



News Updates: March 27, 2014

Patents/Compulsory Licensing/Intellectual Property

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [‘Cheaper versions of Cancer Drug Dasatinib will have to wait’](#)

Synopsis: The department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) has shot down a health ministry proposal to consider a government-initiated compulsory licence (CL) for cancer drug Dasatinib on the ground that it is unaffordable. This comes at a time when the US is reviewing India's intellectual property regime that, in the worst case, could lead to trade sanctions.

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Opinion piece: Feroz Ali Khader, advocate holding the ministry of human resource development intellectual property rights chair at IIT, Madras

Headline: [Patent opportunism](#)

Synopsis: The Global Intellectual Property Centre's (GIPC) International IP Index is an indicator of the shape of things to come. Released earlier this year, the Index notes India as having the "weakest" IP environment on the list of 25 carefully chosen countries that figure in the index. As an affiliate of the US Chamber of Commerce, the GIPC does an impressive job of singing the old tune of the deteriorating standards of India's "IPness" — the state of intellectual property protection.

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [India will not use compulsory licence as ‘Robin Hood tool’: Rajeev Kher, Commerce Secretary](#)

Synopsis: India's trade and economic policies are facing increased global scrutiny with the US attacking the country's intellectual property regime and several countries questioning the procurement and pricing mechanisms for agricultural products. Commerce Secretary Rajeev Kher, in an interview with Business Line, explains why the international spot light is on India and how it is to be dealt with.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [IPAB stays revocation of Pfizer's patent on drug Detrol](#)

Synopsis: The Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB) has issued an interim stay on an order issued by the Indian Patent Office removing a patent of Pfizer Health AB, for its extended release drug Detrol (tolterodine), which is used for treatment of overactive bladder symptoms of urinary frequency, urgency, and incontinence in old age patients. The Assistant Controller of Patents and Designs, in an order issued on November 27, 2013, revoked the patent based on a post-grant

opposition filed by Ranbaxy Laboratories.

Similar reports in-

The Financial Express- [Patent tribunal breather to Pfizer](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [Tribunal stays order to remove Pfizer's patent](#)

FDA

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [US FDA issues norms to pharma & med-device sector on distribution of scientific leaflets on unapproved processes](#)

Synopsis: US FDA has issued its draft guidelines to the pharma and medical industry on the dissemination of medical publications on the unapproved uses of drugs and medical devices. The document titled as Guidance for Industry Distributing Scientific and Medical Publications on Unapproved New Uses — Recommended Practices of drugs and medical devices has been circulated and the regulatory authority expects comments on the same by April 30,2014.

Drug Quality

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [Generic drugmakers' woes put new focus on quality; Indian players to lose business to global rivals](#)

Synopsis: A spate of regulatory warnings for India's generic drug manufacturers will add a new emphasis on the quality of such medicines in an industry long dominated by the ability to deliver treatments as cheaply as possible, analysts say. In the short term, that is expected to benefit larger global competitors, such as Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Actavis and Mylan, which will be called upon to supply drugs no longer available from some of their rivals in India, they said.

Similar reports in-

The Financial Express- India generic drugmakers' woes put new focus on quality over price (link unavailable, scan attached)

The Financial Chronicle- Under watch, copycat drug firms turn focus on quality (link unavailable, scan attached)

Business Today- [Generic drugmakers' woes put focus on quality over price](#)

Drug Pricing

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [NPPA refuses to exempt Crocin Advance from price control](#)

Synopsis: GSK Consumer Healthcare's popular painkiller and fever medicine Crocin Advance has run into trouble with the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), which refused to exempt the drug from price control. The drug price controller has asked GSK to reduce the market price of Crocin Advance to the NPPA-approved ceiling price. The regulator will also fix an overcharging fine on GSK Consumer Healthcare for selling the painkiller at prices higher than those fixed by NPPA.

General Industry

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [Build on Polio success to fight other diseases](#)

Synopsis: Today, March 27, the world expects to witness the successful completion of a long journey of the WHO South-East Asia Region in its battle against polio. The region anticipates that it will be officially certified as polio-free by the Regional Certification Commission, the independent commission under the WHO certification process. This will be a momentous occasion for the millions of health workers who have worked with governments, NGOs, civil society and partners to eradicate polio. The direct benefit of polio eradication is clear in terms of lives saved and lifelong disability prevented. This can also be achieved for diseases such as measles and rubella.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [WHO to certify South-East Asia polio-free today](#)

The Wall Street Journal- [How India Put an End to Polio](#)

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: March 27, 2014

Headline: [A new challenge: introducing injectable polio vaccine](#)

Synopsis: For India, which has successfully kept naturally-occurring 'wild' polioviruses at bay for three whole years, a new challenge looms. India is among 140 countries that rely on the oral polio vaccine (OPV). These countries have now been asked to introduce an injectable inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) into their routine childhood immunisation programme by the end of next year. The oral vaccine, which is cheap and easily administered, uses live but weakened forms of the poliovirus. But the live vaccine viruses can occasionally revert to virulence.