

Patents/ Compulsory licensing/ Intellectual property rights**Publication: The Financial Express****Edition: National****Date: June 20, 2014****Opinion piece: Shamnad Basheer, founder, SpicyIP (an intellectual property blog)****Headline: [Patently positive](#)**

Synopsis: In a recent landmark decision, the Supreme Court may have unwittingly taken the sting out of the charge that India's IP laws are anti-IP and biased against multinationals. In *Enercon vs Yogesh Mehra*, the apex court ruled that a patent opponent cannot take multiple shots at challenging the same patent, but must choose between the various options spelt out in India's Patent Act. If she chooses to challenge the patent in a post-grant opposition proceeding (to be filed within one year of the patent grant), she cannot then seek to revoke it later before the Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB)—India's specialised IP tribunal—before which any patent can be challenged. If she chooses to file a revocation proceeding before the IPAB, she cannot then challenge the validity before a High Court through a counter-claim (a claim filed in response to a lawsuit for patent infringement). While all of this may sound a bit technical, its impact is enormous from an efficiency perspective. Up until this decision, multiple patent challenges were the order of the day, resulting in enormous wastage of resources; the only winners were lawyers who would charge by the hour for each one of these multiple proceedings.

Health Ministry**Publication: The Hindustan Times****Edition: National****Date: June 20, 2014****Headline: [Health min plans to give 50 essential medicines free](#)**

Synopsis: After recently prescribing the need for 'bitter medicine' to resuscitate the ailing economy, the Narendra Modi government is, seemingly, working on contours of a social welfare healthcare project to sweeten the deal for the citizenry. For starters, the health ministry's vision is to provide 50 essential generic medicines, free of cost, from "birth to death" to all Indians across the nation. "Fifty basic essential drugs address 75% of the healthcare needs of the majority, and we plan to make these available free to everyone, from birth to death," Union health minister Harsh Vardhan told HT.

Publication: eHEALTH**Edition: Online****Date: June 20, 2014****Headline: [What is to be done: Healthcare Agenda for the new Government](#)**

Synopsis: In the recently held Union cabinet meeting, Modi discussed the top policy priorities of the new government. The top priorities included development of education, health, water, energy, and road infrastructure. The focus, now, is on Health Minister, a medical professional himself, Dr Harsh Vardhan who shot to fame after undertaking the most popular pulse polio drive when he was the health minister in Delhi government. He faces the herculean task of lifting India's weak and fragmented healthcare system.

Publication: The Times of India**Edition: Online****Date: June 20, 2014**

Headline: [Centre agrees to set up AIIMS in Jalandhar, cancer hospital in Amritsar](#)

Synopsis: To provide better and affordable healthcare to people of Punjab, the Union government had agreed to set up an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Jalandhar district while a cancer hospital will be established in Amritsar. This was announced during the meeting of Punjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal with the health minister Dr Harsh Vardhan in New Delhi on Thursday.

Similar report in-

The Hindustan Times- [AIIMS for Jalandhar; Amritsar 'smart city'](#)

Clinical trials

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: June 20, 2014

Opinion piece: Sachin Menon, partner and head, Indirect Tax, KPMG in India

Headline: [Taxing trials](#)

Synopsis: India is emerging as a potential destination for clinical and pre-clinical trials of pharma products due to its multi-ethnic population, skilled medical and para-medical manpower, relatively good hospital network in cities and, of course, lower cost. Bulk of the work by this industry is performed for foreign sponsors (pharma companies). However, the gaps in the service tax law are slowly ensuring that this infant dies an early death due to high service tax cost in the supply chain. The question is whether the upcoming Budget will address the woes of this sunrise industry?

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: June 19, 2014

Headline: [Privacy Analytics introduces clinical trials data sharing solution for pharma companies](#)

Synopsis: Privacy Analytics Inc., a leading provider of data anonymization solutions for the healthcare industry, announced the availability of a new solution to enable pharmaceutical companies to share clinical trials data while protecting the privacy of individual participants. The new offering accelerates the ability of pharmaceutical companies to meet increasing requests for individual-level participant data and clinical study reports by academic institutions, patients and other third-parties.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: June 19, 2014

Headline: [Oracle introduces Oracle health sciences data management workbench for clinical trials](#)

Synopsis: Oracle has introduced Oracle health sciences data management workbench to help meet needs of life sciences organisations. Using this Data Management Workbench, researchers can integrate, reconcile and analyse clinical data faster and more accurately to automate data load, transform and cleanse processes. As a result, study sponsors can make faster, more informed decisions that improve control, support adaptive studies and accelerate clinical trials and time to market.

