



**News Updates: August 14, 2014**

#### NDTV Expose

**Website: NDTV**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 13, 2014**

**Headline: [Doctor Arrested after NDTV Expose, Two Others Summoned by Medical Watchdog](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Medical Council of India cancelled the licences of two doctors pending inquiry and handed over a quack to police on Wednesday after the trio was reportedly caught on camera promising to prescribe branded drugs for money and gifts. The sting operation was recently conducted by a TV channel where journalists posed as pharmaceutical company representatives. The Medical Council of India (MCI) has handed over the investigation to the Delhi Medical Council (DMC), which should be completed in 60 days.

**Similar report in-**

Deccan Herald- [2 docs, 1 quack caught on cam asking for gifts](#)

#### Clinical trials

**Publication: The New Indian Express**

**Edition: Bangalore**

**Date: August 14, 2014**

**Headline: ['Clinical Trial Norms Should Change'](#)**

**Synopsis:** Medical experts feel that the country's regulatory mechanism on clinical trials is very reactionary and needs to be changed. Members of the Indian Society for Clinical Research (ISCR) say that in the last one month, there have been at least 15 new orders on various aspects of clinical trials passed by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), the regulatory body on pharmaceuticals.

**Similar reports in-**

Deccan Herald- [Clinical trials: A ray of hope thwarted by norms](#)

#### Modi government/ WTO/ Indo- US ties

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 13, 2014**

**Headline: [US disappointed at India's stance at WTO: Envoy](#)**

**Synopsis:** India's refusal to ratify the trade facilitation agreement at WTO was disappointing, a US envoy to India said today. "My country and all other countries in the WTO framework were disappointed as India made a changed stance in July last," said Stephens, Charge d'Affaires ad interim to India, at an informal interaction with reporters here. She said had India agreed to the new global customs rules, then it could have been an enormous step for trade facilitation for smaller countries as well.

**Similar reports in-**

Mint- [US disappointed at India's stance at WTO: Envoy](#)

Business Standard- [India's blocking of WTO deal disappointing: Stephens](#)

**Publication: The Times of India**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 13, 2014**

**Headline: [India wants final solution to food security issue in WTO](#)**

**Synopsis:** India on Wednesday clarified that its decision not to ratify WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) is aimed at ensuring that the country's efforts to ensure food security remain consistent with its international obligations. "The stand taken by India is aimed at achieving a permanent solution on the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes so that the country's efforts to ensure food security remain consistent with its international obligations," Commerce minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply.

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: August 14, 2014**

**Opinion piece: T S Vishwanath, Principal Adviser at APJ-SLG Law Offices**

**Headline: [A fine regional balance](#)**

**Synopsis:** The August break at Geneva notwithstanding, the trade world is abuzz trying to understand how the trade facilitation agreement - the big prize at the Bali Ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in December 2013 - has been halted, albeit temporarily, due to the current impasse at Geneva over another Bali decision - public stock holding for food security purposes. While the blame game continues to unfold, several people are trying to piece together the evolving strategy of the National Democratic Alliance government at trade negotiations. The question being asked is whether India will be a spoiler or a consensus-builder at the multilateral forum and more importantly, what will be the Indian stand on bilateral and regional trade agreements.

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: August 14, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Kanika Datta**

**Headline: [Two steps back](#)**

**Synopsis:** A prominent Indian information technology industrialist once acerbically commented that it is only in India that people agitate for the right to be backward. He was referring to one of the frequent agitations by Jats/Gujjars/Meenas and others to be thus designated and benefit from the munificence of the positive discrimination in government jobs and educational institutions. But his remark could as well apply to two recent developments: the Indian government's recalcitrance over signing the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) at the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the agreement to scrap the English comprehension test in the civil services examination paper.

## Health ministry

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 13, 2014**

**Headline: [National donation database top priority: Harsh Vardhan, Health Minister](#)**

**Synopsis:** Health minister Harsh Vardhan tells TNN how he plans to expedite the process to put a national organ donation registry in place and streamline the process of body-pledging so that the massive gap between demand and supply can be breached.

