

IPR and Innovation

1. [Commerce and Industry Ministry may seek Cabinet nod for new IPR policy](#) – The Economic Times
2. [Germany in favour of resuming India-EU trade talks](#) – The Economic Times

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IPR and Innovation

1. [Commerce and Industry Ministry may seek Cabinet nod for new IPR policy](#) – The Economic Times
The Commerce and Industry Ministry is expected to soon approach the Cabinet for its nod for the proposed National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy.
Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the new IPR policy, which is yet to be approved by the Cabinet, "will ensure Indian patents are protected, Indian designs are protected, Indian copyrights are taken care of".
2. [Germany in favour of resuming India-EU trade talks](#) – The Economic Times
Germany, Europe's largest economy, is hopeful that the stalled talks on the long-pending Free Trade Agreement between India and the European Union will resume soon and the two parties will be able to thrash out sticky issues. German Chancellor Angela Merkel is scheduled to visit India early next month along with six of her ministers. Besides demanding significant duty cuts in automobiles, the EU wants tax reduction on wines, spirits and dairy products, and a strong intellectual property rights regime.

Access to Healthcare

1. [Adam Roberts: The neglect of health in India](#) - Business Standard
A survey of India's children highlights worrying trends in malnutrition, immunisation and access to health facilities. What is needed is a strong debate of India's health policy and, of course, greater spending on public health. In general, more public discussion of India's health data is overdue. It is a pity, for example, there is not more detailed public analysis by experts, politicians, officials and commentators of India's efforts to reach various global targets for the [Millennium Development Goals](#) (MDG), for improving human welfare. To his credit, Modi mentioned the topic last week, after hosting a global summit on it. He offered to help other countries learn from India.

2. [IMA asks State government to raise health expenditure](#) – The Hindu

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) has urged the State health administrators to increase health spending by the government in order to improve the public health system. The IMA has taken exception to the reports that the newly constituted Niti Ayog has advised the government for greater dependence on insurance-based models, with the private sector playing a central role, instead of increased public health spending. Dr. Pillai said that this was a very retrospective step, as even an increase to 2.5 per cent of GDP spending by the government was not adequate (from the current 1.2 per cent) as clearly mentioned in the draft national health policy of the government itself.

Others

1. [Online medicine sales: Are you aware?](#) – Pharmabiz.com

Advancement of e-commerce in India significantly opened an arena to market most of the products which can reach almost everybody. Online pharmacy is one among the products which is about to create a huge demand in upcoming days. An online pharmacy is an internet-based vendor of prescription drugs, and the term encompasses both legitimate and illegitimate pharmacies.

The DCGI has called for formulating a framework for online sales of medicines through e-commerce channels. "The role, responsibilities and liabilities of e-commerce marketplace and the product sellers need to be clearly defined". It becomes even more critical to have a framework in place when the intermediary is selling drugs where the safety and health of the consumer is of paramount importance," industry body Ficci's statement quoting DCGI GN Singh said. The industry body said it has been appointed as the nodal agency by the DCGI for consolidating the guidelines and was to get views of OPPI, AICDA, States Chemists and Druggists Associations, IMA, among others, in this regard.

2. [ASSOCHAM conference- There is no compromise in quality when it comes to generic medicines: Experts](#) – Indian Express

Experts stressed the need for the growth and access of generic medicines in the country and encouraged students to be a part of the research and development of such drugs.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) in association with the department of pharmaceuticals (ministry of chemicals and fertilisers) on Thursday organised a conference on the need for growth and access of generic medicines in the country.