

1. [A Wake Up Call On NCDs](#) – Express Pharma

Changing lifestyles have led to an alarming growth of NCDs in India. Realising the need to tackle this menace and the burden it poses on the economy, the government has prepared a draft policy for NCDs with several amendments to the earlier NPCDCS and intends to legislate it soon.

Several suggestions have been made to the draft policy. For example, **Ranjana Smetacek, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) informs,** “In our suggestions on non-communicable diseases in the draft National Health Policy 2015, the OPPI has suggested that it is important to develop and implement an integrated approach to urban health through behavioural change, supplemented by modern technological and social approaches to public services.”

Also on OPPI’s list is the establishment of a ‘complimentary research network’ of private healthcare companies to focus on disease awareness of NCDs and vaccines for preventable diseases as well as collaboration with industry partners to create disease awareness, early diagnosis and best in class treatment. As an example, she mentions AstraZeneca’s Youth Health Programme in Brazil, China, India and Zambia in collaboration with government authorities to focus on awareness and prevention of NCDs amongst adolescents in marginalised communities.

She further says, “Utilisation of CSR budget of pharma companies on healthcare related initiatives is the need besides capacity building, particularly of existing government facilities, to create trust among the masses, which could be achieved through awareness campaigns.”

2. [PhRMA supports India’s efforts to enhance patient access to quality healthcare](#) – Pharmabiz

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), which represents the world’s leading innovative biopharmaceutical research companies, has expressed its support for India’s policy efforts, including advancing access to medicines and healthcare overall, as well as strengthening the system that leads to their discovery.

A PhRMA delegation, led by its chairman Kenneth C. Frazier, who is also chairman & CEO of MSD, met Indian government officials, academic experts, and business leaders to encourage

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3. [PhRMA Chairman Kenneth C. Frazier voices support for Future of Life Sciences innovation in India](#) – India Infoline
4. [Merck High on a Drug Called India, Plans to Have Deeper Puffs of it](#) – Economic Times
5. [Merck wants to give products to Indians at affordable prices: Kenneth Frazier, Merck & CO](#) - Economic Times
6. [Healthcare is the next big thing: Ratan Tata](#) – Mint
7. [Will MNCs Make In India?](#) – Business World
8. [How to make ‘innovative India’ a reality](#) – Hindu Business Line
9. [Govt looks to promote research via Imprint India initiative](#) – Mint
10. [Healthcare Startups to Lead Innovation](#) – Economic Times
11. [Pharma institutes sign 17 MoUs with corporates](#) – Business Standard

support of India's policy efforts. Frazier was accompanied by representatives from PhRMA's European and Japanese member companies, including Hideshi Honda, representative corporate officer and Asia region president, Eisai.

Frazier said "PhRMA welcomes India's efforts to enhance patient access to quality healthcare and strengthen the life sciences industry. This visit has reinforced my enthusiasm for India's prospects in life sciences, and specifically the innovative medicines sector. Cultivating this potential is well aligned with Prime Minister Modi's goals of bringing growth to India through research, innovation, and manufacturing. With the right policies put in place, and led by a government that understands the true value of innovation, India can one day become a globally-competitive leader in life sciences and biomedical development."

3. [PhRMA Chairman Kenneth C. Frazier voices support for Future of Life Sciences innovation in India](#) – India Infoline

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) Chairman Kenneth C. Frazier, who is also Chairman & CEO of MSD led a global delegation to India this week. Frazier was accompanied by representatives from PhRMA's European and Japanese member companies, including Hideshi Honda, Representative Corporate Officer and Asia Region President, Eisai. The global delegation met with Indian government officials, academic experts, and business leaders to encourage support of India's policy efforts, including advancing access to medicines and health care overall, as well as strengthening the system that leads to their discovery.

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4. [Merck High on a Drug Called India, Plans to Have Deeper Puffs of it](#) – Economic Times

Merck & Co. wants to expand its presence in India, building on what the \$42-billion US pharmaceutical giant calls a "responsible pricing strategy" and heartened by a recent intellectual property rights ruling in its favour. The Delhi High Court decision on its anti-diabetes drug Januvia is among the factors encouraging Merck to invest in India, global CEO Kenneth Frazier told. The high court barred Glenmark from selling copies of Januvia in the Indian market. Frazier, who was visiting the country after a five-year gap, said he was impressed by the progress that's been made. "Under PM Modi, we are moving in the right direction as a country that obviously has some challenges," he said. He said innovation was now getting a warmer welcome.