**Publication: The Hindu**

**Edition: National**

**Date: August 14, 2014**

**Headline: [Govt. to merge Department of AIDS Control with Health Ministry](#)**

**Synopsis:** In a move that has shocked several AIDS experts in the country the Health Ministry has decided to merge the Department of AIDS Control (DAC) with the main Ministry. This decision comes a month after the Health Minister's controversial statements against sex education and condom use. Speaking about the move to The Hindu Union Health Secretary Lov Verma said on Wednesday: "DAC will cease to exist as an independent unit and will be merged with the Ministry. There is no question of shutting down DAC."

**Publication:** The Times of India

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** August 14, 2014

**Headline:** ['Beti bachao, Beti padhao' scheme to kick off in 100 worst-affected districts](#)

**Synopsis:** Hundred districts with the worst child sex ratio across the country will be the cradle for the ambitious 'Beti bachao, Beti padhao' scheme that envisages a mix of cash transfers with stringent action against erring medical practitioners and monitoring of health clinics. "We are working on district specific plans for the 100 worst sex ratio districts in the country. There will be a two-year deadline for its implementation," women and child development minister Maneka Gandhi said. The ministry will work in tandem with the ministries of health and education on the scheme.

**Publication:** The Hindu

**Edition:** National

**Date:** August 14, 2014

**Headline:** [No case of Ebola in India](#)

**Synopsis:** The Union Health Ministry on Wednesday said that there was no confirmed or even suspect case of Ebola virus disease in India as yet. In a statement, the Ministry said that a 30-year-old Nigerian national, who arrived at the Delhi Airport, was admitted to Dr. RML Hospital on Wednesday morning with fever. He has tested negative for Ebola at the National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi. Mandatory reporting of passengers from affected countries was in place.

## FDI

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** August 13, 2014

**Headline:** [Insurance Bill: Government bows to opposition demand for select panel](#)

**Synopsis:** Bowing to opposition pressure, the government has agreed to refer the controversial Insurance Bill to a Select Committee of Parliament, which will have 15 members. According to sources, the committee will be headed by a member from the ruling BJP even though Congress had sought the chairperson's position. Sources added that the government has given three names - Chandan Mitra, Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi and Jagat Prakash Nadda - for the panel's chair and a decision on it will be taken tomorrow.

**Similar reports in-**

Business Standard- [RS likely to refer insurance Bill to a select committee](#)

The Hindustan Times- [Insurance bill: Govt bows to oppn demand for select panel, announcement likely today](#)

Deccan Herald- [Amended Insurance Bill to be referred to panel](#)

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** National

**Date:** August 14, 2014

**Headline:** [FDI, the Way Forward](#)

**Synopsis:** Indian Government has allowed higher foreign direct investment (FDI) in many sectors in the last two years to boost foreign investment and generate employment.

After relaxing FDI norms in telecom, aviation and stock exchanges, it is now the turn of defence and railways. Global companies like Tesco, Singapore Airlines and Etihad Airways have lined up to invest in India. Investor interest is growing, but is it enough to feed the needs? No. A lot more needs to be done. The publication illustrates how the past policies have worked and what needs to be done to make a success of the FDI policy .

## Innovation

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** Bangalore

**Date:** August 14, 2014

**Headline:** [Life Beyond the Big Players](#)

**Synopsis:** Innovations in healthcare products in India have normally been associated with big multinationals like GE and Philips. But increasingly, startups and small companies, backed by an upcoming research ecosystem, are delivering some sterling innovations. Most of their devices are smaller, cheaper and easier to use, and hence ideal for rural areas.

