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IPR & Innovation

1. [Reinventing CSIR: New head faces the tough task of making it an innovator again](#) – Economic Times

Before he took over two weeks ago as the director-general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Girish Sahni spent a month at the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) in Roorkee. This institute, like many CSIR institutions, had some good technologies for rural India but not quite a clear roadmap to take them to market. It set his mind thinking. By the time Sahni took charge at the CSIR headquarters, he had some clear ideas about what to do with this chain of laboratories.

Access to Healthcare

1. [Addressing gaps in national vision of "Health for All"](#) – Deccan Herald

Can we, or can't we? Can the world really end poverty, hunger and gender discrimination and ensure "health for all" by 2030? These questions have fuelled several discussions on development among the 193 member-states of the United Nations, in their bid to arrive at a consensus for a joint framework of action for the next 15 years. Now that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are nearing their end, the governments are confronting the "unfinished" agenda of development. This will be tackled by a new set of goals, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to be launched by the UN secretary general at the United Nations General Assembly later this month.

Medical & Regulatory

1. [Indian drugs: not what the doctor ordered](#) – Financial Times
Last year, Israeli generics company Teva recalled 40,000 bottles of medicine manufactured for it by India's Emcure Pharmaceuticals. According to the US Food and Drug Administration, the recall was prompted by "deviations" from good manufacturing practices at an Emcure plant — in particular, deficiencies in laboratory testing. It turned out to be just the start of trouble for Emcure, an unlisted company part-owned by US-based private equity investor Bain Capital. In July, the FDA issued an "import alert" that effectively banned the import of drugs from Emcure's Hinjwadi plant — one of its five US FDA approved manufacturing facilities.
2. [Slew of upcoming forward looking policies by Central govt to transform pharma industry: DCGI](#)
- Pharmabiz
The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has indicated that a slew of forward looking policies by the Union government that are expected in the next few weeks is set to transform the pharma industry and the start-ups landscape in doing business. Specifically adopting the e:governance model, this would cover easy issue of licenses, faster export clearances for projects and speedy drug import approvals, among others. In principle, the government has increased its fund allocation to the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) by 25 per cent. Earlier this department worked in isolation and now the Prime Minister's office (PMO) has insisted on a unified system of single window clearance regulatory approvals.
3. [Medicine Prices -Part1: Pricing of Pharmaceutical Drugs in India](#) - MoneyLife
India has been effective in reigning in the pricing of essential medicines. However, pharma companies follow pricing of developed countries for selling patented drugs, which make them significantly expensive in India. The Indian pharmaceutical industry, driven by knowledge, skills, cost efficient manufacturing base and high quality standards has witnessed a rapid growth over the last couple of years. The industry in India is the world's 3rd largest in terms of volume and stands 14th in terms of value. The lower rank in value is due to the fact that prices of Indian medicines are amongst the lowest in the world. However, despite this the medicine costs continue to be an important component in overall healthcare expenditure in the country. The majority of pharmaceutical expenses are borne by individuals in India as opposed reimbursement of pharmaceutical products by state or private insurance companies in developed countries. In this regard, it is imperative for the government to have a mechanism to make the pricing of essential drugs fair in India.

Others

1. [India interested in reviving FTA talks with EU: Sitharam](#) – Moneycontrol.com
India is interested in reviving negotiations with the European Union, but the 28-nation bloc has to respond to issues related to pharmaceutical sector, Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said today. "I am interested in reviving (talks), but we want answers too," she told reporters here. Expressing disappointment and concern over EU's banning the sale of around 700 pharma products clinically tested by GVK Biosciences, India last month deferred talks with the EU on the proposed the Broad-based Investment and Trade Agreement (BTIA).
2. [Generic drug industry to touch \\$27.9 bn by 2020: Study](#) – Economic Times
The domestic generic drug market may touch \$27.9 billion by 2020 from the current \$13.1 billion on the back of USFDA approvals to Indian pharma firms and many drugs losing their patent status, says a study. Generics would account for 85 per cent share in the domestic pharma market by 2020, fuelled by cheap labour, patent cliff of blockbuster drugs and prevalence of lifestyle diseases, according to the study by industry body Assocham and market research firm RNCOS.

3. [Narendra Modi government's reform measures can help US-India collaboration](#) – Economic Times

Reform measures taken by the Modi government will open up big opportunities for US-India collaboration, a visiting CII delegation said while addressing an audience of entrepreneurs and investors in Silicon Valley here today. CII Director General Chandrajit Banerjee highlighted that the Modi government has had to tackle huge challenges posed by laws and regulations, including in coal and land, and stressed that things are moving on the ground, at an event organized by CII and The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE).

4. [More steps required to make India investment friendly: CII](#) – Business Standard

More steps needs to be taken to make India an investment friendly destination as there is a long way to go, a top leader of an association of Indian businesses has said here in the US. "We have seen a whole series of initiatives that the government has taken on the ground but there is a long way to go," Naushad Forbes, president-designate of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) said yesterday. During an interaction at Atlantic Council, a top American think-tank, Forbes, who is currently leading an industry delegation to the US, observed that more steps needs to be taken to make India an investment friendly destination.