



**News Updates: June 05, 2014**

### Modi government

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Do away with archaic rules, will back you: Prime Minister Narendra Modi tells bureaucrats](#)**

**Synopsis:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi 'promised to stand by' bureaucrats who take decisions and called for a review of archaic rules to simplify governance. In a meeting on Wednesday evening with all secretaries of central government, Modi also called for 'simplifying and streamlining the administrative rules and procedures to make them people-friendly.' Without mentioning the policy paralysis that had beset the UPA administration, the PM "empathised with the sentiment expressed by the secretaries and their anguish in not being able to realise their true potential because of circumstances" according to an official statement from the Prime Minister's office. Opening a direct line of communication with all the secretaries, the PM said he would be accessible to all of them and urged them to approach him with their ideas and inputs.

**Similar reports in-**

**Business Standard- [PM meets secretaries to outline governance agenda](#)**

**The Financial Express- [PM meets secretaries to outline policy priorities](#)**

**Outlook- [Do Away With Archaic Rules, I Will Back You: PM to Bureaucrats](#)**

**NDTV- [PM Narendra Modi Meets Top Bureaucrats, Asks Them Make Government People-Friendly](#)**

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [US must signal readiness to do business with Narendra Modi: Expert](#)**

**Synopsis:** Observing that the US was late in engaging with Narendra Modi, an eminent American scholar has asked the White House to signal that it is ready to do business with the new Indian Prime Minister and reinvigorate bilateral ties. "(The US) President (Barack) Obama should signal his willingness to meet with Modi in Washington on the heels of the September 2014 United Nations General Assembly. This would help set the foundation for improved ties and mend fences over the revoked visa issue," Lisa Curtis of Heritage Foundation said. A known India expert, Curtis said there is an opportunity to move past recent irritants in the US-Indian relationship and reinvigorate the ties between the two countries.

**Publication: The Times of India**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Narendra Modi, Barack Obama will meet in Washington in September](#)**

**Synopsis:** In what is probably the most significant foreign policy decision taken since he became Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has confirmed to US President Barack Obama that he will have a bilateral meeting with him in Washington in the last week of September this year. Obama had invited Modi to the US when he called up the PM to congratulate him. Significantly, the meeting won't happen on the sidelines of the United Nations general assembly in New York but in the form of a full-fledged bilateral summit in Washington.

The two sides are finalizing the date for the meeting which will be in the last week of September. The Modi-Obama summit promises to be one of the foremost international events of the year and will overshadow Modi's presence at UNGA, if he decides to go to New York too.

**Similar reports in-**

The Economic Times- [Narendra Modi, Barack Obama to meet in Washington this September](#)

The Hindustan Times- [PM Modi accepts Obama invite, off to US in September](#)

Deccan Chronicle- [Narendra Modi to meet Barack Obama in Washington in September: reports](#)

NDTV- [Narendra Modi, Barack Obama Meeting Likely In September: Sources](#)

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Narendra Modi government's 5-year plan: 2 years to repair, 3 for growth](#)**

**Synopsis:** Revival of manufacturing has been identified as a key priority area and the government could look at creating new dedicated hubs as the special economic zones tend to have turned more into tax shelters for IT. There is a feeling that UPA focused too much on the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor to revive manufacturing whereas a wider national outreach is needed and the reforms planned by the Modi government need to make factories cost competitive. The first budget of the new government, which will be keenly watched by global analysts and investors, would also clearly spell an end to retrospective taxation that played a large role in undermining business sentiment.

**Website: BBC News**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Arvind Panagariya, professor at Columbia University in New York**

**Headline: [How Narendra Modi can revive India's economy](#)**

**Synopsis:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi now heads the first government in 25 years that is not hostage to coalition politics. How should he use this majority to restore and accelerate economic growth, the principal means to eradicating poverty and bringing prosperity to all, as promised during the campaign? The first thing the government needs to do is to remove the bottlenecks that have stifled the economy and cut its growth to half of the true potential. This would require appointing a pragmatic environment minister - Prakash Javadekar, the current minister, meets the qualification but holds the charge temporarily - who would judiciously balance the need for environmental protection against the need for growth. It also requires reassuring the bureaucracy to fearlessly move ahead with all legitimate decisions.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Tough questions form part of Narendra Modi's plan to vet performance of top bureaucrats](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Narendra Modi government is planning to put in a new appraisal and working hour system for senior bureaucrats. Bureaucrats are being quietly appraised on parameters like their project delivery record, neutrality and dedication to work — plus, the Narendra Modi government is set to change a 29-year-old rule instituted by the Rajiv Gandhi government to ensure government officials put in more hours at work.

**Clinical Trials**

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Infosys launches solution to tap clinical trial market](#)**

**Synopsis:** The country's second largest software services firm Infosys today launched a cloud-based version of its clinical trial supply management solution (CTSM) that will offer pharmaceutical firms

reduced cost and faster time to market the new drug. The new cloud-based module of the CTSM solution is an enhancement to the existing on-premise version that offers tools to manage all aspects of complex clinical trials, including demand and supply planning and distribution across clinical sites.

