

**Patents/ Compulsory Licensing/ Intellectual Property****Publication: Daily News & Analysis****Edition: National****Date: May 8, 2014****Headline: Editorial: [India must stand firm in the ongoing tussle with the United States over intellectual property rights](#)**

**Synopsis:** An intellectual property rights (IPR) showdown between the US and India may have been averted for now, but it is still very much in the offing. Despite immense pressure by US lawmakers and industry lobby groups, the US Trade Representative (USTR) has managed to sidestep downgrading India to Priority Foreign Country status — a tag given to the worst IPR offenders that can trigger US sanctions — in its annual Special 301 Report. The US government's caution is understandable; such a move would inevitably invite retaliation by New Delhi and strain relations at a time when they are already at a low ebb. By citing the ongoing elections and the need for time to assess the incoming government's policies, the USTR has managed to buy some time. But with US senators already pushing to act against India at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) instead, the reprieve is unlikely to last very long. The new administration in New Delhi will find itself under pressure on this front from the get-go — but it must stand firm.

**Similar report in-****The New Indian Express- [Don't Buckle under US Pressure on IP Rights](#)****Publication: The Economic Times****Edition: Online****Date: May 7, 2014****Headline: [India needs to modify Intellectual Property Rights regime to attract FDI: Report](#)**

**Synopsis:** India needs to modify its Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regime and fast-track legal system to attract foreign investments, a report said today. "India must sort out some contours of its IPR regime. The legal system must be fast-tracked and the use of compulsory licensing (CL) for essential pharmaceutical drugs must be the exception and not the norm," it suggested. The report has been released by the Europe India Chamber of Commerce (EICC) and European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) in co-operation with the European Business Group. The US industry too has raised concerns over India's IPR laws particularly in the pharmaceuticals sector. However, Indian government has maintained that its IPR laws are in compliance with WTO norms and rules.

**Similar reports in-****Business Standard- [India needs to modify IPR regime to attract FDI: EU report](#)****Deccan Chronicle- [After US and EU India needs to modify its Intellectual Property Rights](#)****Publication: The Financial Express****Edition: National****Date: May 8, 2014****Opinion piece: Uttam Gupta, a policy analyst****Headline: [India's case at WTO may fail to sail](#)**

**Synopsis:** In the recently released Special 301 report on trade and industry practices, the US Trade

Representative (USTR) has stopped short of putting India on its Priority Foreign Country (PFC) list. Under Special 301, USTR tracks the intellectual property (IP) rights record of countries and lists them according to the strength of their IP environment. If, on review, it identifies substantial deterioration in any country's IP regime, it gets downgraded to PFC status which carries with it trade and economic sanctions. India may have escaped being listed as such for now, but the Damocles sword hangs over the country as the USTR intends to conduct what it calls 'out-of-cycle' reviews to engage with India on IPR challenges.

**Publication:** The Hindu

**Edition:** National

**Date:** May 8, 2014

**Headline:** Editorial: [Discussions, the way forward](#)

**Synopsis:** While the differences between India and the U.S. over intellectual property rights (IPR) have threatened to derail economic relations, it should be possible to sort them out through discussions. One encouraging sign is the decision of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) not to designate India a Priority Foreign Country (PFC) on account of alleged "deterioration" in its environment for IPRs, in its Special 301 report released on April 30. That label is reserved for the worst IPR offenders. As a follow-up to such a designation, the U.S. could have imposed trade sanctions such as withdrawing preferential tariff for India's exports. In an election year India would most likely have retaliated through anti-dumping duties or tariff hikes on U.S. imports. The consequent allround deterioration in economic relations between the two countries is something both countries can ill afford. However, while there has been a distinct softening of the U.S. position, India still faces the possibility of a downgrade later this year. The USTR, which has retained India on the less-serious Priority Watch List, says it will conduct a mid-year review. India's response has been measured. The Commerce Secretary has said that India will not be a party to any unilateral investigation by the U.S. but is prepared to discuss the matter on a bilateral basis.

#### FDA

**Publication:** The Indian Express

**Edition:** National

**Date:** May 8, 2014

**Headline:** ['USFDA alerts to have no impact on pharma exports'](#)

**Synopsis:** Import alerts by the US drug regulator is not likely to have any material impact on the existing US exports revenue of Indian pharma manufacturers though the industry will face increased inspections by the regulator, says a report. According to the report by India Ratings, Indian pharmaceutical industry will have to ensure high quality standards and strict compliance and record-keeping regime "urgently" to capitalise on the opportunity.

**Similar reports in-**

**Business Standard-** [Indian pharma to grow at 20% CAGR: India Ratings](#)

**The Financial Chronicle-** [Pharma exports to grow at 20% despite FDA alerts](#)

**Publication:** The Hindu Business Line

**Edition:** National

**Date:** May 8, 2014

**Headline:** ['US did not have problems with the quality of Indian medicines'](#)

**Synopsis:** The US drug regulator did not have problems with the quality of medicines exported by Indian companies, but were not satisfied with the documentation and data maintenance, a Government official has said.

#### Drug regulation

**Publication:** The Hindu Business Line

**Edition: National**

**Date: May 8, 2014**

**Headline: [India may join group with good drug manufacturing norms](#)**

**Synopsis:** To help pharmaceutical exporters meet numerous manufacturing and inspection requirements being put in place by buyer countries, India is considering joining a group of 41 countries that have good manufacturing practice (GMP) standards for drugs.

### Cancer/ Innovation

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: May 8, 2014**

**Headline: [Major pharma-deals: How anti-cancer drugs are reshaping the pharmaceutical industry](#)**

**Synopsis:** New and considerable optimism over cancer drugs will drive dealmaking in pharma over the decade, with companies weak in this segment trying to build up their pipelines.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: May 8, 2014**

**Headline: [India's drug discovery and development: Small research firms aim to change face of cancer therapy](#)**

**Synopsis:** Although riddled with failures, drug discovery is still active in many Indian companies, but it is not often that a drug candidate out of India is licensed in an emerging area.

**Publication: Forbes**

**Edition: National**

**Date: May 8, 2014**

**Headline: [Is This How We'll Cure Cancer?](#)**

**Synopsis:** The report talks about how a radical new treatment by Novartis has cured a girl suffering from acute lymphoblastic leukemia. It states that breakthrough innovation in drugs have delivered stunning results in lung cancer, melanoma and other deadly tumors, sometimes making them disappear entirely—albeit temporarily. Just last year the Food & Drug Administration approved nine targeted cancer drugs. It's big business which is going to open the door for all sorts of cell-based and gene therapy for all kinds of disease because it's going to demonstrate that it's economically viable.

**Website: Pharmabiz**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: May 7, 2014**

**Headline: [Global spending on cancer drugs to touch \\$100 billion, grew at a CAGR of 5.4% in last five years](#)**

**Synopsis:** The pace of annual global spending on oncology medicines which is approaching the \$100 billion threshold has moderated over the past five years, even as a surge in innovative and targeted therapies has brought new therapeutic options to the growing number of patients being treated for cancer and as survival rates for most tumour types continue to increase, according to a study – Innovation in Cancer Care and Implications for Health Systems – of the IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics.