



**News Updates: March 19, 2014**

**Patents/Compulsory Licensing/Intellectual Property**

**Publication: Businessworld**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Baiters Versus Batters](#)**

**Synopsis:** The US industry is split down the middle over chastising India for alleged unfair trade practices and weak intellectual property norms. While one section of the industry led by global drug majors such as Pfizer and Bayer is lobbying through industry groups such as the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and the US Chamber of Commerce for a higher level of intellectual property (IP) protection, the other, comprising equally big or more prominent members of the US industry, does not want industry-specific demands to hurt the overall India-US business environment. The anti-India campaign is led by the US Chamber of Commerce, which wants India to be degraded to the worst offender category — “priority foreign country” — under the 2014 Special 301 Report (due on 30 April 2014) of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), on grounds of its allegedly weak IP rights (IPR) rules.

**Publication: The Indian Express**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [IPAB may soon have permanent bench in city](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB), which hears appeals against the orders of the Patent and Trademarks authorities, is set to get a permanent bench in the capital. The Delhi High Court on Tuesday directed the Central government to expedite the process. It also asked the IPAB to apply within two weeks to the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) to determine the rate of rent applicable for office space available in a building belonging to HUDCO at Bhikaji Cama Place and to expedite the process of getting office space on rent.

**Publication: The Financial Express**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Lawsuit filed against DRL in US](#)**

**Synopsis:** Pennsylvania-based Cephalon has filed a lawsuit against Dr Reddy’s Laboratories (DRL) in the United States claiming that the Indian pharma manufacturer’s plan to make its own version of the leukemia drug, Treanda, infringes a Cephalon patent. The drug is indicated to treat chronic lymphocytic leukemia and non Hodgkin’s lymphoma. According to a few reports, Treanda had sales over \$1 billion in the last few years and with subsequent price erosion, it dropped to \$682 million last year.

**Similar report in-**

**The Financial Chronicle- [Cephalaon sues DRL over leukemia drug](#)**

**FDA**

**Publication: Mint**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Unease grows among US doctors over Indian drug quality](#)**

**Synopsis:** Some US doctors are becoming concerned about the quality of generic drugs supplied by Indian manufacturers following a flurry of recalls and import bans by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). India supplies about 40% of generic and over-the-counter drugs used in the US, making it the second-biggest supplier after Canada.

**Similar reports in-**

**Business Standard- [Unease grows among US doctors over Indian drug quality](#)**

**The Hindustan Times- [Unease among US doctors over Indian drug quality](#)**

**The Financial Express- [US doctors uneasy after Indian drugs come under FDA scanner](#)**

**The Financial Chronicle- [Unease grows among U.S. doctors over Indian drug quality](#)**

**Deccan Chronicle- [After flurry of FDA recalls, US docs skeptical on Indian medicines](#)**

**Business Today- [Unease grows among US doctors over Indian drug quality](#)**

**Reuters- [Unease grows among U.S. doctors over Indian drug quality](#)**

**NDTV- [Unease grows among US doctors over quality of Indian medicines](#)**

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Novartis might face legal action, penalty for faking documents](#)**

**Synopsis:** Swiss drug maker Novartis is likely to face legal action for allegedly faking documents to seek registration of its veterinary product Tiamulin Hydrogen Fumarate (80 per cent granules) in India. The drug regulator, Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), has already cancelled the company's import licences as well as existing registration certificate for the product.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [Natco Pharma gets USFDA tentative nod for generic Tamiflu](#)**

**Synopsis:** Natco Pharma today announced that it has received tentative approval from the US health regulator to sell generic version of Roche's Tamiflu, used to prevent and treat flu. The tentative approval of Oseltamivir Phosphate (Tamiflu) capsules by the US Food and Drug Administration is for multiple strengths of 30mg, 45 mg and 75 mg, the company said in a filing to the BSE.

**Similar reports in-**

**Mint- [Natco gets tentative FDA nod to launch generic Tamiflu capsules in US](#)**

**The Financial Express- [Natco Pharma gets FDA nod for generic Oseltamivir capsules](#)**

**Drug Pricing**

**Publication: Mumbai Mirror**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Headline: [FDA stops sale of Crocin products for overpricing](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has stopped the sale of tablet Crocin Advance, besides two syrups for children - Crocin Drops and Crocin Suspension - saying the products

have been overpriced. Crocin Advance contains paracetamol and is a well-established medicine to cure fever and pain. The FDA recently seized stocks worth Rs 12 lakh, saying the prices of these products, manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline, violate the drug price control order.

## General Industry

**Publication:** Business Standard

**Edition:** National

**Date:** March 19, 2014

**Opinion piece:** Nitin Desai, Indian economist and civil servant

**Headline:** [India's right to health](#)

**Synopsis:** This is the season for party manifestos with their vague and quite unexciting promises. But in this sea of platitudes, sometimes something stands out that is worth talking about, because, if implemented, it would be a game-changer. For me this is the reported inclusion of the right to health in the Congress party's manifesto. It is well known that health status in India is below what can be expected at our level of income. It is a matter of shame that, globally, India accounts for one-third of the deaths of pregnant women and about a quarter of child deaths. Child mortality has declined, but our infant mortality rate, at 56 per 1,000, is significantly higher than that for Bangladesh, a much poorer country.

**Publication:** The Economic Times

**Editions:** Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kochi

**Date:** March 19, 2014

**Headline:** Amma's cure a bitter pill for pharmacies (link unavailable, scan attached)

**Synopsis:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalithaa may have promised to take her party's freebie culture to the rest of the country but at least one group is not impressed with her latest proposal to subsidise medicines.

**Publication:** The Hindu

**Edition:** National

**Date:** March 19, 2014

**Headline:** [Ukraine crisis may impact Indian pharma units: FICCI](#)

**Synopsis:** The prolonged political crisis in Ukraine could have a bearing on the domestic pharmaceutical companies based there, according to a survey conducted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). While the recent developments in Ukraine have had no immediate impact on the businesses of leading Indian pharmaceutical companies based in Ukraine, it is felt that if the situation continues, it could have a bearing on the country's exchange rate, which would make the landed cost of Indian pharmaceuticals higher, the survey said.

### Similar reports in-

Business Standard- [Prolonged Ukraine crises may affect Indian pharma firms: Ficci](#)

The Financial Express- ['Prolonged crisis in Ukraine may affect Indian pharma companies'](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [Ukraine crisis likely to hit Indian pharma biz](#)

**Publication:** Businessworld

**Edition:** National

**Date:** March 19, 2014

**Headline:** [Pharma, By The Book](#) (Book review)

**Synopsis:** Not many books on the Indian pharmaceutical industry are available from the perspective of

independent industry observers. This book edited by Hans Lofgren, associate professor in politics and policy studies at Deakin University, Australia, provides such a perspective. It is a collection of in-depth essays on topics related to the Indian pharma industry written by experts in the field. The essays range from the systemic failure of regulation, TRIPS flexibilities and access to patented medicines to India's FTAs (free trade agreements) and their implications for access to medicines, among others. The book gives an insight into how the Indian pharma industry, accounting for just a fraction of the global drug sales, has evolved to become the pharmacy of the world through generic drug sales. It shows how companies like Cipla (there is a separate chapter on its chairman Y.K. Hamied) revolutionised HIV treatment worldwide with cheap generics and forced multinational companies to bring down the price of their patented drug products.