



News Updates: June 06, 2014

Patents/ Compulsory licensing/ Intellectual property rights

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [India, US to resume trade talks, repair damaged ties](#)

Synopsis: The report states that commerce & industry minister Nirmala Sitharaman has agreed to meet US trade representative in Sydney next month to get bilateral economic relations back on track. The focus clearly seems to be on repairing the damage across sectors — from intellectual property rights to services, industry and investment.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [India, US trade ministers to meet in Sydney next month](#)

Business Standard- [US trade representative congratulate Nirmala Sitharaman](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [Commerce Minister, USTR discuss trade issues, IPR](#)

The Financial Express- [Sitharaman & US trade rep Froman to meet in July](#)

Health ministry

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [Govt to set health rider for 49% FDI in insurance](#)

Synopsis: The Bharatiya Janata Party-led government is set to raise the foreign direct investment (FDI) threshold in insurance to 49 per cent with two riders. All companies will have to provide health insurance, and voting rights of foreigners will be limited to 26 per cent, the current investment cap. The government is working on a three-pronged strategy to make health care affordable. First, ensuring availability of products by making it mandatory for all companies to provide standalone health insurance. Second, it will encourage people to go for health insurance by offering tax sops in the Budget.

Similar reports in-

The Financial Chronicle- [Life insurance sector set for revival in new regime](#)

Moneycontrol- ['Proposal to hike FDI in insurance to 49% long overdue'](#)

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: Online

Date: June 5, 2014

Headline: [Government plans 10 new AIIMS, more cancer centres](#)

Synopsis: Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said the government plans to set up 10 more AIIMS-like institutes, 50 tertiary care centres for cancer and 20 state-level cancer institutes across the country. "Setting up more AIIMS-like institutes has been my priority from the first day. We are starting off with a ballpark figure of 10, which could be revised based on the requirements," Vardhan told The Indian Express. This does not include the six institutes that were set up by the UPA government but are yet to become fully functional. "There may not be the need to set up one such institute per state — a small state may not need a full-fledged institute — but equitable availability of health facilities is the target. We will

analyse the needs and then take a call. We are also in the process of setting up 50 tertiary care cancer institutes and 20 state-level institutes," he said.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: June 5, 2014

Headline: [All AIIMS to be made green hospitals: Harsh Vardhan](#)

Synopsis: Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan today said that the government will initiate steps to turn all AIIMS across the country into "green hospitals" by adopting environment-friendly methods for disposal and recycling of medical waste. "The focus will be to make processes at AIIMS environment friendly," Vardhan said, as he stressed on the need for proper sanitation, hygiene, disposal and recycling of medical waste within hospitals. Vardhan was addressing a symposium on 'Impact of Environment on Health' on the occasion of the World Environment Day here.

Similar reports in-

The Times of India- [Harsh Vardhan vows to turn AIIMS 'green'](#)

The Hindu- [AIIMS to become country's first green hospital](#)

Daily News & Analysis- [All AIIMS to be made green hospitals: Health Minister Harsh Vardhan](#)

The Indian Express- [AIIMS to go green: Harsh Vardhan](#)

Indo – US ties

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [Modi-Obama bilateral meet can ease the chill and reset India-US relations](#)

Synopsis: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to accept an invitation for bilateral discussions with President Barack Obama — during the UN General Assembly congregation in September — is an opportunity to reset India-US relations where a chill has set in recently. Modi's acceptance is a pragmatic step, confirming he's willing to let bygones be bygones and not let the erstwhile decade-long US visa ban on him over the 2002 riots in Gujarat come in the way of one of India's most critical foreign relationships. The U-turn in the US's attitude towards Modi means both sides can now focus their energies on pushing forward trade and investment, while dropping the animosity gene-rated by the rough treatment meted out to Devyani Khobragade in New York.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [US wants to hold annual strategic dialogue in Delhi; John Kerry may travel to India for talks](#)

Synopsis: The United States has proposed that India hold the annual strategic dialogue in Delhi in July, offering to shift the venue from Washington to deepen the engagement with the Narendra Modi government ahead of his meeting with US President Barack Obama in Washington in September. India-US strategic dialogues are held alternatively in Delhi and Washington. It is the US' turn to host the dialogue this year and invite external affairs minister Sushma Swaraj to Washington to meet her counterpart John Kerry. However, US government officials have told ET that the Obama administration has proposed to the new government in Delhi that India could host the dialogue and Kerry travel to India.

Similar reports in-

The Indian Express- [Washington to welcome Narendra Modi, no date decided as yet](#)

Business Standard- [US looking forward to welcoming Modi to Washington](#)

The Hindu- [Looking forward to welcome Modi: US](#)

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [US to host Modi on a 'special gesture date'](#)

Synopsis: In a significant departure from tradition, the US has decided to host Prime Minister Narendra Modi by working out a “special gesture date” around the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) meeting that is scheduled to take place on September 26 in New York. As a normal practice, US officials sitting in Washington do not meet any head of state or head of government separately in September, reserved exclusively for the UNGA meet. However, this time the US government has decided to break that protocol and meet Modi to have bilateral talks. As a result, the talks will take place in Washington, for which the PM is expected to arrive there a couple of days before the UNGA. The dates are yet to be officially announced but a Barack Obama-Modi meeting might happen on September 30.

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Opinion piece: TCA Ranganathan, former chairman, Exim Bank

Headline: [Much ado about nothing](#)

Synopsis: It is a matter of some concern as, taking 2001 as the base, Indo-US trade has shown robust growth, rising from \$11.6 billion to \$61.3 billion in 2012. Also, in contrast to the normal trade pattern, India has built up a healthy trade balance too. Our trade surplus has risen from \$5.2 billion to \$13.1 billion during the same period. So, on the face of it, India has a lot to lose if trade wars get heated up. On the other side, the global imports of the US were \$2,333.80 billion; in other words, US imports from India are only 1.5% of their global total. So, they have nothing significant to benefit even if all Indian imports are shut off. So, what is fuelling the worries of the US? Is India not importing enough from the US? Is it that the Indian pharma success story with generics is spoiling the US global markets? Either India gives concessions to big US businesses or else they will inflict injury to our unorganised sector? Because that is the biggest thing India has.

