



**News Updates: July 2, 2014**

**Patents/ Compulsory licensing/ Intellectual property rights**

**Publication: The Financial Express**

**Edition: National**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [US report on enforcement of IPR regime a priority issue](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Indian pharmaceutical sector is at a crossroads, both in domestic and overseas markets. At a time when the industry is set for a takeoff, the sector is burdened with regulatory issues and cost competitiveness for active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) in the domestic market while quality issues are taking a toll on brand India in the global markets. Satish Reddy, president of Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) and chairman of Dr Reddy's Laboratories, tells that India is on a quick learning curve and the industry will continue to focus on creating an ecosystem to maintain high quality while being a low-cost generic provider to the global markets

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 1, 2014**

**Headline: [CCEA to consider continuation of Intellectual Property Offices modernisation plan](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) is expected to take a view on continuing with Rs 300-crore scheme for modernising and strengthening of Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs) in its meeting tomorrow. Recognising the importance of modernisation of IPOs, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) had implemented the scheme during the 11th Five Year Plan.

**Modi government/ Budget expectation/ Union Health Ministry**

**Publication: The Financial Chronicle**

**Edition: National**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [Health push in budget may outdo Obamacare](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Narendra Modi government's first budget is likely to have a lot of healthy ideas. The budget to be presented by finance minister Arun Jaitley next Thursday is expected to place health management ahead of health insurance and cost modification, and provide fresh impetus to healthcare reforms with a focus on health assurance, preventive healthcare, innovative solutions and research & development.

**Publication: Deccan Herald**

**Edition: National**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [Health ministry to implement BJP's poll promises soon](#)**

**Synopsis:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will listen to plans from the Union Health Ministry on how to implement the health promises made by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in its election manifesto on Thursday. The plans include a reduction in out-of-pocket expenses on health care for the common man. The three key proposals include national health assurance mission that aims to reduce out-of-pocket expenditure; a new national health policy and better regulation of medical education, as well as the pharmaceutical market.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 1, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Nidhi Saxena, CEO, Karmic Lifesciences.**

**Headline: [Budget 2014: Increase healthcare expenditure to 2.5% of GDP](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Pharmaceutical, Biotech & Lifesciences Industry as a whole is one of the most dynamic and high potential sectors of India. In spite of government apathy and no real impetus in the last budget plus the margin pressures on account of Pricing Policy and Drug Prices Control Order (DPCO), the Pharmaceutical industry including Biotech has been one of the most consistent performers registering double-digit growth throughout. Allied service industries such as Contract Manufacturing and Contract Research Organization (CRO) continue to be other key opportunities. With the Modi government coming in, there are sky high expectations from the budget and one is hopeful that the government will take sensible, pro-business measures that can support the beleaguered Pharma, Biotech and CRO industries and indeed boost quantum growth.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 1, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Rahul Patni, Partner Life Sciences Practice, EY**

**Headline: [Budget 2014: Expectations from the pharmaceutical & healthcare Industry](#)**

**Synopsis:** With the ushering-in of the strongest non-Congress Government, the climate is ideal for the new administration to make stronger and fundamental changes to provide greater impetus to the Indian economy. In this regard, there can be little resistance to the fact that the pharmaceutical sector is poised to play a key role in fuelling and aiding the growth. Over the decades, India has witnessed a categorical shift with regard to urbanization and disease patterns; this coupled with increased investments have led to Indian pharma industry's escalating prominence. However, past few Budgets have largely seen increased budgetary allocations for healthcare schemes, with little for pharmaceutical and healthcare companies.

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Utkarsh Palnitkar, Head of Lifesciences, Pharmaceuticals at KPMG in India**

**Headline: [Clarity and finality in terms of policy will favour growth in pharma industry](#)**

**Synopsis:** Despite several fluctuations in the economy, the pharmaceutical industry has demonstrated consistent double-digit growth over the last few years. The industry expects the new government to introduce a slew of reforms and a favorable tax and policy structure to facilitate the creation of an environment that fosters sectoral growth.

**Publication: The Hindu Business Line**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [A rough road indeed to acchhe din](#)**

**Synopsis:** As the Government prepares to present its first Budget on July 10 surely the new finance minister must be bemused by inauspicious signs. How does he keep up the acchhe din theme song? The monsoons have been delayed. It's impact will be felt on prices at a time when inflation has shown no signs of easing. Inflation was once an issue that brought people out on the streets and governments down. No longer. It is only the RBI that seems to bother with its continuous carping on sticky prices and inflation and the likelihood of it staining the blueprint for growth. How will this Budget address the middle-class' breathless anticipation of higher growth?