5. [Merck wants to give products to Indians at affordable prices: Kenneth Frazier, Merck & CO](#) - Economic Times

Kenneth Carleton Frazier, global CEO and chairman of Merck & Co, has a special place for India, one that stands out for its "spiritual element" and "visually and intellectually enriching" facets.

While Merck looks well poised for the future, Frazier is tackling some tough industry challenges in his role as chairman of PhRMA (Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America), a powerful group that represents large multinational companies based in the US. In a wide-ranging conversation with ET's Vikas Dandekar, Frazier, on a short trip to India, spoke exclusively on Merck's plans and several issues that confront the global drug industry.

6. [Healthcare is the next big thing: Ratan Tata](#) – Mint

Healthcare technologies will be the next frontier for investments as researchers make progress on inventing treatments for some of the diseases that currently have no cure, said Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of Tata Sons.

The impact of medical discoveries will be felt not just in developing countries in Asia and Africa, but in the developed world as well, Tata observed.

However, he said there was “no way” to precisely identify the breakthroughs at this point in time. “Something is going to happen which may be a breakthrough. We don’t know it today because there may be a hundred companies working in that area,” the 77-year-old industrialist said. “But one or five of them are going to be successful.”

7. [Will MNCs Make In India?](#) – Business World

Reform in labour laws and fair and faster dispute resolution mechanism are a must if Make in India has to succeed in the near term, writes Rajendra Shrivastav.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been campaigning hard for ‘Make in India’. He has fired all engines to attract foreign companies to create manufacturing capacities in India. Defence, nuclear power, aviation, space, electronics, railways, electrical industry, renewable energy, ports and oil & gas are some of the key focus areas. However, ‘Make in India’ can happen only in a few practical ways and those are elaborated below.

Why would foreign companies invest to create local manufacturing in India? Because the educated manpower costs are lower in India; besides, there could be assured business growth with long-term visibility -- companies do not care much about business potential. Other than ease of doing business in India, the multinational corporations (MNCs) expect a fair and ethical behaviour by competitors and stakeholders in the local market. It has been my experience that this is often not the case.

8. [How to make ‘innovative India’ a reality](#) – Hindu Business Line

Without a doubt, innovation is a means of creating sustainable and cost effective solutions for inclusive growth in developing economies. With the availability of financial capital, technological prowess, and entrepreneurial talent, the public and private sectors are increasingly coming together to generate innovative and effective solutions to address India’s development challenges.

It is, therefore, ironic that India dropped to 81st position, a slip of five places from last year, in the Global Innovation Index (GII) survey of 2015, well behind middle-income countries such as Brazil, China and South Africa. The ranking dropped in human capital and research, market sophistication, business sophistication and creative outputs. However, the survey adds that India has made significant progress in institutions, knowledge and technology outputs. The space programme, Mangalayaan, is a shining example of this.

It is imperative to harness the innate creative potential of the country in order to sustain competitiveness, economic growth and rising living standards.

The three key things that are going to help us adopt, implement and boost a culture of innovation are the right platform, public-private partnership, and building a skilled talent pool by promoting STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education.

9. [Govt looks to promote research via Imprint India initiative](#) – Mint

The government on Thursday launched a joint initiative of India’s leading educational institutions and several ministries to promote research and provide engineering and technological solutions to challenges ranging from climate change to healthcare.

The Imprint India initiative will pull in industries and create a single window clearance system for research funding. The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), who will coordinate the initiative, said they have demanded at least Rs.1,000 crore for the purpose.

The fund will be generated from three sources—inter-ministerial research funds, industry contributions and a portion of the government funds allocated to the IITs. Imprint is the acronym for Impacting Research Innovation and Technology.

10. [Healthcare Startups to Lead Innovation](#) – Economic Times

Healthcare startups focused on biotechnology, stem cell research and diagnosis will be at the forefront of the next wave of innovation, said Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of Tata Sons.

“Going ahead, cancer research, medical breakthrough and startups which deal with imaging and analysis will be the next big wave,” Tata, now an active investor in startups, said at the inauguration of the Telangana government-run incubator, T-Hub, on Thursday.

“It is already happening in the US.” The incubator, established at a cost of .Rs 40 crore, will have a corpus of .Rs 10 crore. It has signed a pact with software industry body Nasscom’s 10,000 Startups initiative and Internet and Mobile Association of India’s 10X programme to promote the mobile application developer ecosystem.

11. [Pharma institutes sign 17 MoUs with corporates](#) – Business Standard

National pharmaceutical institutes have signed 17 agreements with drug firms, including Dr Reddys, Sun Pharma and Wockhardt.

Seven National Institutes for Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs) have undertaken academia-industry linkage with 17 Pharma Industries of Private and Public sector, Chemical and Fertilisers Ministry said in a statement.