

FDI

Publication: The Indian Express (*Opinion Article*)

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Author: Gauri Kamath, Founder Apothecurry

Headline: [A different medicine needed](#)

Synopsis: Gauri Kamath talks about the FDI policy for pharmaceuticals in detail and its impact on the industry. She highlights that the Cabinet decision to not make any changes to India's FDI policy for pharmaceuticals — if not warmly welcoming then at least not dead in the water from the point of view of foreign investors. Gauri speaks in favour of Big Pharma and highlights that there is no connection between essential medicines and FDI. Companies — whether Indian or foreign — make drugs that turn a profit and get out of making those that don't. It is worthwhile to note that when India recently cut prices of a host of essential medicines, MNCs were hit badly, as were Indian companies. Some MNCs even more so. It is well known that under the old price-control regime MNCs in general had a larger percentage of their turnover coming from price-controlled drugs than homegrown companies did. What matters is not the companies' provenance but their strategy and focus areas. Some companies make money from antibiotics, others from Botox. And it is unlikely that a company that is bought at top dollar rates, say for its malaria franchise, will turn anytime soon into a cosmeceuticals manufacturer because its ownership changed hands. True, shortages do occur, for a variety of reasons such as uneconomical pricing or manufacturing issues. They have occurred in India and abroad. But the way to prevent them or mitigate their impact is by making companies inform the government in advance of imminent shortages, which could be caused by a variety of reasons. This helps to prepare alternative arrangements and is what the US has resorted to.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: [FDI inflow declines 38% to \\$2.91 billion in September](#)

Synopsis: Foreign Direct Investment into the country declined by about 38 per cent, year-on-year, to \$2.91 billion in September, according to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. In September 2012, the country had attracted foreign investment worth \$4.67 billion. During the April-September period of 2013-14 fiscal, FDI has thus dipped by 11 per cent to \$ 11.37 billion, from \$ 12.84 billion in the first half of 2012-13, DIPP said. Decline in FDI in sectors like services, telecom and metallurgical industries have lowered the inflows.

FDA / Drug Regulatory

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: [Drug regulator to increase staff strength to 5,000](#)

Synopsis: The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) plans to increase its staff strength to 5,000 people over the next five years from 1,500 at present.

The drugs regulator has come under severe criticism from various quarters for being understaffed, thus compromising on monitoring drug safety, approving new drugs, inspecting manufacturing sites and monitoring clinical trials.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: [India to showcase drugmaking facilities to global regulators](#)

Synopsis: India is showcasing its best pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities to regulators from emerging economies to counter adverse publicity the country's drug industry has endured in recent times. Health ministers and officials from countries including Kenya, Ghana, South Africa, Vietnam, Egypt and the Philippines are being hosted by India, which is keen to dispel notions that Indian pharmaceutical companies do not adhere to the highest quality standards.

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: Online

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: [FDA asks Wockhardt to conduct global assessment of its plants](#)

Synopsis: Indian generic drug manufacturer Wockhardt has been asked by America's Federal Drug Administration to conduct a global assessment of its plants to ensure that the drug produced by the company conform to FDA requirements for safety, efficacy, and quality.

Questioning the reliability and accuracy of tests conducted by Wockhardt, the FDA in a letter expressed concern about its inability to implement a robust and sustainable quality system.

General Industry

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: ['Pharma industry has a deep culture of corruption'](#)

Synopsis: Dinesh Thakur, who blew the whistle on Ranbaxy's compromises with quality, discusses Indian pharma's ills, in an interview with The Hindu Business Line.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: [Johnson & Johnson faulty implants: Indians left in lurch](#)

Synopsis: Pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson recently agreed to pay \$2.5 billion (over Rs 15,000 crore) as compensation to around 8,000 US citizens who had sued the company after being fitted with its faulty hip implants. The settlement, touted as one of the biggest in pharma history, came three years after the metal-on-metal Articular Surface Replacement (ASR) implant, manufactured by J&J subsidiary DePuy Orthopedics, was recalled globally in 2010. Studies had showed that the implant metals—cobalt and chromium—were leaving debris in the body leading to fluid accumulation in joints and muscles causing pain or discomfort and heightening chances of metal poisoning. A high failure rate (in less than five years of being implanted) was also exposed.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: December 4, 2013

Headline: [Firm that learns from others' mistakes is more successful: Dilip Shanghvi, Sun Pharma](#)

Synopsis: Dilip Shanghvi, who built Sun into a global giant, is not slowing down the pace of expansion. He wants Sun to invest in innovative products and not just be known as only a generic player. He is putting in place systems and processes that will make Sun a global pharma company. Already, more than 70% of Sun's sales come from the US and Shanghvi recently hired Israel Makov, former president and CEO of Teva as chairman of the company, while he himself has stepped down to be the CEO. In an exclusive interview with ET's Divya Rajagopal & R Sriram, Shanghvi talks about his plans, his fears and hopes for the future.