



News Updates: May 20, 2014

Patents/ Intellectual Property/ Compulsory Licensing

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

Opinion piece: John J Castellani, CEO, PhRMA

Headline: [India's IPR decisions have targeted the pharma sector the most: John J Castellani, PhRMA](#)

Synopsis: India's intellectual property rights related decisions have affected the biopharma industry much more than the other sectors, says John J Castellani, CEO, PhRMA (Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America), a grouping of US based drugmakers. In an e-mail interview, Castellani tells ET that PhRMA members want strong patent laws in India.

Website: Patent Docs

Edition: Online

Date: May 19, 2014

Opinion piece: Kevin E. Noonan, biotechnology patent lawyer and partner at McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Headline: [U.S. Trade Representative Issues 2013 Special 301 Report](#)

Synopsis: On April 30th, Ambassador Michael B.G. Froman, U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) issued the 2014 Special 301 Report. According to the USTR website, the "USTR is fully committed to unlocking opportunity for those Americans to share their inventions and creations with people all over the world without their work being infringed or misappropriated." Further, "[t]he Obama Administration is committed to meaningful and sustained engagement with trading partners -- from China to India to Canada -- with the goal of resolving intellectual property-related concerns so that Americans and American firms can compete on a level playing field in those markets," according to USTR Froman. The Report hails Italy, the Philippines, and Israel "on their removal from the Watch List."

Clinical Trials

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

By line article: Nalinakanthi V, Principal Research Analyst

Headline: [Putting patients first](#)

Synopsis: The article highlights that a vibrant environment needs to be created wherein adequate safeguards are available for trial patients while promoting novel research. The SC order in 2013 that made video recording of the patient consent mandatory, registration of ethical committees and formulation of compensation for trial subjects who suffer adverse reaction is a positive move. The industry's efforts now seem to be directed towards re-building the confidence among the patient community, while also sending the signal to the government that they are willing to adopt the best practises in clinical trials. It further points out that India, as a developing country needs to encourage investment in innovative research. Hence, it is important to strike a balance between safety of trial subjects and the country's healthcare needs, without compromising one for the other.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [Apex panel on clinical trials gives nod to 21 fresh proposals](#)

Synopsis: The apex committee set up by the Union health ministry to monitor the clinical trials sector and headed by the health secretary has cleared 21 out of the 22 fresh proposals for clinical trials, after they were recommended by new drug advisory committees and thereafter the technical committee, another high-level panel formed by the ministry.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [ISCR releases Guide for clinical trial participants on International Clinical Trials Day](#)

Synopsis: To commemorate the International Clinical Trials Day on May 20, the Indian Society for Clinical Research (ISCR) has released "Clinical Trials – A Guide for Participants" which provides responses to commonly asked questions about clinical trials as also guides patients participating in clinical trials on questions they need to ask their clinical investigator.

Modi led government - Focus on policies: Industry suggestions/ recommendations

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [Domestic pharma to lobby Modi govt](#)

Synopsis: The report highlights that the Indian drug making sector expects the Modi-led government to take a tough stand on IPR related issues with the US. Industry groups and even individual companies have started gearing up with presentations, to be taken up with ministers and the Prime Minister's Office as soon as a new government assumes charge. The report quotes DG Shah who expects the new Modi government to have strong foreign policies and enough standing to protect interests of its sector. He added that, "It is not that only India requires the US market; they require us more than we do and, so, these issues need to be dealt strategically," highlighting that the IPA and sector bodies will make representations to ministries and Modi.

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [New Health Minister will face a host of tricky issues](#)

Synopsis: The report highlights the various critical issues in the Indian pharmaceutical space that will have to be addressed by the incoming Health Minister especially in areas such as IPR, accessibility and affordability and quality of medicines.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [Health high on Modi's agenda](#)

Synopsis: Industry, policy makers as well as public health groups are enthused that Bharatiya Janata Party's election manifesto has focused on some of the key issues concerning the healthcare sector. For instance, the manifesto which may soon transform into a blueprint, talks of streamlining government departments in the healthcare sector, possibility of an 'overarching lean body' to regulate it, a comprehensive healthcare policy to bring down out of pocket expenditure and need for radical reform of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [PwC wants new government to support research and development for pharma and biotech sector](#)

Synopsis: The report highlights the expectations of PwC from the BJP-led government. The management and consultancy firm wants the new government to encourage manufacturing, research and development and innovation. It also expects the new government to accelerate health insurance and government spend so that India can move rapidly away from out of pocket market which inhibits the size of market.

General Industry

Publication: Mint

Edition: Online

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [Pfizer-AstraZeneca deal not dead yet](#)

Synopsis: Pfizer Inc. may have called its \$118 billion bid for AstraZeneca Plc a “final” offer, and its British rival sees no prospect of a deal being revived. But Wall Street isn’t ready to call in the undertakers. “The deal is wounded, but perhaps not dead,” said Mark Schoenebaum, an analyst with ISI Group in New York. Morningstar analyst Damien Conover in Chicago said the odds of an AstraZeneca purchase had fallen well below the 50% mark.

Similar reports in-

Business Standard- [Pfizer-AstraZeneca deal not quite dead yet](#)

The Hindu- [AstraZeneca shuts door on Pfizer](#)

Reuters- [Pfizer-AstraZeneca deal not quite dead yet](#)

Publication: The Financial Chronicle

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [Two decades of reform, India still a bad place to do business](#)

Synopsis: Despite two decades of economic reforms, India continues to falter on various sub-indices such as starting a business, issuing construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, paying taxes, trading across border and enforcing contracts or resolving insolvency, said a CII-KPMG report on ‘Ease of doing business in India’. The report said there is urgency to improve the business environment. It is based on a survey conducted among the Indian industry followed by primary and secondary research to assess the prevailing business regulatory environment in the country. Among others, it said there was need to update laws keeping in mind the trends of higher technology updation, greater trade based on IPR and global trade.

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: National

Date: May 20, 2014

Headline: [DIPP meets today to plan curbs on rising royalty outflows at MNC arms](#)

Synopsis: Ahead of the new NDA government taking charge, officials in the department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) will meet on Tuesday to firm up a proposal for “reasonable curbs” on royalty outflows from MNC arms in India, which have seen a surge in recent years. Royalty has become one of the means of profit distribution by a subsidiary to a foreign parent company, although technically it is the fee that the Indian arm pays its foreign parent for technology transfer or use of trademarks and brand name.