Publication: The Asian Age

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Opinion piece: Arun Kumar Singh, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam

Headline: [Let's talk business with Uncle Sam](#)

Synopsis: Indo-US relations have never achieved their true potential, despite a few recent years of bonhomie during the Bush era, when the nuclear deal was signed. So happy were the Americans with the UPA-2 government that they not only refused to give Narendra Modi (then chief minister of Gujarat) a visa to visit the US, but also, as per media reports, Hillary Clinton had even got European NGOs to organise searches in Gujarat for imaginary graves of the 2002 riot victims. Now that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has come to power with a massive majority, the Americans are keen to restore economic and military ties.

Modi government

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Opinion piece: Kushagra Bajaj, vice-chairman, Bajaj group

Headline: [Why Narendra Modi is the best man for the PM's job](#)

Synopsis: Although Narendra Modi has raised hopes in the hearts of every Indian to astronomical levels, one hopes he will be able to fulfil a majority of these aspirations. This is because he has proved his ability in the past of doing extensive homework on everything he proposes. And he only proposes those matters where he is confident of delivering. Modi has been fortunate to have won an absolute majority in Parliament and in most of the states where the BJP is already ruling or is likely to win in upcoming elections. This will greatly ease problems of Centre-state coordination and, therefore, ultimate delivery to the common man.

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [Narendra Modi seeks to give govt secretaries greater role in policy issues](#)

Synopsis: In a first, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday met secretaries of all the government departments collectively and asked them to directly get in touch with him to resolve policy issues and expedite decision-making. Modi held a three-hour-long marathon meeting here with them with intent of giving the bureaucracy a greater role in decision-making with thrust on transparency and speedy and effective governance. To ensure that implementation of decisions and programmes are not stuck in “red-tape”, he asked secretaries to call him or e-mail him directly for suggestions or intervention required in resolving issues or expediting decisions, sources said.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Opinion piece: Rajendra Pratap Gupta, Board Member & Advisor in Healthcare | Pharmacy | mHealth | Economic & Political Policies & Strategy - USA | India

Headline: [Has the 'over-excited' babudom taken over the Narendra Modi government?](#)

Synopsis: Top 10 priorities, first 100 days... If one looks at the list, one can clearly see the disconnect between the promises made before the election through the manifesto and the path the government has taken. By putting only education, health, water, energy & roads in the list of ministerial priorities, the government has missed out the high priority assigned to job creation, agriculture, rural development and curbing corruption as the key promises made in the manifesto. This gives a sense that the 'over-excited' babudom has taken over the Modi government, and there is a visible disconnect from the thinking on which BJP started its campaign and drafted its national priorities before going to the public.

NPPA/ Drug pricing

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [NPPA tells drug makers to give pricing details in 10 days](#)

Synopsis: The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has asked drug makers to furnish details related to cost and annual turnover of 106 essential medicines, the prices of which could not be fixed so far in the absence of data. It wants this data in 10 days, failing which there could be prosecution under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, it has said. The Drug (Prices Control) Order implemented in May last year brought into its purview 652 packs of 348 formulations.

Innovation

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: June 5, 2014

Headline: [Universities must lead in inventions and patents: President](#)

Synopsis: Lamenting that research is a neglected domain in education, President Pranab Mukherjee today said universities must lead in making new inventions and patents. "Universities must through their inventions and discoveries lead in the registration of patents of our country," Mukherjee said delivering the Asutosh Mukherjee memorial lecture here. He said while countries like the US and China filed lakhs of patents, India files only few thousands.

Similar reports in-

The Hindu- [Pranab envisages varsity as breeding ground of creativity](#)

The New Indian Express- [Steer Indian Education Out of Mediocrity, Urges President](#)

Access/ Affordability

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: June 6, 2014

Opinion piece: Sreenivasan Narayana, CEO and founder of DocTree.in, a virtual hospital

Headline: [Click and cure](#)

Synopsis: Access to affordable healthcare is still a big challenge in a country like ours. Despite the various steps and policies the Government has taken to overcome this barrier, medicines still remain unknown and unavailable for the needy. In an era of e-commerce, integrating healthcare with technology and revamping healthcare access is the need of the hour. There has been no dearth of innovation in the healthcare sector — globally as well as in India. A report by management consultancy firm Bain & Company says that the focus of innovation in healthcare will shift from product arena to delivery. Therefore, new ways of delivering healthcare is an area that has seen significant investments recently.

General Industry

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [Kala-azar eradication: Bihar government to take Gates foundation support](#)

Synopsis: CM Jitan Ram Manjhi has said the state government would take support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for complete eradication of kala-azar. It was decided at the CM's meeting with the foundation representatives on Tuesday night that both the government and the foundation will work together in health and social welfare sectors and also make the state a kala-azar free.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: June 6, 2014

Headline: [Europeans, US differ over safety of Ranbaxy facility](#)

Synopsis: European regulators said on Thursday they have completed their assessment of drug manufacturing violations at Ranbaxy LaboratoriesBSE 1.10 % Ltd's facility in Toansa, India, and although deficiencies were found, they pose no risk to public health. The regulators said they were satisfied by corrective measures put in place by the company after US regulators found deviations in January.

Similar reports in-

Moneycontrol- [Ranbaxy's Toansa unit drugs fine: European regulator](#)