

1. [Final Draft of National IPR Policy Leaked; Stresses on Stricter Patents Enforcement](#) - Business World

The final draft of India's first national intellectual property rights (IPR) policy, which is expected to be made public by the end of the year after Cabinet clearance, emphasises on stricter enforcement of IP (patent, copyrights and trademark etc) law in the country and has recommended that IPR must form an integral part of the overall development policy of the country going forward.

The policy document, which was submitted by the IP Think Tank to the ministry of commerce and industry for Cabinet approval, was leaked out on a blog -- Don't Trade Our Lives Away-- on Tuesday (13 October). "The strength of the substantive laws will be reinforced by equally strong administrative, enforcement mechanisms and improved judicial infrastructure," says the final draft of the national IPR policy of which a copy of the leaked version is available with BW Businessworld.

1. [Final Draft of National IPR Policy Leaked; Stresses on Stricter Patents Enforcement](#) - Business World
2. [Patents landscape improves in India](#) - Mint
3. [Exclusive - Transatlantic divide: how U.S. pays three times more for drugs](#) - Reuters
4. [India opposes proposed European Trademark rules](#) - Mint
5. [Canada's CCAB eyes Indian bio-pharma to maximise its biological expertise for manufacture of antibody-based drugs](#) - Pharmabiz
6. [DoP constitutes Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee to address issues of pharma industry](#) - Pharmabiz
7. ["Indian market presents a lot of headroom for growth"](#) - Hindu Business Line

2. [Patents landscape improves in India](#) - Mint

Innovations across all sectors are rising in India, as is evident in the increasing number of applications for patents by domestic and overseas firms.

However, innovations in computer technology and digital communication together lag those in pharmaceuticals and organic chemistry. The top five states in number of applications are Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Delhi and Andhra Pradesh

3. [Exclusive - Transatlantic divide: how U.S. pays three times more for drugs](#) - Reuters

U.S. prices for the world's 20 top-selling medicines are, on average, three times higher than in Britain, according to an analysis carried out for Reuters. The finding underscores a transatlantic gulf between the price of treatments for a range of diseases and follows demands for lower drug costs in America from industry critics such as Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

The 20 medicines, which together accounted for 15 percent of global pharmaceuticals spending in 2014, are a major source of profits for companies including AbbVie (ABBV.N), AstraZeneca (AZN.L), Merck (MRK.N), Pfizer (PFE.N) and Roche (ROG.VX).

4. [India opposes proposed European Trademark rules](#) - Mint

India has opposed the proposed European Trademark rules that will allow European Union (EU) customs officials to seize goods in transit on grounds of suspected trademark violations. India

fears the provision will be used, like in the past, to seize low-cost generic medicines headed for African and Latin American countries at EU ports.

In April this year, the European Commission, the executive body of the EU, reached an agreement on the trademark reform package which needs to be put to a final vote in the European parliament and could come into force in the beginning of 2016. This will lead to major changes in the trademark law of the EU and its member states when it is implemented. It aims to protect businesses in the bloc from counterfeit goods and encourage innovation.

5. [Canada's CCAB eyes Indian bio-pharma to maximise its biological expertise for manufacture of antibody-based drugs](#) – Pharmabiz

Canada's Centre for Commercialisation of Antibodies and Biologics (CCAB) has now set its eyes on India to maximise the advantage of biological expertise, innovation acumen and manufacturing capability. The Centre has over 1,000 antibodies and views India as the hub for manufacturing these drugs for the rest of the world. To begin with, it has partnered with Zydus Cadila to manufacture antibody-based cancer treatments. It is now in discussion for a couple of more partners for not only oncology but also antibody based infectious disease treatments including dengue.

"We are impressed by India's pharmaceutical industry's manufacturing capability," said Dr Sidhu CEO, CCAB. Another major initiative is the setting up of a Centre of Excellence for Antibodies and Biologics in the country. This is not a one or two deal mission instead a multi-billion dollar bilateral agreement where Canada is a distinct leader. This Centre will focus on commercialisation, research and capacity building, Harjeet Bajaj CEO, Canada International Trade Services Inc, business development partners, CCAB told Pharmabiz.

6. [DoP constitutes Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee to address issues of pharma industry](#) – Pharmabiz

Acting on the recommendations of the Task Force on 'Enabling Private Sector to lead the growth of Pharmaceutical Industry', the department of pharmaceuticals (DoP) has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee for addressing issues of pharma industry. The committee will be headed by secretary, DoP. The terms of reference of the committee will be to periodically review the constraints and issues being faced by the pharmaceutical industry; and to coordinate/facilitate resolution of these issues and problems of the sector on a regular basis.

The composition of the committee include representative of chairman, NPPA not below the rank of joint secretary; representative of secretary, department of health and family welfare not below the rank of joint secretary; representative of secretary, ministry of environment, forests and climate change not below the rank of joint secretary; representative of secretary, department of industrial policy & promotion not below the rank of joint secretary; and representative of secretary, department of commerce not below the rank of joint secretary.

7. ["Indian market presents a lot of headroom for growth"](#) – Hindu Business Line

Dr. K. Anji Reddy, the founder of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd. (DRL), had a fascination for drug discovery. However, his desire to take a new molecule from discovery to commercialisation stage has remained unfulfilled. He mentions this in his memoirs which have been published as a book titled — "An Unfinished Agenda: My life in the pharmaceutical industry". Nevertheless, DRL Chief Operating Officer Abhijit Mukherjee says in an interview that the company is focused on fulfilling this agenda and its biotech research arm had taken the initiative.