



News Updates: February 11, 2014

Intellectual Property/Compulsory License/Patents

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: February 11, 2014

Headline: [US business pressure again on Indian IPR](#)

Synopsis: US business continues to voice deep suspicion of India's intellectual property rights (IPR) regime, something part of official American government policy, too. The pressures in this regard have been reiterated, in strong language. The office of the US Trade Representative (USTR), the office of the chief negotiator on commercial deals for the US government, had kept India on the Priority Watch List of its annual Special 301 Report in 2013 as well. This report is an official assessment of the global state of IPR protection and enforcement in the US' trade partners. India, says Michael Froman, the current USTR, is guilty of continuing weakness in its legal framework and enforcement system for IPR.

Similar report in

The Economic Times- [Intellectual property rights: US set to punish India](#)

The Financial Chronicle- [US mulls trade curbs over drug dispute](#)

The Hindu- [India patent regime not about access to medicine: U.S body](#)

Drug Pricing/Pricing Policy

Publication: The Asian Age

Edition: Delhi

Date: February 10, 2014

Headline: Azad: Affordable doesn't mean spurious (*link unavailable, scan attached*)

Synopsis: Against the backdrop of US actions against Indian pharma exports, health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday did some plainspeak with the head of American drug regulator, asserting that India drugs should not be treated as spurious just because they are affordable.

Drug regulation/FDA

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: February 11, 2014

Headline: [Keep us in loop before any FDA swoop, India tells US](#)

Synopsis: Taking a tough stand on the ongoing regulatory issues faced by the domestic pharmaceutical industry because of increasing enforcements by the US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA), the Indian government on Monday raised concerns related to disproportionate penalties, delayed approvals and harsh actions, including import alerts imposed on companies without giving them enough opportunity to present their case. The government also asked the American regulator to inform and engage their Indian counterparts while conducting inspections at facilities here.

Similar report in

The Economic Times- [India raises concerns over FDA actions on domestic drug firms](#)

Mint- [India, US agree on pharma regulation](#)

The Hindu- [Sharma to take up pharma issues with U.S.](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [India says US FDA imposed disproportionate penalties](#)

The Financial Express- [India, US seek to better drug-making processes](#)

The Indian Express- [USFDA to now 'share info' before facility inspections](#)
The Hindustan Times- [India raises concerns over USFDA actions](#)
Businessworld- [US To Announce Trade Enforcement Action Linked To India](#)

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: February 11, 2014

Headline: [What Indian regulators are getting wrong](#)

Synopsis: All of a sudden, Indian regulators in at least two sectors find themselves under the spotlight: civil aviation and pharmaceuticals. Recent events have shown how they are ill-equipped to regulate the two rapidly-growing sectors. These also happen to be sectors where lapses can be fatal. This is in sharp contrast to the country's financial sector regulators, in particular the Reserve Bank of India which has won global acclaim for monitoring the health of banks regularly and taking timely remedial action whenever needed. While Indian drug makers have been accused of paying lip service to good manufacturing practices for some time now, the lapses in aviation come as a surprise.

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: February 11, 2014

Headline: [What pharma regulators really want](#)

Synopsis: Just having fire in the belly may not be enough for small and medium-size entrepreneurs. You also need to know how to access markets, and for that you need to know what regulators in those markets want. So what do regulators want? This million-dollar question haunting entrepreneurs is precisely what UL seeks to demystify for the 70-odd medical device makers it works with in India. "At the end of the day what a regulator wants is to make sure devices sold in the different jurisdictions are safe," says Suresh Sugavanam, Managing Director and Vice-President, UL (South Asia), explaining how they work with entrepreneurs of different hues, helping their products make the cut.

General Industry News

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: February 11, 2014

Headline: [Towards a single health goal](#)

Synopsis: In the global conversation around sustainable development goals (SDGs), there is consensus that the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which expire in 2015, need to be incorporated as that is not a closed chapter—the maternal and child health targets and infectious disease control have only been partially met. Despite major progress in fighting infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (TB) and reducing infant mortality, huge disparities exist between richer and poorer nations. These need to be reflected in the new goals. At the same time, it has been clearly recognized by the UN and the World Health Assembly that non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the dominant public health challenge of the 21st century. We need concerted global efforts with substantial national commitment and these need to be incorporated in the new goals. Meanwhile, universal health coverage (UHC) has become an important aspiration by countries.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: February 10, 2014

Headline: [State to revisit biotech policy](#)

Synopsis: Karnataka, which had formulated the first biotechnology policy in the country in 2001 and had amended it in 2009 to meet the changing needs of the industry, is set to revisit the policy yet again. With

the Millennium Biotech Policy version 2' completing five years, the state government has now proposed to revisit the policy this year with a 'version 3' of the policy. For the version 3 of the policy, inputs of the Vision Group on Biotechnology would be taken into account.

Similar report in

The Hindu Business Line- [Karnataka to revise biotech policy this year](#)

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Bangalore

Date: February 11, 2014

Headline: Biotech Startups Turn Chary as AstraZeneca Shuts City R&D Unit (*link unavailable, scan attached*)

Synopsis: British drugmaker Astra Zeneca's decision to close its research and development centre in Bangalore is causing angst amongst entrepreneurs in the country who have gained from the ideas and learning that it provided.