



News Updates: September 11, 2014

OPPI HR Summit

Publication: Business Standard *(sourced from PTI)*

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [Pharma industry needs to identify, retain talent: Experts](#)

Synopsis: The domestic pharmaceutical industry, which has been growing at a steady pace, faces the challenge of identifying the right talent and retaining them for long-term, experts have said. "The pharmaceutical industry in the country has fuelled employment opportunities across all functions, including research and development, sales and marketing, finance, project management and supply chain. "However, identifying the right talent for every role and retaining them over the long-term remains a significant challenge for the industry," said Shailesh Ayyangar, president of Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) at a human resource summit here.

Similar reports in-

The Times of India- [Pharma industry needs to identify, retain talent: Experts](#)

Education Insider- [‘Attracting, Developing & Retaining Talent’](#)

Patents/ IPR/ Compulsory licensing

Publication: Daily News & Analysis

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [US drug patent expiries to benefit Indian pharma industry](#)

Synopsis: Expiry of drug patents in the US is great news for not only consumers but also the domestic pharmaceutical industry, where generics account for about 75 percent of total sales, CARE Ratings said in its report released today. Indian pharmaceutical companies have an opportunity to capitalise on the patent cliff and gain a greater share of the growing generics market. At present, India accounts for nearly 40 percent of generic drugs, over-the-counter products and 10 percent of finished dosages used in the US.

Similar reports in-

The Pioneer- [US drug patent expiries to benefit Indian firms](#) *(link unavailable, scan attached)*

Moneycontrol- [US drug patent expiries to benefit Indian pharma industry](#)

NDTV- [US Drug Patent Expiries to Benefit Indian Pharma Industry: Care Ratings](#)

IBN Live- [US drug patent expiries to benefit Indian pharma industry](#)

Website: IBN Live

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [New payment gateway for e-filing of intellectual property](#)

Synopsis: Commerce and Industry Ministry has launched a new payment gateway for e-filing of intellectual property, a move which will further simplify the procedure to get patents and trademarks. "This facility enables payment using Internet banking, credit cards or debit cards of more than 70 banks as against Internet banking of 2 banks earlier," an official statement said on Wednesday. It said that the comprehensive e-filing facility covering all forms was made available earlier by Intellectual Property

Office (IPO) for patents and trademarks. "Through the launch of new payment gateway, the online filing which has already shown a quick leap from 25 per cent to 75 per cent is expected to increase further," it added.

Clinical trials

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [Clinical Trial Rules counter-productive: ASSOCHAM](#)

Synopsis: Major industry chamber ASSOCHAM has expressed concern at the setback to clinical trials for new pharmaceutical drugs in the country and has called for several changes in the Drugs and Cosmetics Amendment Rules (DCAR) to meet industry concerns about these trials. In its study on the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry (IPI) the chamber pointed out that few clinical trials have been approved in calendar year 2013 after the Supreme Court's interim order on this subject. As against 55 global clinical trials in 2012, only 17 were approved last year. With India having 16 per cent of the world population and 20 per cent of the global disease burden, only 1.5 per cent of the global clinical trials were being conducted in the country.

Health Ministry

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Health ministry makes inclusion of 3 parameters mandatory in clinical trial applications](#)

Synopsis: The Union health ministry has made it mandatory for the clinical research organisations (CROs), clinical trial sponsors, medical institutions and other stakeholders involved in the conduct of clinical trials to provide information on assessment of risk versus benefit to the patients; innovation vis-à-vis existing therapeutic option; and unmet medical need in the country. A directive in this connection has been issued by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).

Publication: The Asian Age

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Polio tableau for health ministry](#)

Synopsis: Less than a year after the Union health ministry's tableau, themed on government's fight against polio, was rejected by the ministry of defence for lacking thematic and creative content, the ministry is all set to propose the same "polio" theme this year too. However, officials are confident of its approval this time with India bagging the "polio-free" tag from the World Health Organisation (WHO). Even health minister Harsh Vardhan has been shouting out loud that the move to eradicate polio started during his tenure as the health minister of Delhi.

