

Patents/ Compulsory Licensing/ Intellectual Property**Publication: The Hindu Business Line****Edition: National****Date: May 15, 2014****Headline: [Anand Sharma bids adieu to USTR, IMF chief](#)**

Synopsis: Commerce & Industry Minister Anand Sharma, in a farewell letter to US Trade Representative Mike Froman, has called for development of a better perspective of India's intellectual property regime and the revival of the bilateral trade policy forum. Sharma also sent letters to the World Trade Organisation Director General Roberto Azevedo, International Monetary Fund chief Christine Lagarde and the US Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker in his last week in office.

Clinical Trials**Website: Pharmabiz****Edition: Online****Date: May 14, 2014****Headline: [There is light at the end of the tunnel for the Indian clinical trial industry](#)**

Synopsis: Global clinical research organizations, leading international research centers and the bio pharma abroad are keen to conduct the human studies on the Indian patient population. This is where, the Union government will need to take speedy decisions on the recommendations put forth by Prof Ranjit Roy Choudhury Committee to kickstart human studies in India. Prof Choudhury, Chairman of the Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, government of India to suggest standard operating procedures (SOPs) for approval of new drugs and clinical trials and banning of drugs is also the National Professor of Pharmacology (NAMS), Adviser-Department of Health and Family Welfare, and Chairman-Task Force for Research, Apollo Hospitals Educational and Research Foundation (AHERF). In an interaction, Prof. Choudhury discusses at length about the highlights of his report and stated that there is already light at the end of the tunnel.

Publication: The Economic Times**Edition: Online****Date: May 15, 2014****Headline: [In clinical trials, all are being punished for errors of few: Satish Reddy, Dr Reddy's Labs](#)**

Synopsis: Satish Reddy, who was appointed chairman of Dr Reddy's Labs on Tuesday, told ET that in the clinical trials space the entire drug industry was being punished for errors committed by a few. Reddy, also chief of the Indian Pharma Alliance, a grouping of top local drugmakers, feels that the US threat of trade sanctions is far from over.

FDA**Publication: The Wall Street Journal****Edition: Online****Date: May 14, 2014****Headline: [Why More Indian Generic Drugs Will Make Their Way to the U.S.](#)**

Synopsis: Never mind the FDA crackdown on Indian drug makers for quality control problems. Sales of prescription drugs to the U.S. by the Indian pharmaceutical industry likely won't take a huge hit, at least according to a new report. Why? India's generic drug makers remain large suppliers to American consumers, writes India Research & Ratings. The FDA may have banned imports from 21 Indian

manufacturing plants last year – more than in any other year – but Indian drug makers accounted for 40 percent of U.S. generic drug imports, based on volume, and 39 percent of total generic drug approvals by the agency.

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: Mumbai

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [FDA sends circular after hospitals 'ask patients to replace blood administered to them'](#)

Synopsis: After receiving complaints from various relatives of patients, who were asked to replace blood by arranging donors, the state Food and Drug Administration (FDA), last week, issued circulars to all public and private hospitals in the city, requesting them to refrain from putting compulsion on patients to arrange donors or replace blood provided by the hospitals. Among the volley of complaints received by the FDA, the most recent came on May 11 against South Mumbai-based Saifee hospital on behalf of Tahera Saifuddin Abedin, who required blood for low haemoglobin count. According to the complaint, Abedin was administered four units of packed cells (red blood cells) on May 10, and was later told to replace the same by four units of whole blood.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Mumbai

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Over 5,400 chemists in state caught flouting norms, lose licences](#)

Synopsis: Over 5,400 chemists from the state have lost their licences after the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found them operating without a pharmacist and dispensing medicines without valid prescriptions. Licences of over 3,000 chemists have also been suspended, of which around 693 were from the city. Majority of the chemists have attracted such harsh action due to buying and selling of drugs without proper bills, not insisting on a prescription and more importantly, dispensing drugs without the supervision of a qualified pharmacist. In 2013-2014, around 901 city chemists lost their licences. The highest number of cancellations though took place in the Konkan region where 1,384 permanently lost their licences while another 417 were put under suspension.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: May 14, 2014

Headline: [US drug regulator to build capacity of Indian exporters](#)

Synopsis: With instances of import alerts on the rise, the US drug regulator is now working on capacity building of Indian exporters. The local drug regulator in Gujarat, the Food and Drug Control Administration (FDCA) pointed out that the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) is sending at least three senior drug inspectors from the country to Ahmedabad for a training session on quality assurance with local drug exporters. The session would also have representation from the academia.

