



News Updates: July 1, 2014

Patents/ Intellectual property rights/ Innovation

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: June 29, 2014

Headline: [‘Poor knowledge can kill technology-led products’](#)

Synopsis: Innovation is not new to Indians. But even after two decades of liberalisation and several grants and processes in place to encourage invention, patenting and commercialisation, the product development sector remains immature. There is still a chasm between commercial science and market demands, affecting indigenous innovation and product development. IP Smart Workbook, authored by Swapna Sundar, Patent Attorney and CEO of IP Dome Strategy Advisors, attempts to bridge this gap for scientists and researchers. Launching the book at an elite gathering of legal experts, academicians, entrepreneurs and researchers, K Rosaiah, Governor of Tamil Nadu, said the book goes into a comprehensive and practical discussion of the role of IP in the techno-commercial space. The author, he said, has not only lucidly illustrated the concepts of Intellectual Property law, but also provided a step-by-step guide for an inventor to conceive and implement his invention.

Similar report in-

The New Indian Express- [Governor launches book on IPR](#)

Modi government

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Mumbai, Chennai

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [Govt working on world’s largest health cover \(link unavailable, scan attached\)](#)

Synopsis: The report talks about the new Indian government planning to bring about a "complete transformation" of the health sector and is working on the blueprint of the world's largest universal health insurance programme. Insurance companies feel that revamp of norms pertaining to service providers would need to go hand in hand with introduction of universal health insurance. At present, health insurance is bought privately or provided by employers through group covers. There is also the Rashtriya Swastha Bima Yojana — a scheme for below poverty line (BPL) families, which provides cover up to Rs 30,000. A universal health programme would have a broader objective of ensuring that every citizen has access to medical treatment.

Similar report in-

Firstpost- [Govt working on world's largest health insurance scheme based on Obamacare](#)

Publication: International Business Times

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Government to Increase Social Sector Spending through Plan Outlay?](#)

Synopsis: While the Modi government has shown all indications of bringing out a business-friendly Budget in the coming week, it is also expected to spend more on social sector schemes this fiscal year. The NDA government might increase the plan expenditure, which entails the government spending on social sector schemes by ₹11,000 crore in the Union Budget 2014-15, according to latest news reports. The increase would be equivalent to a two percent rise in the plan expenditure compared to the budget for the last fiscal year. The outgoing United Progressive Alliance (UPA) -government had provided

₹5.55,322 crore for plan expenditure in its interim budget that was released in February. The plan outlay, also known as the gross budgetary support (GBS), refers to the amount the government spends on social schemes such as the National Rural Health Mission and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. It forms the smaller chunk of the government's total expenditure, usually at about 30 percent.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [PMO is being misled, claim MCI members](#)

Synopsis: On the eve of Doctors Day on July 1, the Medical Council of India (MCI), the apex regulatory body of doctors, is embroiled in yet another controversy as several of its members have accused a few office bearers of "misleading" the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) by implying that the council had decided not to take action against doctors for their conduct as office bearers of professional associations. The members insisted that no such decision was taken in the general body meeting.

Website: One India

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [10 things to expect from FM in this Union Budget](#)

Synopsis: With regards to the health sector, Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has already talked about bringing AIIMs in every State to improve medical facilities. Also Narendra Modi Government is likely to bring a number of drugs under price control ambit which will plunge their prices by 10 to 15%. Price rise will be the focus of this budget with Government already under pressure over food inflation.

'Coalition for Affordable Care'

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [A pro-India voice drums up support in US for generic drugs](#) (scan attached as well)

Synopsis: The report talks about Indian drug-makers marshalling their resources to counter negative campaigns against them in the US. Washington-based India First Group (IFG), an advisory firm led by Ron Somers, former head of the US-India Business Council (USIBC), will mobilise support in that nation for affordable medicines manufactured by Indian and US generic companies. Under the banner of the 'Coalition for Affordable Care', the IFG will counter "one of the most anti-Indian, negative advocacy campaigns ever witnessed in the two countries' history", the advisory firm said.

Publication: The Telegraph

Edition: National

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Health Costs](#)

Synopsis: The Report talks about the recent efforts by governments, such as the United Progressive Alliance's National Rural Health Mission or the Bharatiya Janata Party's and their vision of health insurance for all. India's health delivery system is riddled with anomalies and with an anomalous health system it is the need of the hour to have an integrated health delivery system, a regulator must scrutinize financing and delivery of health goods. Reforming the health system from the bottom up — including the modernization of government institutions from primary health centres to hospitals, the standardization of teaching and distribution of medical and para-medical staff as well as the broadening of the health insurance net.