Indo- US ties

Publication: The Asian Age

Edition: National

Date: June 20, 2014

Headline: [Narendra Modi and US: From blacklist to red carpet](#)

Synopsis: In light of this history, the unabashed U-turn and eagerness of the US to court Mr Narendra Modi after keeping him on the visa blacklist for years on account of the 2002 communal riots in Gujarat

on his watch should surprise none. The message is loud and clear: the newly-elected Indian Prime Minister, with a comfortable majority in Parliament and complete domination of his party, is the undisputed boss of India, at least for the next five years, and the US is ready to do business with him.

CSR

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: June 20, 2014

Headline: [Government provides clarity on CSR activities under Companies Act](#)

Synopsis: Providing more clarity on social welfare spending norms for corporates, the government has said that "one off events" such as marathons and sponsorships of television programmes would not be considered towards CSR expense. Under the new Companies Act, certain class of profitable entities are required to shell out at least two per cent of their three-year annual average net profit towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [CSR rules should be interpreted liberally, says government](#)

Outlook- [Govt Provides Clarity on CSR Activities Under Companies Act](#)

General Industry

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: June 20, 2014

Headline: [On patent row spree, AstraZeneca now sues Sun Pharma over diabetes drug](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharmaceutical Industries is the latest Indian drug company to have been sued by London-based AstraZeneca for alleged infringement of patents relating to its diabetes drug, Onglyza. The British drugmaker has already filed lawsuits in the US District Court of Delaware against three other Indian pharmaceutical companies — Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, Aurobindo Pharma and Wockhardt. Apart from Indian companies, AstraZeneca is also suing US-based Actavis and Amneal Pharma on similar grounds.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: June 19, 2014

Headline: [Pharma trade can help boost Indo-Pakistan ties: Icrier](#)

Synopsis: Pharma sector, which has trade potential of \$1.63 billion between India and Pakistan, can be an ideal area to improve bilateral relations, says a study by economic think-tank Icrier. Allaying apprehensions among small players in Pakistan over the influx of drugs from India, it said the competition will eventually lead to survival of best quality pharma items in that country. "Consultations with stakeholders on both sides have revealed that pharmaceutical firms realise the possibility of huge benefits from increased trade and investment," said the Icrier working paper - India-Pakistan Trade: An Analysis of the Pharmaceutical Sector'.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: June 20, 2014

Headline: [Clearances for Sun-Ranbaxy merger may be delayed](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharma and Ranbaxy Laboratories might take longer than usual to secure all regulatory clearances for their proposed merger, sources said. The merger, announced on April 6, is being studied by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and the Competition Commission of India (CCI). A senior Sun Pharma executive has reached out to a few government departments, seeking intervention

to expedite approval processes. "They (the companies) are concerned unless and until the approvals are in place and the deal is complete, the Sun Pharma management will be unable to officially intervene in Ranbaxy plants and take corrective measures or resolve pending issues with the US drug regulator," a senior government official whom Sun Pharma Managing Director Dilip Shanghvi recently met here, told Business Standard.

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: Online

Date: June 19, 2014

Headline: [KCR to open global healthcare summit today](#)

Synopsis: The Indo-Global Healthcare Summit & Expo 2014 will be inaugurated by Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao here on Friday. The three-day summit, the first international conference to be held after the formation of Telangana, would have the participation of about 4,000 healthcare experts from all over the globe, CD Arha, Chairman, Indus Foundation, told newsmen here on Thursday.

Website: Reuters

Edition: Online

Date: June 20, 2014

Headline: [A four-week hep C cure? Bristol to test drugs with Gilead's Sovaldi](#)

Synopsis: In the race to find a faster cure for hepatitis C, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co said it will test its experimental antiviral drug combination with Gilead Sciences Inc's blockbuster drug Sovaldi, hoping to cut treatment time to four weeks. Bristol-Myers disclosed plans for the exploratory 30-patient trial testing its three-drug combination with Sovaldi in an interview with Reuters. Eric Hughes, the leader of Bristol's global hepatitis program, said the details were due to be posted on the clinicaltrials.gov website next week.