FDI- Pharma

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [A trail of loose ends in FDI policies awaits new government](#)

Synopsis: As the Congress party-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government prepares to demit office, it is set to leave behind a trail of loose ends in India's foreign direct investment (FDI) policy relating to sectors such as defence, pharmaceuticals and retail that its successor will have to tie up. In the pharmaceuticals sector, India allows 100% FDI, which doesn't require prior government approval in case the money is going into new ventures. In case the money is channelled into an existing company, the investment would need the government's nod. Although overseas portfolio investment of up to 24% is allowed in a listed company and it can be raised up to the sectoral limit through a board resolution, it

isn't clear whether FPI is allowed in pharma companies without prior government approval. The Reserve Bank of India has sought clarity on the issue, which remains a grey area.

Drug pricing

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [New medicines could be added to the 'essential' list](#)

Synopsis: The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has been able to fix ceiling prices of about 90% of the drugs in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), in accordance with the new Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) 2013, despite concerns raised by industry. NPPA chairman CP Singh explains how affordable medicines go a long way in boosting the nation's healthcare.

Pfizer- AstraZeneca news

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: Delhi

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: Deal or no deal (link unavailable, scan attached)

Synopsis: With Pfizer now bidding for AstraZeneca, Britain's second-largest pharmaceuticals firm, many worry that more jobs will be lost, along with the country's position as a leader in scientific research. Although AstraZeneca has cut back on research and development in the past, it still spent £1.5 billion (\$2.5 billion) in Britain in 2012. It has 6,700 employees in the country and claims to support 33,182 jobs. If Pfizer succeeds with its takeover bid — still informal and priced at £50 per share, or £63 billion — the odds increase that some of this will move out of Britain. That would be a blow to an industry into which politicians have poured their hopes.

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Pfizer says will ringfence new drugs in AstraZeneca deal](#)

Synopsis: Pfizer said it would ringfence the development of important drugs if it acquired AstraZeneca, rejecting a charge from the British company that a takeover would disrupt important research and put lives at risk. "As we put these companies together, we will continue with our pipeline, AZ will continue with theirs," Pfizer's chief executive Ian Read told lawmakers on a second day of questioning about what could be the biggest ever UK corporate deal. "We would ringfence any important products and they would continue to be developed. There is absolutely no truth to any comment that some products of critical nature would be delayed getting to patients, if anything we would accelerate that to patients."

Indo- US ties

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Opinion piece: Robert M. Hathaway, director of the Woodrow Wilson Centre's Asia programme in Washington, DC and author of 'New Security Challenges in Asia'

Headline: [Press pause and rewind](#)

Synopsis: The cold hand of dashed hopes and a mutual sense of betrayal have cast a pall over relations between India and the United States. It's not just the bitter aftertaste of the Devyani Khobragade affair, though that lingers as well. Even before the Indian diplomat was unceremoniously arrested in New York, many analysts had concluded that the air had gone out of the Indo-American balloon. Barack Obama's 2010 pledge that the bilateral relationship would be "one of the defining partnerships of the 21st century" rings hollow. Yet, a stagnant relationship is not a condition either country should welcome.

More to the point, studied indifference, let alone fractured relations, serves the interests of neither New Delhi nor Washington. A new understanding on consular privileges and immunities would help thaw relations and avoid further Khobragade-like episodes.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Setting the agenda](#)

Synopsis: The country has to urgently improve ties with the US, as well as with its neighbours, especially China. Recently, relations with the US had seemingly hit a nadir over the detention of envoy Devyani Khobragade. The new government has to clean up the defence sector's scandal-ridden image. Modernisation and indigenisation of the forces have to be expedited.