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** August 13, 2014

**Headline:** [India slips 10 places in Global Innovation Index](#)

**Synopsis:** India's ranking in the Global Innovation Index has fallen to 76 position from 66 in 2013, the government today said quoting a report. In a written response to a question in the Lok Sabha, Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Science and Technology, said, "As a part of the Global Innovation Index (GII) Report 2014, co-published by Cornell University, INSEAD and WIPO, India has fallen to 76 position from 66 in 2013."

## General Industry

**Publication:** Business Standard

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** August 13, 2014

**Headline:** [SC notice on plea over preferring generic medicine](#)

**Synopsis:** The Supreme Court Wednesday issued notice to the Centre, state governments, Union Territory administrations and the Drug Controller of India on a petition seeking direction to purchase drugs by their generic name instead of buying medicines marketed under brand names. The bench of Justice Dipak Mishra and Justice V. Gopala Gowda said that "though there is a policy for the use of generic medicine and the same is not followed in proper perspective, as a result of which a large number of cheaper medicine of the same generic composition are not available for treatment". The notice is returnable in six weeks.

**Similar reports in-**

The Hindu Business Line- [Apex court notice to Centre, States on promoting use of generic drugs](#)

The Financial Express- [SC to look into availability of generic drugs](#)

**Publication:** Mint

**Edition:** National

**Date:** August 14, 2014

**Headline:** A lot of standalone pharmaceutical companies can be sold (link unavailable, scan attached)

**Synopsis:** Serum Institute is not for sale, said Cyrus Poonawalla, chairman of the Poonawalla group. In an

interview, Poonawalla said he expects to win the bid for the Sahara Group's Grosvenor House Hotel in London. Poonawalla is, however, not interested in acquiring any of the Sahara Group's other properties. Poonawalla also criticized Indian pharma companies who have fallen foul of regulators. These instances hurt the image of the sector on a global scale and is not good for business, he said.

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 13, 2014**

**Headline: [India has potential to influence global health](#)**

**Synopsis:** India's success has tremendous potential to influence global health and to catalyze rapid improvements through innovation and partnerships with other countries, said John A Beed, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) India Mission Director today. "India's leadership and commitment to ending preventable child and maternal deaths has the potential to influence greatly health outcomes globally," said Beed as he along with senior officials from Union Health Ministry convened today to celebrate the successes of the five-year USAID-supported Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP) as it draws to a close.

**Publication: Daily News & Analysis**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 14, 2014**

**Headline: [Indian doctors, government launch portal to share healthcare expertise](#)**

**Synopsis:** Indian-origin doctors across the globe have joined hands with the Indian government to launch a web portal for sharing expertise, skills, knowledge and resources with those in need of such services in India. The initiative has been described as a "match maker" between public and private medical institutions in India and from around the globe, who want to provide medical service to people in their "Janmabhoomi" (birth place). The website -- [www.SwaasthIndia.Gov.In](http://www.SwaasthIndia.Gov.In) is a collaboration between Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, American Association of Physicians of India-origin USA (AAPI), Global Association of Physicians of Indian-origin (GAPIO), the British Association of Physicians of Indian-origin, UK, and the Apollo Hospital.

**Publication: The Times of India**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: August 13, 2014**

**Headline: [Drug makers' capex will surge 40% on sharper global focus, Crisil says](#)**

**Synopsis:** The capital expenditure (capex) of the country's top-20 pharmaceutical companies, which contribute nearly two-thirds of the country's exports, would increase 40% to over Rs 50,000 crore till fiscal 2018, compared with about Rs 36,000 crore seen in the last four fiscal years, ratings agency Crisil has estimated. "That's because drug makers are expected to pay greater attention to the regulated markets, especially the United States (US), to take advantage of substantial patent expiries expected in the medium-term, and ever-increasing demand for generics," the agency said.

**Similar reports in-**

**Business Standard- [Indian drug makers' capex to surge 40% : CRISIL](#)**

**The Asian Age- [Drug firms plan Rs 50 000cr capex](#)**

**Moneycontrol- [Drug makers' capex to surge 40%: CRISIL Ratings](#)**