



News Updates: April 5-7, 2014

Patents/Compulsory Licensing/Intellectual Property

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: April 5, 2014

Headline: [US Patents rejects Teva's plea on Copaxone; Natco shares up](#)

Synopsis: The US Patent and Trademark Office has rejected the application of Israel's Teva Pharmaceutical seeking re-issue of patent for its blockbuster multiple sclerosis drug Copaxone. In July last year, a US court had ruled that the Israeli company's patent for the drug was invalid, thereby paving way for generic rivals to look at entering the market with copycat versions of the drug.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [Natco shares surge as Teva's patent extension plea rejected](#)

Business Standard- [Natco Pharma jumps after US PTO rejects Teva's patent reissue application](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [US Patent Office rejects Teva's plea to extend Copaxone patents; Natco Pharma 'pleased'](#)

The Financial Express- [Teva Pharmaceuticals plea on Copaxone rejected by US Patents; Natco Pharma shares up](#)

BJP Manifesto 2014- Health services

Website: NDTV

Edition: Online

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [BJP manifesto promises economic revival, development for all: top 10 points](#)

Synopsis: The BJP today released its much-delayed manifesto on a day India began voting for a new government in the first of a nine-phase general election spread over 36 days. "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" (One India, great India) and "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas" are the main slogans of the 52-page manifesto.

Similar reports in-

ZEE News- [BJP manifesto 2014 LIVE: Team India concept unveiled](#)

India Today- [BJP manifesto promises to create jobs, end policy paralysis](#)

Sahara Samay- [BJP poll manifesto puts focus on five 'Ts'](#)

Drug Pricing

Publication: Daily News & Analysis

Edition: Pune, Bangalore

Date: April 5, 2014

Headline: **Prices of 348 drugs under control to increase by 6.3% this fiscal (link unavailable, scan attached)**

Synopsis: The ceiling price of 348 essential drugs, which are under price Control, will increase by 6.32%. In 2014-15 (Apr-Mar) providing some relief to companies like GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Pfizer Ltd and Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd. which have been hit the most by the new pricing mechanism announced in 2012. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has

notified the Whole Price Index- based inflation level for 2013 at 6.32%, according to the regulator's website.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [GSK starts nationwide recall of Crocin Advance following state FDA's stop sale order](#)

Synopsis: GlaxoSmithKline Asia Pvt Ltd (GSK) has launched a nationwide recall of its paracetamol brand, Crocin Advance, from the retailers and wholesalers following Maharashtra FDA's stop sale order issued to the company for overcharging the drug. recently. Most of the retailers across the country have also stopped stock and sale of the drug.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [State FDA to approach NPPA for overpricing of Calpol](#)

Synopsis: The Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is soon planning to approach the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to recover the excess amount earned as profit by GlaxoSmithKline at the revised overpriced rate. The Thane unit of the state FDA on March 22 directed GSK to stop sale of Calpol 60 ml syrup it manufactured. The FDA issued the order after it seized 6,500 bottles of Calpol worth Rs 2.11 lakh from the GSK's Bhiwandi godown on the grounds that the price charged was more than the standard rate by the new drug price control order (DPCO). As per DPCO, Calpol 60 ml should cost Rs 20. 79, but was priced at Rs 32.75 per bottle.

Drug regulation/ Drug quality

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [Self-certification for bar-coding for drug firms launched](#)

Synopsis: The government has introduced self -certification for bar coding of secondary and tertiary level packaging of drugs in order to simplify the export procedures. A barcode helps in tracking and tracing the origin of drugs which in turn helps in minimising chances of genuine drugs being considered spurious, sub-standard or counterfeit.

Publication: The Smart Investor

Edition: National

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [Drug inspectors hard-pressed to scrutinise factories](#)

Synopsis: A drugs regulator is among the first to admit that oversight of India's huge pharmaceutical industry can be patchy. G L Singhal, chief regulator of Haryana, a drugs manufacturing hub, says he needs double the number of inspectors if he is to properly scrutinise factories there. "We literally have skeletal services. We are struggling in the present system. Inspectors are so overburdened, and their nature of duty is very serious," Singhal told Reuters.

FDA

Publication: The Hindu (blog)

Edition: National

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [The nonsense in Wockhardt's reply to the FDA](#)

Synopsis: Wockhardt's plant in Chikalthana, Aurangabad, was found by US FDA inspectors to have ridiculously unclean working conditions, including the smell of urine pervading some parts of the facility.

General Industry

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: April 7, 2014

Headline: [Neutralising a mass killer](#)

Synopsis: The curiosity and keen observation shown by a single doctor at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi in 1985, combined with unprecedented team work by people from 13 institutions, both in India and abroad, would soon start annually saving the lives of thousands of children aged less than five years from a mass killer — rotavirus diarrhoea. In India, the disease annually kills over 100,000 children below the age of one, making the country account for a quarter of all global deaths caused by rotavirus diarrhoea. The majority of instances of the disease caused by the virus occurs during the first two years of age.

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: April 5, 2014

Headline: [Once bitten](#)

Synopsis: Over a billion people worldwide fall prey to vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue, yellow fever, leishmaniasis, etc, every year—and nearly a million of them die, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). In advance of the World Health Day, April 7, WHO has warned that close to half of the world population is now at risk from vector-borne diseases. While mosquito-borne dengue is the world's most rapidly-spreading vector-borne disease—2.5 billion people in 100 countries now risk contracting the disease, the WHO says—the threat from such diseases is especially grave for South East Asia. Ten out of the 11 countries in this region are malaria-endemic, home to over 40% of the world population at risk from the disease. In fact, South East Asia bears 17% of the world's infectious disease burden.

Publication: The Statesman

Edition: Delhi

Date: April 5, 2014

Headline: IMA urges quality health for all (link unavailable, scan attached)

Synopsis: Eyeing the possibility of pushing their demands into political agenda, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has prepared a 'Health Agenda' and forwarded it to the national political parties with a request to incorporate it in their manifesto for the upcoming elections.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: April 6, 2014

Headline: [Poll fever cure: Ragaflam, Namo tablets fly off pharmacy shelves](#)

Synopsis: As election fever grips the country, Namo and Ragaflam tablets, named after BJP's Narendra Modi and Congress's Rahul Gandhi, are crowding pharmacy shelves. Neither Modi nor Rahul may have all the answers to what ails the nation, but generic drugs named after them are certainly getting people's votes.