled/falsified/counterfeit drugs decided to classify all counterfeits as falsified drugs and thus delineate counterfeit from anything relating to IPR.

3. [India witnesses improvement in maternal healthcare services](#) – **The Times of India**

Institutional and assisted deliveries have improved in India over last ten years led by government interventions and schemes, the government told the Rajya Sabha citing a study conducted by University of Maryland and national Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER). The study,

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3. [India witnesses improvement in maternal healthcare services](#) – The Times of India
4. [Official warns pharma units on spurious drugs](#) – The Hindu
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6. [Coded formulation AYUSH-QOL-2C developed to minimize side effects of Chemo and radiotherapy in Cancer patients: Shri Shripad Yesso Naik](#) – Business Standard
7. [AYUSH docs to fill vacancies in Karnataka's primary health centres](#) – The New Indian Express
8. [Patheon acquires Roche's APIs manufacturing site in US](#) – Business Standard
9. [Pfizer withdraws Corex syrup, extends line to new products](#) – The Economic Times
10. [Cipla appoints Ireena Vittal as independent director](#) – Business Standard
11. [Trump to pick Seema Verma for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services - transition official](#) – Reuters.com
12. [Donald Trump selects Tom Price as secretary of health and human services](#) – Theguardian.com

conducted to assess whether the government's Janani Suraksha Yojna (JSY) scheme has been successful in addressing disparities in providing maternal healthcare services to the marginalized and poorer communities, utilized the data from the India Human Development Survey-1 (IHDS-1, 2004-05) i.e. pre-JSY period and India Human Development Survey-2 (IHDS-2, 2011-12).

The study found that government initiated safe motherhood intervention has led to enhancement in utilisation of health services among poor and undeserved sections including an increase of deliveries assisted by trained health personnel by 22%, Minister of State for Health Faggan Singh Kulaste told the upper house in a written reply.

4. [Official warns pharma units on spurious drugs](#) – The Hindu

Stating that the 'regulator is watching', Union Health Secretary C.K. Mishra said the State drug inspectors were following standard procedures by enquiring into the quality of drugs being supplied in domestic markets. The development comes after drug regulators in seven States across India sent notices to 18 pharmaceutical companies, saying that nearly 27 medicines manufactured by these companies had failed quality tests. According to a report in a leading English daily, while the crackdown against substandard medicines has been under way since March this year, only one out of the 18 companies had recalled a substandard drug from the market and two had stopped distribution of batches of inferior quality drugs.

5. [No proposal to set up a pharma ministry: Government](#) – Business Standard

Government today said there is no proposal to set up a separate ministry for pharmaceuticals, and it is yet to allocate budget for developing common facilitation centre for the proposed medical device parks. "The creation of separate ministry for pharmaceuticals is a matter to be considered keeping in view the mandate of all the central government ministries/departments dealing with the sector. At present there is no such proposal before the government," Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Mansukh L Mandaviya said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha. However, Fertilisers Minister Ananth Kumar had said last year that a separate ministry for pharma and medical devices sector would come into force within a year. In a separate written reply, Mandaviya said: "No budget allocation" has yet been made for development of common facilitation centre for medical devices. He added: "A sub-scheme for development of common facilitation centre for medical devices under the Umbrella scheme of cluster development programme for pharma sector has been proposed. But, no budget allocation has yet been made."

Earlier this year, Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) had said that it has come up with a scheme to finance common facility centres like component and radiation testing in proposed medical device parks with an outlay of Rs 300 crore as it looks to curb import dependence.

6. [Coded formulation AYUSH-QOL-2C developed to minimize side effects of Chemo and radiotherapy in Cancer patients: Shri Shripad Yesso Naik](#) – Business Standard

The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) has developed an anti-diabetic drug AYUSH-82. License has been granted to eight firms through National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) for commercialization. CCRAS has developed a coded formulation AYUSH-QOL-2C to minimize side effects of Chemo and radiotherapy to improve quality of life in cancer patients. The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) has undertaken study to assess usefulness of Homoeopathic medicine in cancer patients having side effects from Chemotherapy. The Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN) organises Yoga and Diabetes awareness programme through Government and Non-Government organizations.

