



**News Updates: February 20, 2014**

**Intellectual Property/Compulsory License/Patents**

**Publication:** The Indian Express  
**Edition:** National  
**Date:** February 20, 2014  
**Opinion Article - Shamnad Basheer, Founder of Spicy IP**  
**Headline:** [Patent error](#)

**Synopsis:** Even as the Khobragade scandal fades from public memory, another controversy threatens to derail US-India bilateral relations. This time around, the battle is over intellectual property (IP) rights. A US governmental agency, the International Trade Commission (ITC), recently initiated an inquiry into allegations that India's IP regime was flawed and at odds with US business interests. In the Khobragade case, there had been noise about how India had to learn to respect the "national" laws of the US. The present controversy highlights the US's efforts to coerce India to amend its national IP regime to suit the former's business interests.

**Drug regulation/FDI/FDA**

**Publication:** The Financial Express  
**Edition:** Online  
**Date:** February 20, 2014  
**Headline:** [IMG on FDI policy to meet today](#)

**Synopsis:** The PMO has set up an inter-ministerial group (IMG) headed by the industry secretary to simplify the language of the policy on FDI. The group, headed by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) secretary Saurabh Chandra, will hold its first meeting tomorrow (Thursday), an official said.

**Publication:** Mint  
**Edition:** National  
**Date:** February 20, 2014  
**Headline:** **We need to make sure that India is producing drugs that we can rely on (No Link available...scan attached)**

**Synopsis:** In an interview with Mint, USFDA Commissioner, Margaret Hamburg commented that Indian drug companies must make quality of its products a high priority. When quality suffers not only can health be damaged but the companies and the industry overall can be damaged.

**Publication:** The New Indian Express  
**Edition:** Bangalore  
**Date:** February 20, 2014  
**Headline:** [Adopt Best Practices in Pharmaceutical Sector](#)

**Synopsis:** Signing off her 9-day visit to India, US Food and Drug Administration commissioner Margaret Hamburg has given a wake-up call to Indian pharmaceutical companies: "If you want to sell in the US, you need to comply with our standards, practices and expectations."

**Access/Pricing**

**Website:** Daily News

**Edition: Online**

**Date: February 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Obamacare in its current form won't expand access or improve quality of healthcare and make it more affordable](#)**

**Synopsis:** We've heard about — and experienced — the Affordable Care Act's glitches and fixes. But the issues cut much deeper than technology issues. According to our recent Sterling Healthworks survey, a majority of respondents say that despite website fixes and leadership changes, their faith in the Affordable Care Act has not increased. In its current form, Obamacare simply won't achieve its original goals of expanding access, making health care more affordable, and improving the quality of care, and its missing the mark in addressing consumers' health needs.

**Website: KevinMD.com**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: February 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Is Big Pharma evil? Doctors should share the blame](#)**

**Synopsis:** Despite representing only 4% of the world's population, the United States accounted for almost 35% (\$326 billion) of the global market for pharmaceutical drugs in 2012. Not surprisingly, the pharmaceutical industry's business practices, considerable marketing budgets, and substantial profits are hotly debated as part of virtually every health policy discussion. But before addressing the possibility of transcendent evil in that industry, we should pose a more mundane yet critical question: Is our enormous investment in pharmaceutical drugs paying off?

#### Clinical Trials

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: February 20, 2014**

**Headline: [We want a transparent clinical trial and new drug approval process: Rehan Khan](#)**

**Synopsis:** With a new nutraceuticals unit to become operational in Gujarat later this year, Abbott India, country arm of the US-based pharmaceutical and health care company, says it is bullish on this market, a priority one. Managing Director Rehan Khan shares his views in an interview with Sohini Das.

#### General Industry News

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: February 20, 2014**

**Headline: [McKinsey Global wants next government to target poverty](#)**

**Synopsis:** A report by McKinsey Global Institute points to daunting challenges for India's next government, as it suggests the spending of Rs 3.3 lakh crore over the next 10 years to empower 680 million Indians who are only marginally better than those under the poverty line.

**Publication: Mint**

**Edition: National**

**Date: February 20, 2014**

**Headline: [India should put more resources to keep pace with global practices: de Acedo](#)**

**Synopsis:** INTA's chief executive officer Etienne Sanz de Acedo, who was in India to meet officials at the department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) and the Trade Marks Registry this week, spoke about the critical issues that India should address in the transformation phase.

**Publication: The Hindu**

**Edition: National**

**Date: February 20, 2014**

**Headline: [Ranbaxy, Teva settle claims in US over collusion charges](#)**

**Synopsis:** Ranbaxy Laboratories and Israel— based Teva Pharmaceuticals have agreed to settle allegations levelled by New York state that the two rival generic drug makers made an unlawful agreement to restrict competition. Ranbaxy, controlled by Japan's Daiichi Sankyo Co, and Teva's US unit will pay New York state USD 300,000 and terminate a 2010 agreement not to challenge each other's rights to sell certain generic drugs exclusively in the US.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: February 20, 2014**

**Headline: [Elder Pharmaceuticals appoints Deloitte to rejig business](#)**

**Synopsis:** Elder Pharmaceuticals has appointed consulting firm Deloitte for restructuring the company and its brands including 'Eldervit' following the sale of its formulation business to Torrent Pharmaceuticals for Rs 2,004 crore. The company's overall strategy is to focus on its remaining brands, including Eldervit and Somazina, and position itself further in the growing nutraceuticals segment by launching more products.

**Publication: Mint**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: February 20, 2014**

**Headline: [Sun Pharma gains on US FDA approval of bone drug](#)**

**Synopsis:** Shares in Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd gained as much as 2% after the company got US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval to sell a drug to treat Osteoporosis, a bone-weakening disease. Currently the drug, Ibandronate Sodium, is marketed by Roche Holding Ltd under the brand name Bovina.