



News Updates: July 4, 2014

Modi government/ Budget expectations

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: July 4, 2014

Headline: [Union govt set to indicate new healthcare policy framework in its Budget 2014](#)

Synopsis: The Union government's Budget 2014 is expected to highlight new healthcare policy framework which would be rolled out in the next 90 days that is by October this year. The budget to be presented by the Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on July 10, 2014 would place preventive healthcare, innovative technology solutions and R&D on priority area, going by the scores of recommendations put forth by the industry lobby of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and hospitals sector.

Website: Niti Central

Edition: Online

Date: July 3, 2014

Headline: [Narendra Modi and challenges in healthcare](#)

Synopsis: A country's development is measured with the yardstick of human development — mainly the access of its majority of population to quality education and healthcare facilities. With the Modi Government in power, there are high hopes from his first Budget for this sector. As far as the healthcare sector is concerned, the condition is really worrisome. Clearly, the state of healthcare systems is pathetic. Narendra Modi, as BJP's Prime Ministerial candidate had raised hopes that after being voted to power, his Government will seriously focus to improve the condition in social sector especially in the field of health care sector. There are a high expectations from his Government in this respect. Gujarat, under Narendra Modi's Chief Ministership saw significant improvement in the healthcare sector as the state's spending on this sector scaled up and the State also launched a number of successful State-level health schemes. The proposed National Health Assurance Mission, which is considered to be very close to the Prime Minister's heart, could be a gamechanger for the dream of healthy India.

Publication: Mint

Edition: Online

Date: July 3, 2014

Headline: [High expectations from FM to present medium-term road map](#)

Synopsis: As finance minister Arun Jaitley presents his maiden budget on 10 July, among the many coloured booklets that accompany the budget documents, an often overlooked white-coloured, thin booklet may attract the maximum attention. The booklet, called "The medium term fiscal policy statement", is presented under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act. It includes a guidance on how the government plans to curb various deficits over a three-year period. The contents of this document may bolster or undermine Jaitley's credibility among foreign investors and rating agencies in ensuring fiscal prudence.

Similar reports in-

The Hindu Business Line- [Great expectations from this Budget](#)

The Economist- [Waiting for the Modi mojo](#)

Deccan Chronicle- [Budget 2014: Narendra Modi, Arun Jaitley talk tough](#)

IBN Live- [Budget view through the eyes of an entrepreneur](#)

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: July 4, 2014

Opinion piece: Abby Pratt, Vice President of AdvaMed

Headline: [Budget 2014: Medical device industry expects incentives in R&D, manufacturing hubs and duty cuts](#)

Synopsis: The global medical device industry has, over the past decade, shifted its focus from traditional developed markets to emerging markets. The increased demand from these new markets is due in large part to the rise in non-communicable diseases. In these high-growth markets, a noteworthy portion of manufacturers' organic activities is channeled into building resources -- both capacity and people power -- to expand customer bases, according to AdvaMed, an association of medical device manufacturers which provides 40 percent of the medical technology used across the world.

Similar report in-

The Hindu Business Line- [Medical devices sector seeks Customs duty, VAT waiver](#)

Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: July 4, 2014

Headline: [Govt adds 4 vaccines to immunisation programme](#)

Synopsis: The government will add four vaccines as part of a programme to reduce child mortality by two-thirds by next year and meet global polio eradication targets, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on Thursday. With these vaccines will be introduced as part of the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), government will be providing free vaccines against 13 life threatening diseases to 27 million children annually, the largest birth cohort in the world.

Similar reports in-

Business Standard- [Government to introduce four new vaccines as part of UIP](#)

Daily News & Analysis- [Four new vaccines to be part of government's immunisation programme: PM Narendra Modi](#)

The New Indian Express- ['Vaccines against Rotavirus, Rubella and Polio Soon'](#)

IBN Live- [India introduces four new vaccines in immunisation programme](#)

Indo- US ties

Publication: Mint

Edition: Online

Date: July 4, 2014

Headline: [Relations with US destined to grow: India](#)

Synopsis: Foreign secretary Sujatha Singh on Thursday said the new government's message to the world was that Asia's third largest economy is ready to step up its engagement and India's partnership with the US is a key part of this. Singh's comment came as Republican Senator from Arizona and former presidential candidate John McCain called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and conveyed "the high level of expectations in the United States about a new momentum in India's economic growth and all-round progress under the new government", a statement from the prime minister's office said.

