

1. **[Revenue department to start pre-Budget consultations with industry on November 7](#) – The Indian Express**

Ministry of Finance's Department of Revenue under the chairmanship of revenue secretary Hasmukh Adhia will begin pre-Budget consultations with various industry associations from November 7.

Separately, the department will also hold pre-Budget meetings chaired by other officials. On November 2, Member (Budget), Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) will hold pre-Budget meeting with Association of Synthetic Fiber Industry, Association of Manmade Fiber Industry of India and Indian Spinners Association. Associations of telecom service providers such as Cellular Operators Association of India and Indian Cellular Association will meet CBEC Chairman Najib Shah on November 7, while representatives of Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association and **Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India** will meet Shah on November 11.

1. [Revenue department to start pre-Budget consultations with industry on November 7](#) – The Indian Express
2. [Indian Patent Office to create awareness programme for new IPR policy](#) – Business Standard
3. [Regulator prescribes relaxed norms for price-capped drugs](#) – Mint
4. [PMO push for production of drug APIs in India](#) – The Indian Express
5. [Domestic pharma firms zoom past MNCs in growth, market share](#) – Business Standard
6. [The \\$ 240 bn biosimilar opportunity: Buddy up to succeed](#) – Business Standard
7. [City pharmaceutical majors blamed for increasing drug resistance](#) – The Hindu
8. [DoP to soon come up with scheme for establishing common facilities in bulk drug parks](#) – Pharmabiz.com

2. **[Indian Patent Office to create awareness programme for new IPR policy](#) – Business Standard**

The Indian Patent Office plans to put in place a detailed annual plan in consultation with all stakeholders to spread awareness about the new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy by conducting workshops and seminars in schools, universities and other such institutions. "As part of awareness program, we as Indian Intellectual Property office are interacting with all possible stakeholders and working out a detailed programme so that we may conduct workshops in schools, colleges, universities, seminars together with industry and academia and specific programs for specific industries like SMEs and certain other specialised fields," said O P Gupta, Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, at an Assocham event held in New Delhi on Friday.

3. **[Regulator prescribes relaxed norms for price-capped drugs](#) – Mint**

India's drug price regulator has proposed allowing pharmaceutical companies to raise prices of drugs that are under government price control, subject to certain conditions, including the manufacturer having a market share in excess of 50%. The move by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) comes in the backdrop of the regulator having issued orders capping the prices of 577 formulations over the past year, with an approximate market value of Rs20,000 crore. The guidelines, notified on 29 September and based on the Drug Price Control Order, 2013, are an effort to tackle the possibility of pharma companies ceasing the production of drug formulations under the price ceiling.

4. [PMO push for production of drug APIs in India](#) – **The Indian Express**

To reduce its dependence on China for active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) of drugs, the Prime Minister's Office has instructed the NITI Aayog along with the ministries of health, commerce and industry, and chemicals and fertilisers to draw up a comprehensive plan to produce APIs in India. After the PMO's intervention, at least two meetings have been held over the past week, one between senior officials in the ministries of health, commerce and industry and chemicals and fertilisers and the NITI Aayog. The other, between representatives from the pharmaceutical industry and the health ministry, identified the comparative advantages that Chinese manufacturers enjoy.

5. [Domestic pharma firms zoom past MNCs in growth, market share](#) – **Business Standard**

The domestic pharma companies enjoy 77% share of the Indian pharma market (IPM), and it has been consistently above 74% for the past four years or so. Also, when it comes to growth rates, Indian companies have been steadily beating the multinational pharma players hands down for the past many years, and industry insiders believe that the trend is unlikely to reverse anytime soon.

According to AIOCD-AWACS, the market research wing of the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD), the association representing over 500,000 medicines sellers across India, in terms of growth in moving annual turnover (MAT) value, the IPM clocked a 11.4% growth in March 2013 over March 2012, and the Indian pharma companies grew by 12.6% whereas the MNC firms clocked 7.9%.

6. [The \\$ 240 bn biosimilar opportunity: Buddy up to succeed](#) – **Business Standard**

Biologics have offered patients significant promise. They are therapeutic proteins that are manufactured from natural sources and have led to solutions for several unmet clinical needs. As an increasingly popular source of new drugs, they now represent more than 20 percent of the pharmaceutical industry that is now valued at close to a trillion dollars. However, the high cost of biologic therapies is great burden on healthcare costs globally and implies that majority of patients in markets such as India cannot afford these drugs.

As this opportunity becomes more tangible and regulatory clarity emerges across global markets, it is time to ask how Indian industry can succeed in this globally attractive opportunity. Can we translate our success in small molecule generics to biologics and extend our 'Pharmacy of the world' crown to this segment as well?

7. [City pharmaceutical majors blamed for increasing drug resistance](#) – **The Hindu**

With possible far-reaching consequences for the pharmaceutical industry in India, a report from a European agency campaigning for the environment has blamed manufactures in Hyderabad for growing antibiotic resistance in the world. Titled 'Superbugs in the Supply Chain', the report by London-based Changing Markets Foundation aims to show how effluents from pharma majors, including Aurobindo, Hetero and Mylan based in Hyderabad, besides drug-producing units from other parts of the country, are polluting the environment with drugs that in turn are driving drug resistance at a global scale. The report claims findings of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in effluent samples tested at 14 sites in and around Hyderabad in addition to sample testing in New Delhi, Chennai and Vishakhapatnam.

8. [DoP to soon come up with scheme for establishing common facilities in bulk drug parks](#) – **Pharmabiz.com**

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) will soon come up with a scheme for assisting the pharmaceutical industry in establishing common facilities in the bulk drug parks, as it is under the final stage of approval from the Union finance ministry. The scheme is one of the recommendations made by the Katoch Committee which was set up by the government seeking suggestions to boost the API manufacturing in India.

Sudhansh Pant, joint secretary of DoP, says, "The recommendation by the Katoch Committee has been examined and from those recommendations, the concept of providing assistance to the bulk drug parks have come up. The scheme will help in reducing the manufacturing cost of APIs. For time being, this assistance to the bulk drug parks by means of assisting the common facilities is in the advance stage and may be over the period of time it will soon be in place."