Innovation

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Five start-ups that herald the future of biotechnology](#)

Synopsis: India ranks among the top 12 biotechnology destinations in the world, and second in Asia after China. Comprising about 400 companies, India's 1.2 billion-plus population offers a huge market for biotech products and services. An important link in this chain is the role that start-ups will have to play in the sunrise industry to further research. Mint identified five fledgeling companies that are working on breakthroughs that may advance medicine.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [What the next government should do for science and innovation in India](#)

Synopsis: In India, as the new government prepares to take over, few people have considered investments in science as a national priority. This is in spite of low national competitiveness, poor overall investments in R&D, global competition and the rapid rise of China as an R&D powerhouse. Although China's growth in GDP is mostly due to increased labour supply and accumulation of capital, the country has paid enough attention to investments in R&D. In the last two decades it has tripled R&D investments as a percentage of GDP, from 0.65% in 1993 to around 1.98% now, overtaking the EU last year in R&D spending relative to GDP. It is no wonder then that China is ranked 29 for global competitiveness while India is ranked 60. India spends only 0.9% of its GDP on R&D, placing it at the bottom on the list of major R&D spenders.

Cancer

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [International patients storm into India for cancer care; driven by high quality medical expertise & latest technology](#)

Synopsis: International patients are accessing Indian medical centres for cancer care driven by the positive outcome from oncologists expertise followed by dependable access to technology at a reasonable cost. From HCG to Apollo Hospital Group, Fortis, Medanta-The Medicity, Max Healthcare Artemis Hospital, Tata Memorial Cancer Centre, Mazumdar-Shaw Cancer Centre, to name a few are a hot bed for international patients to access treatment for cancer and related complicated and chronic conditions. These hospitals are accredited by international agencies and recognised by patients and are offering world-class care.

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Sanofi junks Glenmark's painkiller molecule](#)

Synopsis: French drug multinational Sanofi SA has terminated a licensing deal signed with India's Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd in 2010 for a novel chronic pain management drug candidate, GRC 15300, after the new chemical entity failed the Phase II proof-of-concept trial. Sanofi discontinued the trial of this molecule in the March quarter and will return the rights to Glenmark, said a person familiar with the development.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Sun Pharma moves SC against stay on Ranbaxy merger](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharmaceutical Industries said on Wednesday it had moved the Supreme Court on Tuesday against a stay on its merger with Ranbaxy Laboratories by the Andhra Pradesh high court. In a statement to the BSE exchange, Sun Pharma said, "We further state that there is no material impact of the matter on the process of the merger of Ranbaxy with our company."

Similar report in-

The Financial Express- [Sun Pharma moves Supreme Court on Ranbaxy Lab merger mess](#)

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Sun Pharma settles Novartis lawsuit over cancer drug](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd has inked a settlement pact with Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation over cancer drug Gleevec, paving the way for the Indian drug major to launch a generic version of the medicine in the US market in 2016. One of the subsidiaries of Sun Pharma has executed a settlement agreement with Novartis, stipulating a dismissal of the lawsuits filed in the United States against the company regarding submission of an Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) for a generic version of Gleevec, the Indian drug major said in a statement.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Pharmexcil working closely with Indian embassies to attract overseas investment to India](#)

Synopsis: With a view to give a push to the exports and attract business to India, the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) has been closely working with the Indian embassies across the globe. It is understood that this strategic approach has helped the Council to garner widespread interest among the international community on the important role of Indian manufacturers as a global supplier of quality generic drugs. To boost the Indian business and bring in overseas investment to the country, Pharmexcil has been prodding and following up with the Indian embassies to sensitise and educate prospective overseas investors about the Indian drug industry. Reports suggest that following the same, Indian embassies have been working very keenly to spread the goodwill about the Indian drug industry by conducting seminars and meeting at their respective place in association with the local bodies.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: May 15, 2014

Headline: [Chinese police charge British former GSK China head with bribery](#)

Synopsis: Chinese police on Wednesday said they had charged the British former China head of drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline PLC and other colleagues with corruption, after a probe found the firm made billions of yuan from elaborate schemes to bribe doctors and hospitals. Mark Reilly and two Chinese executives, Zhang Guowei and Zhao Hongyan, were also suspected of bribing officials in the industry and commerce departments of Beijing and Shanghai, the official Xinhua news agency reported, quoting police in Hunan province.

Similar report in-

Business Standard- [Former China head of GSK charged with bribery](#)