



News Updates: April 11, 2014

Party Manifestoes

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: [Healthcare among least kept promises](#)

Synopsis: Ensure free medicines and easy admission into hospitals; debar drug companies from gifting doctors... the suggestions pour in from citizens as they engage with the local AAP candidate on Twitter. In fact, health has pride of place on the Congress manifesto as well, where “Right to Health” is endorsed and a promise is made to increase healthcare spends to 3 per cent of GDP. The CPI(M) seeks to better that, promising healthcare spends at 5 per cent of GDP.

Similar report in-

Deccan Herald- [Socially awkward](#)

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: [Industry applauds BJP's manifesto for its focus on healthcare](#)

Synopsis: Healthcare experts who call for radical reforms in the healthcare sector welcomes BJP's Manifesto. stressing that the country is in dire need for a healthcare reform focused on addressing the healthcare needs of the country. Many feel that India needs a comprehensive healthcare policy to address the complex healthcare challenges, keeping in view the developments in the healthcare sector and the changing demographics.

Sun Pharma- Ranbaxy deal

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: [Spot the oligopolist](#)

Synopsis: Given Sun Pharma's takeover of Ranbaxy Laboratories makes it India's largest pharmaceuticals player, it is only natural the move will be scrutinised by the Competition Commission of India (CCI)—in any case, whether in terms of turnover or assets, the deal falls within the CCI's purview. Indeed, according to Sun's investor presentation, the deal will help it become the number one player in as many as 13 speciality segments. What is important to keep in mind, however, is that even after the acquisition, the market share of the combined entity will still be under 10%—9.2%, according to the investor presentation. Indeed, India is probably one of the most dispersed pharmaceutical markets in the world with several thousand producers of medicines, which is why it has among the lowest prices anywhere. In even the medicines that fall under what is called the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) on which there are price caps, there are an average of 60 manufacturers per drug—it is 20 in the case of the anti-hypertensive enalapril maleate to 124 in the case of the painkiller paracetamol.

Similar report in-

The Hindu Business Line- [Competitive restructuring](#)

Innovation

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: April 11, 2014

Opinion piece: Harsh Mariwala, founder, Marico Innovation Foundation

Headline: [Accelerating social innovation](#)

Synopsis: There has been a phenomenal surge of interest in social innovation globally as a way to achieve sustainable economic growth. Social innovation is helping solve some of the world's most pressing problems with new solutions, such as distance learning, mobile money transfer, livelihood training, techno-farming and healthcare. In the process of creating solutions, this is also profoundly changing beliefs, basic practices, resources, and social power structures.

General Industry

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: [Pharma whales might gobble more small fish](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharma's acquisition of Ranbaxy could open the gates to more such deals with the yawning valuation gap in the drug industry. The top 10 drug manufacturers (by market value) account for 80 per cent of the industry's market capitalisation, much higher than their revenue share of 58 per cent in 2013. There is a similar skew in profitability and revenue share for the big drug companies, raising the odds of their using market value as a currency to snap up smaller rivals.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: Pharma MNCs may Need New Prescription for Growth Here (link unavailable, scan attached)

Synopsis: Sun Pharmaceutical's acquisition of Ranbaxy Laboratories may force multinational pharmaceutical companies to change their strategy considering that the combined entity will become the country's largest drug maker and the fifth- largest generic company in the world.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: [Natco seeks to block Gilead's hepatitis C drug patent in India: Report](#)

Synopsis: Natco Pharma Ltd has formally asked the Indian patent office to deny U.S. drugmaker Gilead Sciences Inc's new hepatitis C drug Sovaldi a patent in India, a source with direct knowledge of the matter said. If successful, the move could clear the way for the Indian company to launch a cheap generic version of the drug.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [Natco moves to oppose Gilead hepatitis C drug patent in India: Report](#)

Business Standard- [Natco moves to oppose Gilead hepatitis C drug patent in India - source](#)

Reuters- [Natco seeks to block Gilead's hepatitis C drug patent in India - source](#)

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: April 11, 2014

Headline: [Main anti-swine flu drugs found to be useless](#)

Synopsis: Scientists have found that the two drugs used across the world to treat swine flu — Tamiflu and Relenza — are no better than Paracetamol in relieving flu symptoms and are next to useless in preventing a pandemic. Many countries including India have spent millions of dollars in stockpiling these two drugs fearing a swine flu pandemic.

Similar reports in-

Forbes- ['Tamiflu Is No Better Than Tylenol At Fighting Flu'](#)

The Financial Express- [Govts wasting money on stockpile of Roche's flu drug, claim researchers](#)

Reuters- [Stockpiles of Roche Tamiflu drug are waste of money, review finds](#)