

1. [Out of essentials list, prices of 100 drugs may increase by 10%](#) - **The Times of India**

Prices of around 100 medicines, including those for Alzheimer's, diabetes and hypertension, could rise by up to 10% after they were removed from the national list of essential medicines. Though the move is likely to impact consumers, it comes as a relief to drug makers reeling under stringent price regulation for over a year.

Overruling a previous order by the drug price regulator, the Centre has allowed firms to hike prices of medicines that are no longer part of the NLEM and hence don't fall under direct price control. Earlier, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) — which monitors prices of medicines in the country on behalf of the government — had prohibited price hike of such products for at least a year.

Also appeared in –

- [Out of essentials list, prices of 100 drugs may increase by 10%](#) - The Economic Times

2. [Cardiological Society of India urges govt to involve it in the process of fixing stent prices](#) - **The Economic Times**

The Cardiological Society of India has urged the government to involve doctors in the process of pricing and evaluation of coronary stents, hoping to mirror the system followed in developed markets like the US and Europe. In a letter to the secretary in the health ministry, the 4,500-member grouping has suggested that stents should be considered under different categories for fixing price points. ET has seen a copy of the letter, which was sent last week.

In July, through a gazette notification, the ministry had added stents to the national list of essential medicines, a culmination of a long-drawn debate over exorbitant pricing of stents in India. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority was expected to deliberate on their pricing. The letter notes that the four components of stent—the delivery balloon, metallic platform, the polymer on which the drug is attached and the type of the drug—have undergone refinements to achieve better efficacy and safety profile and, therefore, all stents cannot be considered as a single entity, and hence may require a differential consideration.

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3. [Superbug threat real, big pharma firms feel the heat](#) – Business Standard
4. [Indian drug formulation market grows 15.3% in Aug](#) – Business Standard
5. [Health Ministry to launch "Mission Parivar Vikas" in 145 High Focus districts for improved family planning services](#) - Business Standard
6. [Sun Pharma signs deal to develop dengue vaccine](#) – The Hindu
7. [GE Healthcare to fund up to \\$50 million for global health start-ups](#) – The Hindu
8. [Meet held on PM Jan Aushadhi Scheme](#) – The New Indian Express
9. [Hard to swallow: emerging markets get tougher for drugmakers](#) – EHealthworld.com
10. [Bombay HC asks drug regulatory agencies to curb illegal online sale of drugs](#) – Pharmabiz.com

Similar report -

- [Policy on stent unleashes war in industry](#) - The Economic Times
- [Doctors support differential pricing for next-gen stents](#) - Business Standard

3. [Superbug threat real, big pharma firms feel the heat](#) – Business Standard

In a cramped lab in rural Pennsylvania, surrounded by technicians in obligatory white lab coats and fume hoods leaking an occasional acrid smell, Neil Pearson holds up a plastic model of a chemical compound that resembles a spidery piece of Lego. Pearson, a 54-year-old chemist and senior fellow at British pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline, explains how he spent more than a decade tinkering with chemical compounds before engineering a molecule that may yield the industry's first truly new antibiotic in 30 years to fight the rise of superbugs that risk killing an extra 10 million people every year by 2050.

4. [Indian drug formulation market grows 15.3% in Aug](#) – Business Standard

The domestic formulation drug market grew by 15.3% in August to Rs 9,643 crore over the corresponding month last year. The growth was driven by 9.1% expansion in volumes, 2.9% rise in prices and 3.3% in new launches, according to the data compiled by pharma market research company AIOCD AWACS. Indian companies grew by 17.1% against 9% growth for MNC pharma companies during the month. Amongst the top 50 MNCs, Janssen grew by 23.2% followed by Sanofi at 13.4% and Abbott at 12.6% over the same month last year.

5. [Health Ministry to launch "Mission Parivar Vikas" in 145 High Focus districts for improved family planning services](#) - Business Standard

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will soon launch Mission Parivar Vikas in 145 high focus districts having the highest total fertility rates in the country. These 145 districts are in the seven high focus, high TFR states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Assam that constitute 44% of the country's population. The main objective of 'Mission Parivas Vikas' will be to accelerate access to high quality family planning choices based on information, reliable services and supplies within a rights-based framework.

Also reported by-

- [Mission on family planning to focus on 145 backward districts](#) – The Hindu
- [Mission Parivar Vikas to be launched to push contraceptive use](#) – Hindustan Times

6. [Sun Pharma signs deal to develop dengue vaccine](#) – The Hindu

India's largest pharmaceutical company, Sun Pharma, has signed a deal with the Delhi unit of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) to develop a dengue vaccine, multiple sources confirmed to The Hindu. An announcement is formally expected in Delhi next month, said a person associated with the deal. This would be the first time a vaccine developed entirely in India for a vector-borne disease has been advanced for clinical development in India.

7. [GE Healthcare to fund up to \\$50 million for global health start-ups](#) – The Hindu

GE Healthcare, the USD 18-billion healthcare technology unit of GE, has announced USD 50-million funding aimed at improving services of healthcare startups in developing countries. GE Healthcare has set up an accelerator - five.eight -that will work with global health startups in areas of disruptive, low-cost technologies and digital applications, which will improve healthcare quality and accessibility in developing or low-resource settings.

Similar report-

- [GE Healthcare to fund health start-ups](#) – Business Standard
- [GE Healthcare to invest up to \\$50 million in start-up accelerator programme](#) – Mint

8. [Meet held on PM Jan Aushadhi Scheme](#) – The New Indian Express

The Kerala State Pharmacy Council organised a state-level conference on Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Scheme and National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) here on Friday. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in connection with the setting up of 300 Jan Aushadhi stores in major government hospitals, including medical colleges, and pharmacy colleges in the state was exchanged on the occasion. The stores would make available quality medicines at affordable prices under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana. The MoU was exchanged between CEO of Bureau Of Pharma Public Sector Undertaking of India Biplab Chatterjee and Chairman of Pharmaceutical Society of Kerala K G Revikumar.

9. [Hard to swallow: emerging markets get tougher for drugmakers](#) – ETHealthworld.com

Emerging markets have lost their lustre for Big Pharma making drug firms ever more dependent on the United States for growth just as American anger over high medicine prices is building. A few years ago, the developing world was seen as a saviour as patent after patent expired across the United States and Europe, but emerging market sales growth at the top drug firms slowed to less than two percent in the latest quarter. Forecasts from independent experts IMS Health now suggest the United States will account for 55 percent of sales growth between 2016 and 2020, with emerging markets only contributing 30 percent. The slowdown in China and other top emerging markets is being driven by a number of factors: government pressure on drug prices, slowing economies and in some cases significant currency devaluations.

10. [Bombay HC asks drug regulatory agencies to curb illegal online sale of drugs](#) – Pharmabiz.com

In order to curb online sale of drugs by e-commerce firms, the Bombay High Court has asked the state drug regulatory agencies as to how they intend to tackle the violations and subsequent action they would take on the same. Following this, the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has started a special drive to keep a tab on the illegal online sale of drugs by unregistered firms and has deputed a team of drug inspectors to implement the same. The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) had earlier directed all the state/UT drugs controllers to keep a strict watch on online sale of drugs and take action if there is violation of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules there under.