Publication: Business World

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [India, Bangladesh Sign MoU On Traditional Medicine](#)

Synopsis: Bangladesh and India have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for enhanced cooperation in the fields of traditional medicine like Ayurveda and Unani, as the World Health Organisation (WHO) decided to lay an extra focus on the issue as an "important part of healthcare" in the region. The two countries inked the deal here late yesterday (9 September) on the sidelines of the WHO's South-East Asia regional conference where the traditional medicine was one of the major issues of discussion of the 11 health ministers, experts and officials. Bangladesh's health officials said

under the deal the two sides agreed to exchange all kinds of traditional medicines alongside the experts and physicians for conducting training.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Soon, Rs 20,000 fine for smoking in public](#)

Synopsis: A fine of 20,000 for smoking in public, banning the sale of loose cigarettes and increasing age limit for tobacco consumption from 18 to 25: these are some of the recommendations of the expert panel appointed by health ministry to review and suggest changes to the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act 2003 (COTPA). Other suggestions include making public smoking a cognizable offence. If accepted, these suggestions could soon be a part of amendments the government is planning to introduce in the winter session of parliament to curb tobacco consumption.

Modi government

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [India's stand has more backing at WTO now: Nirmala Sitharaman](#)

Synopsis: More member-countries are supporting India's strong stand at WTO, said commerce & industry minister Nirmala Sitharaman, adding that there was better understanding of India's position. India had blocked the trade facilitation amendment protocol signing on July 31, standing firm on its demand for a permanent solution to government purchase of foodgrain.

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [India to negotiate FTAs with emerging market nations](#)

Synopsis: India will negotiate free-trade agreements (FTAs) with emerging market nations in Latin America, Africa and some other regions to increase market access for Indian exports, a departure from the earlier policy of signing such accords with developed nations that has, among other reasons, led to a widening of India's trade deficit.

Similar report in-

The Times of India- [India eyes FTAs to offset WTO deadlock](#)

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Opinion piece: T.P. Sreenivasan, a former ambassador, is vice-chairman and executive head of the Kerala State Higher Education Council

Headline: [Countries in arms](#)

Synopsis: After Nepal and Japan, the US is the next big destination for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. If the signals from Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel are any indication, defence cooperation alone will ensure the success of the visit. Preparations are in full swing and the Indian community is gearing up for a reception for Modi at Madison Square Garden. Though scheduling problems have come in the way of him addressing a joint session of the Congress, this has been explained to Modi by the speaker of the house.

Publication: Business Today

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [FM discharged from hospital, to skip G20](#)

Synopsis: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley was released from hospital on Wednesday after a longer-than-expected stay for treatment, and will miss a meeting of finance ministers from the Group of 20 nations in Australia next week. Jaitley was admitted to a private hospital in New Delhi on September 1 for planned surgery to manage a long-standing diabetic condition, and had originally been expected to leave after a few days.

FDA

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [US FDA descends on Sun Pharma's Halol unit](#)

Synopsis: Drug maker Sun Pharma's manufacturing facility in Halol (Gujarat) is undergoing a surprise inspection by the US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA), it is learnt. The move may have been triggered by a number of recent recalls from the plant, sources, familiar with the development, said. When contacted on phone, Sun Pharma spokesperson declined to comment. In May, Sun Pharma's another manufacturing facility in Karkhadi, also in Gujarat, had received a warning letter from the US FDA after investigators identified violations of current good manufacturing practice and regulations for finished pharmaceuticals.

Similar report in-

Moneycontrol- [FDA conducting surprise audit at Sun's Halol unit: Sources](#)

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [Drugs that caused adverse reactions clear quality tests](#)

Synopsis: Drugs that caused adverse reactions among 28 women at Kurla's Bhabha Hospital and 18 children in a Bhiwandi hospital have cleared all crucial quality tests. The onus for the cluster side-effects, and even death in one of the cases, now lies with either the storage conditions at the hospitals or administration of antibiotics.

FDI Insurance

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: Online

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [View from the right: Batting for FDI](#)

Synopsis: Organisations affiliated to the RSS may be opposed to increasing FDI in various sectors, but the Organiser has praised the government's move to increase FDI in railways, insurance and defence. "FDI ensures a huge amount of domestic capital, production level and employment opportunities in developing countries, which is a major step towards the economic growth of the country," an article in the weekly says. It states that the decision to raise the FDI cap in defence will "hugely help in reducing the import bill for defence equipment, and will help in boosting manufacturing and creating jobs".