**Similar reports in-**

**Business Standard-** [Infosys unveils cloud-based solution for clinical trials](#)

**The Times of India-** [Infosys launches solution for pharmaceutical companies](#)

**The Hindu Business Line-** [Infy unveils cloud solution for clinical trial](#)

**The Financial Chronicle-** [Infosys launches solution to tap clinical trial market](#)

### NPPA/ Drug pricing

**Website:** Pharmabiz

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** June 5, 2014

**Headline:** [GSK pays Rs.47.87 crore to NPPA for overcharging Crocin Advance](#)

**Synopsis:** Karnataka Drugs Control department has informed that multinational drug major, GlaxoSmithKline, has paid Rs.47.87 crore to National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) towards overcharging Crocin Advance on May 21, 2014. The company made the payment via a bank draft. The drug was ordered to be recalled earlier because of a stop sale order issued by the regulatory authorities for its violation of Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) 2013. GSK has taken strategic steps to recall all old stocks with maximum retail price (MRP) printed as Rs.30 on a strip of 15 tablets. The company has been selling the product at this price although the DPCO 2013 mandated Crocin Advance as a price controlled drug and NPPA fixed a price of Rs.14.94 for a strip of 15 tablets.

### Drug regulation

**Website:** Pharmabiz

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** June 5, 2014

**Headline:** [Health ministry to begin drug procurement through CMSS soon](#)

**Synopsis:** The much-awaited drug procurement through the newly established Central Medical Services Society (CMSS) for different flagship programmes of the Union health ministry will begin soon as the infrastructure work for the same is in the final stages of completion. According to senior officials in the ministry, the CMSS will be able to begin the process of drug procurement in two or three months time as all the necessary infrastructure for establishing the organisation is in a final stages. All the senior level postings including the general managers have already been made and the proper organisation will be in place in two or three months time. Besides, other infrastructure like warehousing facilities are also being established for the procurement of drugs, sources said.

### General Industry

**Publication:** The Financial Express

**Edition:** National

**Date:** June 5, 2014

**Headline:** [AstraZeneca fights to regain cancer market prominence](#)

**Synopsis:** AstraZeneca, in the headlines for spurning buyout offers from Pfizer, aims to regain prominence in oncology with compelling trial results and a splashy exhibit booth at the world's largest meeting of cancer doctors. The company is seen as No. 4 in a race to develop the first drug in a new class that fights cancer by unleashing the body's immune system, behind rivals Roche, Merck & Co and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 4, 2014**

**Headline: [Biocon's unit extends partnership with US-based Bristol-Myers Squibb](#)**

**Synopsis:** Biocon's subsidiary extended its partnership of drug discovery with US-based Bristol-Myers Squibb by another five years, which some believe is the endorsement of the work carried out by the Bangalore-based biotech company. The two companies announced to renew their engagement, boosted by the encouraging results seen in the last five years, during which time six drug molecules have been brought for further studies.

**Similar reports in-**

**Pharmabiz- [Bristol-Myers Squibb & Syngene International extend research collaboration](#)**

**Moneycontrol- [Biocon planning to list Syngene in near-term: CMD](#)**

**Publication: The Wall Street Journal**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Merck, Sanofi, Glaxo Take Steps to Shed Older Drugs](#)**

**Synopsis:** Several big drug makers, including Merck & Co., France's Sanofi and the U.K.'s GlaxoSmithKline, are exploring the possibility of selling or splitting off large portfolios of older drugs as they seek to focus on products with faster-growing sales. Merck has held preliminary discussions with a number of possible buyers for a group of treatments that could fetch in the neighborhood of \$15 billion, according to people familiar with the matter. Sanofi, meanwhile, is considering the possibility of putting some of its established products into a joint venture with another health-care company, according to a person familiar with the matter. And Glaxo said recently that it is "evaluating options," including divestment, for a group of mature drugs that make up about 15% of the company's sales. Other pharmaceutical companies are considering similar moves, bankers say. Private-equity firms including Advent International are considering bids for the assets, according to people familiar with the possible sales.

**Publication: Mint**

**Edition: National**

**Date: June 5, 2014**

**Headline: [Sun Pharma not to allow Ranbaxy minority investors a merger veto](#)**

**Synopsis:** Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd will settle for nothing short of a full merger with Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd although some minority investors want to maintain Ranbaxy as a separate unit and nurse it back to financial health before proceeding with the union. The drug maker, which on 6 April agreed to buy Ranbaxy for \$3.2 billion (around Rs.19,200 crore) in stock in addition to assuming \$800 million of debt, will walk away from the deal rather than keep Ranbaxy as a separate entity in case the merger, due to be completed by end-2014, is nixed, said three people including a senior Sun Pharma executive.