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IPR and Innovation

1. [IPR policy contains commitment to legal rights of patent: US](#) – Business Standard
The [US](#) business community has hoped that the much-anticipated intellectual property rights (IPR) policy of [India](#) contains a principled commitment to the legal rights of patent, copyright, and trademark holders. "A strong intellectual property system has a fundamental role to play in growing India's innovative industry, fostering India's global economic competitiveness, and attracting greater foreign investment - key goals of the 'Make in India' campaign," he said. "For instance, the previous bias toward the use of compulsory licenses as a commercial tool appears to be much diminished," he added.
2. [Onbrez case: Delhi High Court reserves decision on Novartis-Cipla patent dispute](#) – The Economic Times
A division bench of the [Delhi High Court](#) has reserved its decision on a high-profile patent case that pitted Swiss drug maker [Novartis](#) against [Cipla](#) over its respiratory drug brand Onbrez. Last year, Cipla launched copies of indacaterol, the generic name of Onbrez, under its own brand name in the Indian market, while simultaneously calling for revocation of five of Novartis' patents. Novartis filed an injunction plea against Cipla, alleging infringement of its patent rights. In January this year, Cipla was restrained from selling copies of the drug, following which both companies filed cross appeals in the Delhi High Court.
3. [Revival of FTA talks on agenda for Merkel visit](#) – The Financial Express
With German Chancellor Angela Merkel set to visit India early October, the two countries are working to take up several issues, including India-EU FTA, skills development, Make-in-India campaign, defence production, railways, renewable energy and trade and commerce. On her

two-day visit starting October 4, Merkel and a delegation comprising a number of ministers will hold inter-governmental consultations with the Indian government. "The potential in this country is enormous but the investment conditions have to be right and their legal clarity; legal protection of intellectual property rights is an important element for investor to come and engage long term in India," Ney told reporters.

Access to Healthcare

1. [When our health sector goes digital](#) – The Hindu Business Line

In 2000, when President Bill Clinton inaugurated India's first telemedicine centre at Apollo Hospitals, Hyderabad, it marked the first nascent steps of a move towards newer and more unconventional methods of delivering care. Today, telemedicine and its offshoots — telepathology, teleradiology and medical transcription — are fast changing the paradigm of healthcare delivery. These and other such initiatives are small yet significant steps in ensuring quality medical services are accessible to every Indian — irrespective of where they live. The provisioning of and access to medical services cannot be a "post-code lottery" whereby where one resides determines what level of health services is on offer. With technology and the optimum use of resources geography can become history.

Medical & Regulatory

1. [Fixed price for cardiac stents on anvil](#) – The Times of India

The cost of cardiac stents could finally get regulated. The national drug pricing regulator has agreed in principle to the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration's proposal to slash prices of cardiac stents by including it under the Drug Price Control Order (DPCO). The proposal has now been submitted to the Union health ministry for final approval.

The cost of cardiac stents usually varies from one hospital to another and surveys have found the pricing to be even arbitrary in many cases. A study by the Maharashtra FDA has revealed that the maximum retail price of a cardiac stent is 300% to 700% more than the actual cost of import. "The country's drug pricing regulator National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has sent the proposal to the Union health ministry for approval. Once approved, the authority will bring cardiac stents under price control order. The inclusion will help monitor as well as control prices of cardiac stents across the country," state FDA commissioner Harshadeep Kamble told TOI on Tuesday.

3. [PMO asks DoP to rework Bulk Drug Policy](#) – Bloomberg TV India

The Prime Minister's Office appears to be unhappy with the draft Bulk Drugs Policy prepared by the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) even as the Narendra Modi government ardently wants to boost domestic production as part of the Make in India initiative and reduce reliance on imports from China. Sources told Bloomberg TV India that the PMO has asked DoP to rework the draft policy as it finds little merit in the cluster approach for boosting bulk drug production

Others

1. [OPPI's HR Summit Deliberates on HR Imperatives for Organisational Sustainability](#) – The Telegraph

The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) organised the annual HR summit on 'Imperatives for Organisational Sustainability', today. Key topics of discussion were diversity and inclusion; compliance and growth and employee value proposition (EVP). At the summit, distinguished speakers addressed the HR challenges faced by the pharmaceutical industry and drew upon experiences from other industries to provide likely solutions to these challenges.

2. [Expecting quick reforms in India unrealistic: US official](#) – The Financial Express

India has made steady progress on several areas of critical reforms but the notion that all problems will be addressed quickly would be “naive” and “unrealistic” as it could have a political component, a top US trade official said today. “There has been in fact steady progress but there is also room for growth and room for continued improvement and lots of work to be done,” Stefan Selig, the Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade at the US Department of Commerce said.