Similar reports in-

The Hindustan Times- [India to host annual talks with US again](#)

Business Standard- [Modi pushes for improving US ties during meeting with John McCain](#)

Mint- [Modi, McCain talk of desire to 'revitalise' India-US ties](#)

The Financial Express- [US Senator McCain meets Narendra Modi](#)

The Asian Age- [Narendra Modi to John McCain: New level of ties](#)

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: July 4, 2014

Headline: [Be sensitive to our concerns: PM Narendra Modi to US Republican senator John McCain](#)

Synopsis: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday voiced his government's concerns to visiting US Republican senator John McCain over reports that the US National Security Agency (NSA) spied on BJP in 2010. Senior officials told ET that Modi conveyed to the senator that India expects the US to show greater "sensitivity" over such issues. An official statement released after the meeting, however, did not mention the snooping row. The snooping report published in a US daily had cast a shadow over McCain's visit. The external affairs ministry had on Wednesday summoned the interim US ambassador to India Kathleen Stephens to lodge a strong protest over the issue.

Similar reports in-

The Asian Age- [Narendra Modi will take up snooping with US](#)

The Week- [Spying: India seeks assurances from US](#)

Publication: The Telegraph

Edition: Online

Date: July 3, 2014

Editorial: K P Nayar, Chief Diplomatic Editor

Headline: [GHOSTS FROM THE PAST- Barack Obama's concerns regarding Narendra Modi](#)

Synopsis: Contrary to the impression in India, there is no evidence to support any claim that the US has changed its policy on a visa for Modi. His new job as head of India's national government entitles him to an A-1 visa. As chief minister, he was not entitled to this visa and he was denied a visa in the category that he was eligible for as Gujarat's top official. What the campaign by Wisner and Somers achieved was to cover up this zone of discomfort and provide respectability to the process of inviting Modi to Washington.

Corruption in Indian Healthcare

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: July 4, 2014

Opinion piece: Bhupesh Bhandari

Headline: [Too much investigation](#)

Synopsis: Cardiologists of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, or AIIMS, have launched an initiative called the Society for Less Investigative Medicine to reduce unnecessary medical tests, The Times of India has reported. This is acknowledgment from within the community that doctors often recommend tests that serve no useful purpose. Annual general health check-ups fall in this category. Studies have shown that these yield no tangible benefits, the report said. And it is not just individuals who fall victim to this misdemeanor: companies spend decent money to organise annual health check-ups for their employees and the government offers such check-ups to employees of a certain category. It is a well-oiled racket that has duped almost everybody.

General industry

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: July 3, 2014

Headline: [WHO targets elimination of TB in over 30 countries](#)

Synopsis: The World Health Organisation (WHO), along with the European Respiratory Society (ERS), Thursday presented a new framework to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) in countries with low levels of the disease. There are 33 countries and territories where there are fewer than 100 TB cases per million population. Low TB-burden countries already have the means to drive down TB cases dramatically by 2035.

Similar reports in-

NDTV- [WHO Targets Elimination of Tuberculosis in Over 30 countries](#)

Reuters- [Target tuberculosis in rich world as model for poor: WHO](#)

Publication: Mint

Edition: Online

Date: July 3, 2014

Headline: [Indian nurses taken away from Iraq hospital: Foreign ministry](#)

Synopsis: Forty-six Indian nurses who were stuck inside a hospital in Tikrit due to the fighting in northern Iraq have now been taken to an unknown location by Sunni militants who have overrun vast swathes of the country. This takes the total numbers of Indian nationals in the custody of militants of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) to about 100 and deepens the foreign policy challenge for India's newly elected Narendra Modi government.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: July 3, 2014

Headline: [Sun Pharmaceutical Industries recalls 200 vials of cancer drug, Gemcitabine from US market](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharmaceutical Industries has recalled 200 vials of cancer drug Gemcitabine for injection from the US market for lack of assurance of sterility. Sun Pharma's US subsidiary Caraco Pharmaceutical Laboratories initiated the voluntary recall on April 9, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said in an enforcement report for the week of July 2.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: July 4, 2014

Headline: [Doctors' resignation: Health services hit](#)

Synopsis: It has been three days since all 12,000 medical officers in the state resigned. The healthcare services in rural and district hospitals are in a bad shape. Yet the state government officials do not seem to be worried with none of them trying to resolve the issue. They have not even tried to enquire about the health of the two medical officers who have been on a hunger strike since Tuesday. State principal secretary (public health and family welfare) Sujata Sounik met the doctors on Thursday morning.