General Industry

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Capital should have strict laws governing clinical diagnostic centres](#)

Synopsis: The police are investigating a dozen clinical diagnostic centres in the Capital for allegedly paying commissions to doctors for referring patients to them. The unethical practice raises questions about the quality and cost of the tests the labs carry out. Such malpractices should be banned and penalised by law. Labs run by unqualified personnel and quacks treating the poor are ubiquitous. A remedy is on offer in the Centre's comprehensive model law, enacted in 2010, the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act. It prescribes minimum standards of facilities and services and makes their registration mandatory. However, health is a state subject and many states including Delhi are dragging their feet on the model law.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [South-East Asia Region health ministers ink pact to eliminate kala-azar](#)

Synopsis: South-East Asia Region health ministers from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Thailand have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate in the elimination of Visceral Leishmaniasis (kala-azar) from their countries. Over 147 million people in the South-East Asia Region are at risk of contracting this life-threatening disease, mainly in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, with recent, sporadic cases being reported from Bhutan and Thailand as well. As over 50 per cent of the cases in the three main affected countries occur in areas close to international borders, besides strong national efforts, countries also need close collaboration to control and eliminate this disease.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledges \\$50 million to fight Ebola epidemic](#)

Synopsis: The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledged \$50 million on Wednesday to support emergency efforts to contain West Africa's Ebola epidemic, which has already killed almost 2,300 people in the worst outbreak of the virus in history. The US-based philanthropic foundation said it would release funds immediately to U.N. agencies and international organisations to help them buy supplies and scale up the emergency response in affected countries.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [Gates Foundation commits \\$50 million for efforts to counter Ebola outbreak](#)

Forbes- [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Pledges \\$50 million To Fight Ebola In West Africa](#)

Reuters- [Gates Foundation pledges \\$50 million to fight Ebola epidemic](#)

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Doc writes to CM: Include stem cell therapy under healthcare scheme](#)

Synopsis: A letter for inclusion of stem cell therapy in the government's free health scheme — Rajiv Gandhi Jeevandayee Arogya Yojana (RGJAY) — was recently sent to Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan's office for consideration. The scheme, which provides free treatment to poor patients, has a total of 30 specialised treatments in 373 empaneled hospitals in the state. While it began in 2012 in eight districts, it was expanded to all the 36 districts in 2013. Recently, medical practitioners have been demanding the inclusion of advanced treatments like cochlear implant in the scheme. Now, a neurosurgeon from city's

stem cell centre has requested the inclusion of stem cell therapy in the list.

Website: Moneycontrol

Edition: Online

Date: September 10, 2014

Headline: [Traders stay put; prefer pharma, cement: Satish Ramanathan](#)

Synopsis: In an interview to CNBC-TV18, Satish Ramanathan bets heavily on pharma sector saying it will do extremely well on the back of rising domestic consumption, new product introductions and consolidation in the industry. He expects Cipla to continue outperformance after its recent collaboration with S&D Pharma in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, which will enable Cipla to focus on its core therapy areas.

Publication: Business Insider India

Edition: Online

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [5 Diseases That Need Vaccines Even More Than Ebola](#)

Synopsis: From Ebola's discovery in 1976 until 2012, the much-feared virus was confirmed as the cause of only about 1,590 deaths. The current record-setting outbreak in West Africa has already killed 2,228 people and will require a wide range of strategies to contain it, possibly including a new vaccine and experimental drugs. But while the Ebola numbers seem staggering, infectious diseases like malaria and influenza kill hundreds of thousands of people every single year - without grabbing many headlines. Tuberculosis and HIV are together responsible for nearly three million lost lives each year.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: September 11, 2014

Headline: [Don't wait to buy health cover](#)

Synopsis: Most salaried employees who are covered by their employers' group health insurance schemes put off buying personal health covers till they are close to retirement. Some may buy it only after retirement. But it makes sense to buy an individual policy, or at least a top-up even while you continue to enjoy your employer-provided schemes. This is because of the waiting periods which do not allow you to claim immediately after buying the policy. In group policies, there is typically no waiting period. Most policies have a 30-90 days waiting period, during which you will not be able to claim any hospitalisation expense, except in case of accidents. This is to ensure that the buyer does not purchase the policy immediately after he or she is diagnosed with an illness and then try to claim the money for the treatment.