Clinical trials

Publication: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [FICCI asks govt to recast adverse rules of 2013-14 to revive clinical trial industry](#)

Synopsis: The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has asked the Union health ministry to recast the adverse regulations introduced in the year 2013-14 as there is an urgent need to revive the clinical trial sector in the country to address the burden of existing and new diseases. According to the FICCI, India has witnessed heightened activism and media sensationalism targeting clinical research resulting in a slew of new regulations. While these regulations have been well-intentioned, they have proved to be disastrous for clinical research in the country and the long-term future of pharmaceutical innovation in India. "There is an urgent need to revive the sector to address the burden of existing and new diseases. This would include recasting of adverse regulations introduced in 2013-14", the FICCI said in its wish-list submitted recently to the new Union health ministry Dr Harsh Vardhan.

Union Health Ministry

Website: India TV

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [India needs more doctors than ever before, says Harsh Vardhan](#)

Synopsis: Noting that doctor-to-population ratio in the country is much less than the standard prescribed by the WHO, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan today said India needs more doctors now than ever before. "India needs more doctors now more than ever before. Building healthy lives would enable us realise the demographic dividend that is promised from having a youthful population," he said in a statement on the eve of National Doctors' Day.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Indian-American doctors focus on giving back to India](#)

Synopsis: One of the largest ethnic organisations in the US representing about 100,000 Indian doctors settled here is focusing on enhancing collaboration among physicians of Indian Origin across the world and India. The India focus of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) was highlighted as the mantle of leadership passed on to its new president Dr.Ravi Jahagirdar at their annual convention here that was attended by India's new health minister, Harsh Vardhan.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [They pin hopes on Vardhan](#)

Synopsis: The formation of a new government at the Centre, which is favourably inclined towards promoting alternative medicine, has raised hopes of the revival of acupuncture-a form of ancient Chinese medicine that seeks to enhance the body's natural healing processes by redirecting and realigning its energy. The acupuncturists insert fine needles into the skin at certain points on the body to perform this procedure.

Corruption in Indian Healthcare (British Medical Journal)

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [Disease of kickbacks via unnecessary tests must be cured and severe punishments prescribed](#)

Synopsis: The Society for Less Investigative Medicine, initiated by All India Institute of Medical Sciences doctors, fights unnecessary tests prescribed to patients. This is commendable and urgently required. India's healthcare sector, potentially a revenue source via medical tourism, is instead gaining the reputation of being one of the most dishonest in the world — Transparency International even ranks healthcare as the second most corrupt institution Indians encounter after police. Prescribing unnecessary tests at facilities giving doctors commissions in cash or kind is a powerful symptom of how deep this malaise has spread.

Similar report in-

The Times of India- [Anger grows against greed in private healthcare system](#)

Generics

Website: Fierce Pharma

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [India's suffering generics industry hires DC consultant to burnish its image](#)

Synopsis: Indian generics makers have turned to a Washington, DC, consulting firm run by Ron Somers to counter its tarnished image as bad press from plant bans has put its standards into question. Somers, known for his work on India's civilian nuclear industry, has put together a PR campaign that attacks Big Pharma for agitating against the Indian industry. He has come out swinging, accusing PhRMA, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and other groups in a press release of "tar-brushing" the Indian generic industry "in order to maintain market share and destroy competition." PhRMA could not be reached for comment.

Similar report in-

PharmAsia- [Tit For Tat: A Match For PhRMA Takes Shape To Bat For Indian Generics In U.S.](#)

Innovation/ R&D

Publication: Business World

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Opinion piece: Michael Scholl, Managing Director at Homburg & Partner

Headline: [Commercial Innovation](#)

Synopsis: When the term "innovation" is used, it is often mixed up with "invention". While an invention is typically linked to research & development, the term "innovation" is about marketing & sales. It goes back to Joseph Schumpeter in the 1930s. He distinguished innovation from invention: The core of an innovation is the commercial use of an invention. Hence, adding the "commercial" to innovation may sound like a tautology. However, it underlines that it is about new ways of bringing existing products & services to the market.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Cos' Low R&D Spend to Hit Innovation](#)

Synopsis: Innovation is the key to developing new products, but most Indian companies don't seem to be diverting enough resources into the research and development (R&D) that could lead to breakthroughs. Only three of the top 10 biggest spenders on R&D -Lupin, Infosys and TCS -have

meaningfully increased investment in this area as a share of revenue between FY09 and FY13, according to an ET Intelligence Group analysis.

General industry

Website: Reuters

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Sex video is new twist in GSK China bribery scandal](#)

Synopsis: GlaxoSmithKline on Sunday confirmed the existence of an intimate video recording of its former China head, Mark Reilly, which the Sunday Times reported kicked off a bribery investigation that has damaged the drugmaker's business in China. The Sunday Times said the recording was shot without Reilly's knowledge or consent at his Shanghai flat and showed the Briton, who is separated from his wife, with his Chinese girlfriend. It was not clear who shot the video or with what motivation. The video was emailed to top GSK executives in March 2013, the newspaper said.

