

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [Taking efforts to ensure fair, predictable tax regime: Jaitley](#) – The Hindu Business Line

**Access to Healthcare**

1. [Medical devices firm Medtronic to provide relief to US patients](#) – The Economic Times

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2. [Why the Commerce Ministry Should Not Act as Spokesperson for Indian Pharma](#) – The Wire
3. [DTAB sub-committee finds several nutraceuticals in market as drugs](#) – Pharmabiz.com

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1. [Playing for high stakes – Express Pharma](#)
2. [DoP, FICCI to hold international expo: India Pharma and Medical Devices 2016 from Jan 7](#) – Pharmabiz.com

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [Taking efforts to ensure fair, predictable tax regime: Jaitley](#) – The Hindu Business Line  
India is taking every possible effort to ensure a fair and predictable tax regime, said Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. Already the current government is taking efforts to resolve several legacy issues that impacted the reputation of the Indian tax regime, Jaitley said in his inaugural address at the 11th Indo-US Economic Summit here on Monday.

Later, Lalit Bhasin, Regional President, IACC-NIC, told BusinessLine that \$500 billion trade level could be reached. He called for effective steps from Indian side to improve enforcements of intellectual property rights.

**Access to Healthcare**

1. [Medical devices firm Medtronic to provide relief to US patients](#) – The Economic Times  
Medical devices firm Medtronic Plc's tried and tested disruptive model, which offers financial assistance to needy patients in India, is likely to ring relief to patients in the US, its home turf. The \$28-billion medical devices company has partnered with over 100 Indian hospitals for its access initiative that includes screening camps and patient counselling, besides financial assistance.

**Medical & Regulatory**

1. [Abbott in row with drug controller over cough syrup](#) – The Times of India  
Abbott Healthcare has challenged West Bengal drug controller's finding that its cough syrup Phensedyl contained codeine beyond the permissible level, becoming the latest multinational to dispute the conclusions of a state regulator's testing framework.

The pharma major, part of US-based Abbott, has also asked the state drug regulatory authority to provide more information about the source of the suspect sample and the manner in which it was collected.

2. [Why the Commerce Ministry Should Not Act as Spokesperson for Indian Pharma](#) – The Wire  
The [Modi government] appears to rely heavily on the bureaucracy for policy guidance, rather than demanding that civil servants put the political leaders' ideas into effect. This was a [conclusion drawn by a report](#) published in July this year by the Hudson Institute, titled "Modi one year on".

A case in point is the way the Ministry of Commerce has dealt with the fallout from the European Union action against an Indian company, GVK Biosciences. As reported widely in the press, the EU regulators had accused the company, a clinical research organization (CRO), of manipulating data from clinical trials conducted for approval of generic drugs. As a result, the EU cancelled the marketing authorisations it granted to several drug manufacturers, which included both Indian and foreign pharmaceutical companies.

3. [DTAB sub-committee finds several nutraceuticals in market as drugs](#) – Pharmabiz.com  
Several controversial nutraceutical products, now being marketed as food supplements by some of the prominent pharma companies, will have to be withdrawn from the market and should be sold as drugs as the DTAB sub-committee, which analysed these products, has recommended that these products shall be classified as drugs.

Ferradol by Pfizer; Revital by Ranbaxy Laboratories; Beneficial capsules, CSN capsules and DSN capsules by Shreya Life Sciences, A to Z by Alkem Laboratories; Kidvit Z drops by Ceza Formulations; and Resource Diabetic and Resource Renal by Drytech Process are some of the products which have been examined by the sub-committee.

"Committee examined the ingredients present in the product. Committee noted that some ingredients present in the product fall under the range as prescribed under schedule-V of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 either in prophylactic or in a therapeutic dose. The Committee recommended that the product shall be classified as drug," the sub-committee in its recommendation said.

## Others

1. [Playing for high stakes – Express Pharma](#)  
According to the latest data from the India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF), the Indian domestic pharma market ended FY15 with a growth of 12 per cent, touching Rs 90,400 crores (\$ 15 billion). Given that the IBEF's brief is to 'promote and create international awareness of the Made in India label', it is no surprise that the release makes a strong pitch for the sector's achievements. India accounts for 30.3 per cent (2,911) of 9619 Drug Master Files (DMFs) filed with the US, which is the highest outside of the US. Similarly, India has been accredited with approximately 1187 CEPs, more than 950TGA, and 584 sites approved by US FDA.

But, while the domestic market is important, it is too small to contain the global ambitions. And rightly so. Indian pharma majors have made some bold moves in the US market, clearly eyeing a larger share of the biggest pharma market in the world. Lupin's acquisition of US-based Gavis Pharma came after four consecutive quarters of muted performance in the US. Cipla too is making its play for the US market.

2. [DoP, FICCI to hold international expo: India Pharma and Medical Devices 2016 from Jan 7](#) – Pharmabiz.com  
In an effort to give a fillip to not just Indian pharma industry but also Karnataka drug manufacturers, the department of pharmaceuticals (DoP) in association with the Federation of

Indian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (FICCI) is organising an international exhibition and conference on pharmaceutical industry: India Pharma 2016 and Indian Medical Expo 2016 from January 7 to 9, 2016 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru.

Karnataka government has readily consented to provide total support for this exposition that is designed to woo investors and strategic collaborations.