

1. [IT, pharma sectors brace for US poll aftermath](#) – Mint

Investors in India are nervously awaiting the outcome of the US presidential election in which Democrat Hillary Clinton held a narrow lead over Republican Donald Trump in most pre-election polls. There could be implications for Indian companies—mainly those in the IT and pharma sectors—if either of them wins the election, as these sectors derive a sizeable revenue from the US.

“If Clinton wins, Indian pharma companies will be adversely impacted as her focus is on reducing medicine costs and, prices may come down to that extent,” said Nilesh Shah, managing director of Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Co.

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2. [India to seek greater market access in U.K. for IT, healthcare](#) – The Hindu

India and the U.K. initiated steps to deepen trade and investment ties even without a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), commerce secretary Rita Teautia said on Tuesday. India would seek greater market access in the U.K. for goods, including generic drugs and services such as IT/ITeS and healthcare through a bilateral FTA as well, she said.

Negotiations on the proposed India-U.K. FTA would begin only after Britain completes the formalities for withdrawal from the European Union (EU) by around 2019. She added that in the absence of an FTA, India and the U.K. would have to address the constraints inhibiting the development of bilateral trade and investment relations. Meanwhile, India would attempt to conclude talks for an FTA with the EU, Ms. Teautia said while speaking at a seminar titled, ‘Brexit: Prospects for an India-UK FTA’. The proposed FTA is aimed at further opening up trade in goods and services as well as liberalising investment policies.

3. [Govt proposes dismantling drug pricing regulator](#) – Deccan Herald

A closely guarded proposal to dismantle the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has triggered a sense of unease among public health campaigners, who plan to approach the Supreme Court seeking its intervention on the move. Over the past three weeks, government and Niti Ayog officials had two rounds of consultations.

A report has been prepared on why NPPA must be dismantled and how the drug price control mechanism would work in the absence of the authority that has been fixing the ceiling price of essential medicines since 1997. “We would request the Supreme Court to seek clarifications from the government as the move is meant to appease only the industry,” said S Srinivasan of LOCOST, a non-governmental outfit that advocates affordable medicine.

No document on the plan to dismantle NPPA has been released in the public domain. The two consultations on October 19 and November 7 were attended by officials from the departments of health, pharmaceuticals, industrial promotion, commerce and Niti Ayog.

4. **[Demonetisation: Nadda directs govt hospitals to comply with](#) – Business Standard**

Shortly after the Prime Minister announced demonetisation of Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 notes tonight, Union Health Minister J P Nadda instructed all Central government hospitals and pharmacies to adhere to the 72-hour guideline of accepting the old notes for the convenience of patients. Modi said that Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes will be valid for transactions related to booking of air and railway tickets, and at government bus ticket counters and hospitals till the midnight of November 11 and 12.

"@MoHFW_INDIA issuing instructions to all Central govt hospitals & #AMRIT pharmacies to comply with 72hr guidelines. #IndiaFightsCorruption." Nadda tweeted.

5. **[Pricing pressure in US will continue: CEO GlaxoSmithKline Plc](#) – Business Standard**

British drug maker GlaxoSmithKline Plc Andrew (GSK)'s global CEO SIR ANDREW WITTY will step down next March after eight years at the helm. Witty, who oversaw the change in commercial strategy in the company, was in India to participate in India-UK business events. He interacted with media in Mumbai on a series of issues.

Similar report –

- [Andrew Witty leaves GSK with new challenges, robust pipeline](#) – The Economic Times

6. **[Pfizer wins patent rights for autoimmune diseases' drug](#) – Business Standard**

Pharma major Pfizer has received two process patents related to its blockbuster drug etanercept, sold under the brand name Enbrel in several countries including the United States of America, by winning against pre-grant oppositions filed by Mylan and Biocon. The decision was taken on two patent applications, one for production of polypeptides and another for production of TNFR-Ig Fusion Protein. Both applications were filed by Pfizer Ireland Pharmaceuticals in 2007 to process patents for Etanercept, legal sources close to the development said. The drug is a biopharmaceutical aimed at treating autoimmune diseases including rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis and plaque psoriasis.

7. **[Ayush ministry plans to develop 'set of technical personnel' to ensure quality of Ayush drug production](#) – Pharmabiz.com**

As a follow up to the amendment of good manufacturing practices (GMP) for ASU drugs, the Union Ayush ministry is planning to produce 'a set of technical personnel' to ensure the quality and safety of the raw materials selected for the production of drugs and formulations and monitor the technical aspects in the manufacturing side in all the units. As part of the project, the ministry has decided to hold a one-year PG Certificate course through universities in the technical and management aspects of Ayush drug manufacturing. Viewed as an in-plant training course, the ministry will give full support and financial aid to the institutions conducting the course. In Chennai, the course will be conducted at the AU-KBC Research Centre of the Anna University, Chennai. The University has reached agreement with the Ayush drug manufacturers in Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Kerala for the practical training of the course. As part of it, the Tamil Nadu Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani Drugs Manufacturers Association (TASUDMA) and the Kerala based Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturers Organisation of India (AMMOI) have jointly signed an MoU with the AU-KBC Research Centre of the Anna University to provide in-plant training in the technical and management areas of the drug production.