



**News Updates: March 28, 2014**

**Patents/Compulsory Licensing/Intellectual Property**

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Headline: [Expand IP regime, research and development fund to boost manufacturing, says DIPP](#)**

**Synopsis:** The department of industry policy and promotion (DIPP) has suggested a seven pronged approach to expand India's intellectual property regime and research and development framework, which would in turn bolster manufacturing in the economy. In a discussion paper put out on Thursday, DIPP has emphasised on the need to promote transfer of knowledge and technology from universities to industry. DIPP has noted that the government needs to fund technology projects that translate scientific discoveries and cutting-edge inventions into technological innovations and accelerate advances in high-risk areas industry is unlikely to pursue independently.

**Similar reports in-**

**The Financial Chronicle- DIPP suggests points to raise investments in R&D, boost manufacturing (link unavailable, scan attached)**

**Deccan Chronicle- [Government moots plans to prop R&D investments](#)**

**Website: Pharmabiz**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Headline: [Patent expiration, stagnant R&D spend seriously affect blockbuster sales of big pharma during 2007-2013](#)**

**Synopsis:** Patent expiration of several blockbusters and limited success in launching new molecules during the last few years are the two critical factors that impacted the revenues of the top international pharmaceutical companies during the period 2007-2013. The patent expiration leading to escalated competition from generics and reduction in healthcare spending by several governments thus created a challenging situation for major players.

**FDA**

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Headline: [US Food and Drug Administration okays safety of Indian medicines](#)**

**Synopsis:** The US drug regulator says it has detected no impurity in the Indian version of cholesterol-lowering generic drug Atorvastatin in recent tests. The development, which comes after a section of American experts raised doubts over the quality of India-sourced medicines, is a confidence booster for domestic drug firms. The US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA) has also said that the 'impurities' in drug samples found in the research of these scientists could have actually crept in during the process of testing of drug samples because of the methodology employed.

**Similar report in-**

**The Hindu - [No, the US FDA doesn't hate India](#)**

## Drug Pricing

**Publication: Business Standard**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Headline: [Regulatory pain for GSK's Crocin Advance](#)**

**Synopsis:** GlaxoSmithKline's fast-relief analgesic, Crocin Advance, might cause pain to the company. Rejecting its plea to exempt the medicine from price control, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is instead set to penalise GSK Consumer Healthcare for overcharging consumers by selling the drug at over double its MRP (maximum retail price) as fixed by the regulator, official sources said. NPPA has told GSK to immediately reduce the market price of Crocin Advance and give a compliance report. Currently, Crocin Advance paracetamol fast release 500 mg is priced at Rs 30 for a strip of 15 tablets, whereas the price of paracetamol 500 mg is capped at 94p for a tablet or around Rs 14 for a strip of 15.

**Publication: The Financial Express**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Headline: GSK: Calpol syrup not under price control (link unavailable, scan attached)**

**Synopsis:** GSK Pharmaceutical claims its painkiller Calpol Syrup 60 ml, which has been banned by Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration due to overpricing, is outside the purview of price control. The matter will be discussed and decided by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority in the next few days.

**Similar report in-**

**Pharmabiz- [GSK says its Calpol suspension outside DPCO, state FDA disputes](#)**

## General Industry

**Publication: The Indian Express**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Soumya Swaminathan, director at the National Institute of Research in Tuberculosis in Chennai and leads the research programme on TB/HIV**

**Headline: [Why TB persists](#)**

**Synopsis:** With two decades of high economic growth, India should have been on its way to controlling tuberculosis. Yet it remains an urgent public health problem. With 1,000 Indians dying every day of TB, and with the highest number of TB patients in the world, India is undoubtedly the crucial battleground for TB control. The enhanced detection of drug-resistant TB has increased the complexity of managing the disease, as it requires additional resources, manpower, laboratory facilities and infrastructure. The bacteria are able to evade drugs through various mechanisms and we now have forms of TB that are very difficult to treat.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Headline: [Lupin buys Mexico's Laboratorios Grin; forays into LATAM mkt](#)**

**Synopsis:** Drug major Lupin today acquired Mexico's Laboratorios Grin, a leading player in ophthalmic products, for an undisclosed amount, marking its foray into the Latin American

country. The company said it has acquired 100 per cent equity stake in Laboratorios Grin, Mexico.

**Similar reports in-**

Mint- [Lupin acquires Mexican drug maker Laboratorios Grin](#)

Business Standard- [Lupin buys Laboratorios Grin](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [Lupin enters Mexico through an acquisition](#)

The New Indian Express- [Lupin Acquires Mexico's Lab Grin](#)

The Statesman- [Lupin buys Mexican firm](#)

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Satish Mandhana, managing partner and CIO of IDFC Alternatives**

**Headline: [PE investors must take note of healthcare](#)**

**Synopsis:** The linkages between improved health and economic growth were conclusively proved by the United Nations Commission on Macroeconomics & Health (CMH) in its 2001 report. It showed that an increase of 10% in life expectancy, resulted in economic growth of 0.3-0.4% per year. In India, the CMH report led to the formation of the National Rural Health Mission in 2005 and the more ambitious National Health Mission last year.