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [Kerry to visit this month, McCain to arrive today](#)**

**Synopsis:** US Secretary of State John Kerry is expected to visit India on July 27. Republican senator John McCain is coming for a two-day visit here on Wednesday. This will be Kerry's first visit to India after the row on diplomat Devyani Khobragade. She was arrested in December on charges of visa fraud and making false representations about her housekeeper Sangeeta Richard. This will be Kerry's first visit after the arrival of the new government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

## Obamacare

**Website: Reuters**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [Obamacare exchanges see problems with eligibility data: watchdog](#)**

**Synopsis:** Online insurance marketplaces created under President Barack Obama's signature healthcare law have struggled to verify whether Americans who applied for government subsidies to purchase health insurance are actually qualified to receive them, a federal watchdog agency said on Tuesday. The Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General said in two reports that some "internal controls" were ineffective in verifying eligibility at the marketplaces run by the federal government, California, Connecticut and some other states.

**Website: Bloomberg Businessweek**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 30, 2014**

**Headline: [Supreme Court Lets Religious Employers Limit Obamacare's Free Birth Control](#)**

**Synopsis:** The religious owners of closely held businesses don't have to comply with the Obamacare mandate to provide employees with free birth control, according to a Supreme Court decision on Monday in the Hobby Lobby case. In a narrow 5-4 ruling, the high court majority limited its decision only to the contraceptive mandate in the Affordable Care Act and emphasized that the case should not be understood to mean that all insurance mandates fail if they violate an employer's religious beliefs. The decision, one of the most anticipated this term, clarifies how much flexibility owners of closely held, for-profit entities have in exercising religious beliefs. It also does not provide a mechanism for employers who might claim religious discrimination as a cloak for illegal discrimination against employees through health coverage.

**Similar report in-**

**CNBC- [Supreme Court: Religious exemption can be claimed for Obamacare mandate](#)**

## Drug pricing

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: July 2, 2014**

**Headline: [Drug price regulator to go online in next six months](#)**

**Synopsis:** While launching new products in the market or fixing their retail price, pharmaceutical companies might soon be required to submit product details and documentations online to the drug price regulator. In line with the government's e-governance mantra, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is also set to go online, mandating companies to apply online while seeking price approvals or launching new drugs in the market, a senior official said. The authority is in active discussion with National Informatics Centre (NIC) to create a comprehensive

online system which would enable workflow automation while facilitating interface with the industry.

### Corruption in Indian Healthcare

**Publication:** The Indian Express

**Edition:** National

**Date:** July 2, 2014

**Opinion piece:** Meeta Rajivlochan, secretary, health, government of Maharashtra

**Headline:** [Common norms for better health](#)

**Synopsis:** The recent concern about healthcare is not new, nor is the demand for an effective watchdog. There are many watchdogs in India. But they seldom bark or bite. In healthcare, the reason for this lies in the absence of implementable norms. A watchdog without norms is toothless. For hospitals, this translates as the need to have protocols and standards of healthcare that put patients first. The government already has sufficient investment in healthcare that could be used to leverage and implement the protocols without arm-twisting.

### General industry

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** National

**Date:** July 2, 2014

**Headline:** [Pharma companies on a talent hunt to fill skills gap](#)

**Synopsis:** Drug companies in India are on a hiring spree as regulatory troubles in international markets and increased competition on the domestic front force them to scout for the best talent to fill gaps in expertise. While the sector has slowed from its peak growth rate, the lure of expansion in the Rs 75,000-crore pharma market has kept companies looking for capable staff. On average, employee expenses for pharma companies have grown 14-20% in the quarter ended March from the year earlier.

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** July 1, 2014

**Headline:** [Over 100 firms to showcase Indian pharma sector in Tokyo fair](#)

**Synopsis:** Over 100 Indian companies will showcase the achievements of the pharmaceutical sector at the 'Brand India Pharma' show in Tokyo from Wednesday. The show between July 2-4 will provide a platform to connect with the Japanese market and showcase manufacturing and research capabilities of India's pharma industry. The campaign is the government's initiative aimed at highlighting the value proposition that the Indian pharma sector presents to the global market.

**Similar report in-**

**Business Standard-** [India - Japan Pharmaceutical Collaboration - The Way Forward](#)

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** July 1, 2014

**Headline:** [Reports on US spying of party 'serious', will cross-check: BJP](#)

**Synopsis:** Stating that reports of spying on BJP by the USA were "serious", Union Minister Prakash Javadekar today said the government would take up the matter after "cross-checking" the facts. The minister's comments came in response to reports that America's National Security Agency (NSA) was authorised by a US court in 2010 to carry out surveillance of BJP along with five other political organisations across the globe.