Similar reports in-

The Hindustan Times- [Sex Video is new twist in GSK China bribery scandal \(link unavailable ,scan attached\)](#)

Business Standard: [Sex video new twist in GSK China bribery scandal](#)

The Wall Street Journal: [Sex Video of GlaxoSmithKline China Executive Led to Hiring of Private Sleuths](#)

India Today: [Sex video is new twist in GlaxoSmithKline China bribery scandal](#)

Deccan Chronicle: [GlaxoSmithKline admits to China sex tape](#)

Financial Times: [Sex tape adds to murk of GSK China scandal](#)

Publication: Deccan Herald

Edition: Online

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [Keep an eye out for spurious medicines](#)

Synopsis: Next time when you go to avail a medical treatment and use drugs dispensed by government hospitals in the city, there are chances that you might get to consume sub-standards drugs. At least a random drug sampling has indicated so! This matter came into light when activist Rajhans Bansal filed a Right To Information (RTI) query. According to the Delhi Drug Control Department, which noted that during the period April 2008 to March 2013, seven samples of drugs were taken from a government hospital in Delhi were declared 'not of standard quality' and the matter was referred to the concerned State Drugs Controller from where the manufacturer belonged.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [IT firms fail to cash in on Obamacare](#)

Synopsis: When the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2010, there was a mood of quiet optimism among information technology (IT) services companies, among them many Indian players. Called the Affordable Care Act (ACA), or Obamacare in popular parlance, the law was widely believed to be a great boost for the IT industry since it promised creation of huge opportunities for service providers. Healthcare insurance products in the US were traditionally offered through the employers. So the US health ecosystem primarily followed a business-to-business (B2B) model. It was not as if the consumers were prevented from buying insurance products directly, but those tended to be very expensive. The process changed under ACA, when the government decided that individuals had to directly go and get subsidised insurance for themselves from the specially created healthcare exchanges.

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [Free govt. medicines not reaching patients](#)

Synopsis: The medicines supplied by the government for free in rural areas are not reaching the targeted beneficiaries at the time of need. This came to the fore during a five-day campaign in Ganjam district to build public awareness regarding diseases related to consumption of contaminated water and vectors like mosquitoes. This campaign taken up by a social organisation, 'Restless Development' in six villages of three blocks in Ganjam district, ended on Sunday. The villages in which the campaign was taken up are Mardarajpur, Sabulia, Balibagada of Khallikote block, Agasti Nuagaon, Telugu Nuagaon of Ganjam block and Aliabad of Chatrapur block.

Website: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Dr Reddy's to strive for high growth rate in next 5 years: GV Prasad](#)

Synopsis: Showing enormous conviction in what they chose to do, Dr Reddy's co-chairman and chief executive officer G V Prasad says he would prefer taking risky bets on research even while adopting a cautious approach to acquisitions. While Sun Pharma's dramatic rise as the largest Indian generics drug player comes on the back of the acquisitions, Prasad continues to aim at building, and leveraging on internal strengths and capabilities to grow as well as transform Dr Reddy's as one of the premier pharmaceutical companies in the world. Yet, maintaining a high growth rate is on top of the agenda for the next five years, according to him.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: June 30, 2014

Headline: [Encephalitis kills 190 in Bihar](#)

Synopsis: Nearly 190, mostly children from poor families, have died due to suspected encephalitis in Bihar in the last month with three more deaths Monday, an official said. The maximum number of deaths took place in the state's Muzaffarpur district. Most of these children died at the government-run Sri Krishna Memorial College Hospital and the private-run Kejriwal Charitable Hospital. State health officials said they have identified half a dozen districts where the disease has spread. These include Bhagalpur, Motihari and Samastipur districts.

Publication: Economic Times

Edition: Bangalore, Kolkata

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [Drugmakers on Hiring Spree to Fill Up Skill Gap \(link unavailable, scan attached\)](#)

Synopsis: The report talks about drug companies in India going on a hiring spree as regulatory troubles in international markets and increased competition in the domestic front force companies to scout for best talent to fill the skill gap. The increase in hiring is despite the fact that the Indian pharma sector has slowed down from its peak growth rate, but the lure of expansion in the Rs 75,000-crore pharma market has kept the companies scouting for expertise from various sector.

Publication: Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: July 1, 2014

Headline: [Hospitals must display rates: HC](#)

Synopsis: Stressing that hospitals cannot hold back patients or bodies over non-payment of bills, the Bombay high court on Monday said that hospitals should forewarn patients and their kin of treatment costs or at least display treatment rates. "There is practically no control over hospitals. That could be one reason why people vandalize hospitals. That (the violence) is not good," said a division bench of Justices V M Kanade and P D Kode, referring to the destruction of Singhania Hospital in Thane in 2001 by a political leader's supporters after his sudden death. The court was hearing two petitions over the alleged detention of a patient each by SevenHills Hospital in Marol and Prachin Healthcare Multi-Speciality Hospital in Panvel after disputes emerged over their medical bills. Advocate Diwakar Dwivedi, appearing in both cases, said the bills were inaccurate and exorbitant.