7. [AYUSH docs to fill vacancies in Karnataka's primary health centres](#) – The New Indian Express

There are 2,207 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the state and vacancies for 257 doctors. As a result, the Department of Health has decided to fill the posts with AYUSH (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) doctors. Principal Secretary to the Health Department Shalini Rajneesh told

Express, "By December, there will be no PHC with vacancies as the Health Department has decided to recruit AYUSH doctors. But if MBBS doctors want to apply, they are welcome. First preference will be given to them." The state drug controller is heading a committee which will study the feasibility of AYUSH doctors prescribing allopathic drugs. The doctors will be paid the same as what MBBS doctors are being paid, which is Rs 40,000 in urban and Rs 42,000 in rural areas for contract doctors in PHCs.

8. [Patheon acquires Roche's APIs manufacturing site in US](#) – Business Standard

Patheon NV, a global provider of high-quality drug development and delivery solutions to the pharmaceutical and biopharma sectors, has acquired Roche's active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) manufacturing facility in Florence, South Carolina (USA). Under the terms of the purchase agreement, Patheon will acquire the site for an immaterial sum, plus the cost of associated inventory and spare parts. Patheon has also entered into a multi-year supply arrangement with Roche. Patheon expects the supply agreement to help defray the costs associated with running the site for the next few years while it adds new client work into the facility. Over time, Patheon expects the Florence facility to have a similar financial profile to its other sites in its drug substance segment.

9. [Pfizer withdraws Corex syrup, extends line to new products](#) – The Economic Times

Drug maker Pfizer is planning to extend its Corex brand to a series of new products to treat respiratory ailments as part of a revamp of its product portfolio. The company has also decided to discontinue the manufacturing of current Corex cough syrup formulation. "The company will be launching a series of products as line extensions under the Corex brand name, starting with the first launch in December 2016 and subsequent launches over the next year," Pfizer said in a statement. "The company has also decided to discontinue the manufacturing of the current Corex Cough Syrup formulation. Pfizer stands by the safety and efficacy of its current Corex Syrup formulation that has been duly approved by the central and state regulator," It added.

10. [Cipla appoints Ireena Vittal as independent director](#) – Business Standard

Drug major Cipla today said it has appointed Ireena Vittal as an independent director on its board with effect from December 1, 2016. Vittal, a former partner with McKinsey & Company, is an MBA from IIM-Kolkata and has over two decades of experience in management consulting and is recognised as a thought leader for consumer-facing companies in emerging markets. Prior to joining McKinsey, Vittal worked with Nestle and MaxTouch. She has also served government and public institutions to design and implement solutions core to India's development, such as inclusive urban development and sustainable rural growth.

11. [Trump to pick Seema Verma for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services - transition official](#) – Reuters.com

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump is set to name Indiana health policy consultant Seema Verma as his pick for administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a transition official told Reuters on Monday. Trump is expected to officially announce his selection of Verma and Republican U.S. Representative Tom Price, an orthopedic surgeon who he will nominate to be secretary of health and human services, casting them as his "dream team" whose job will be to transform the U.S. healthcare system, the official said.

12. [Donald Trump selects Tom Price as secretary of health and human services](#) – Theguardian.com

Donald Trump has chosen a prominent critic of Obamacare as his secretary of health and human services, casting fresh doubt over the future of the Affordable Care Act. Congressman Tom Price of Georgia, an orthopedic surgeon who has long been a leading congressional voice in opposition to Barack Obama's healthcare reform legislation, was confirmed on Tuesday as the president-elect's pick. It came at the beginning of a day that vice-president-elect Mike Pence told reporters would produce "a number of very important announcements" concerning the presidential transition.