

OPPI**Publication: Mint****Edition: National****Date: September 19, 2014****Headline: [India sends substandard generic drugs to Africa, say researchers](#) (report appeared in print today, scan attached as well)**

Synopsis: Generic drugs that some Indian companies send to African countries are lower quality than the same medicines the companies sell at home and outside Africa, according to tests of 1,470 samples, researchers said. Two widely used antibiotics and two TB treatments, purportedly made in India, are more likely not to have enough of their key active ingredient when sold in Africa, compared with the same pills sold in countries such as Russia and China, according to a paper from the National Bureau of Economic Research. The findings suggest Indian drug makers may be sending low-quality drugs to poorer countries, the authors wrote.

Similar report in-**First Post- [Indian pharma under attack: Researchers say cos sending poor quality drugs to Africa](#)****NPPA/DPCO/ Drug Pricing****Publication: The Economic Times****Edition: National****Date: September 19, 2014****Headline: [Price cuts announced by NPPA to hit Ranbaxy, Cipla the most](#)**

Synopsis: Ranbaxy and Cipla are among the companies which would face the maximum brunt of the new price cuts announced by National Pharma Pricing Authority (NPPA) early this week. The drug pricing regulator capped prices of 43 formulations, including antibiotics Ciprofloxacin, and diabetes drug Metformin extended release tablets, among others.

Similar reports in-**Mint- [Delhi HC asks pharma firms to resolve drug pricing issues with NPPA](#)****Business Standard- [Pharma majors to be hit as drug regulator caps prices](#)****The Hindu Business Line- [43 more drugs brought under price control](#)****The Financial Express- [NPPA revises prices of 43 formulation drugs](#)****Daily News & Analysis- [Key anti-infectives among 43 new drugs under price control](#)****The Hindu- [Court asks pharma cos, Centre to resolve drug pricing issue](#)****The Financial Chronicle- HC asks pharma firms, Centre to resolve drug pricing issue (link unavailable, scan attached)****NDTV- [Delhi High Court Asks Pharma Companies, Centre to Resolve the Drug Pricing](#)****Moneycontrol- [NPPA reviews drugs under price control list; rejigs some](#)****Patents/ IPR/ Compulsory licensing****Publication: The Hindustan Times****Edition: National****Date: September 19, 2014****Opinion piece: Rod Hunter, senior vice-president, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America****Headline: [The PM must walk the talk on FDI](#)**

Synopsis: If Modi is serious about attracting more investment to the knowledge-intensive industries (such as the biopharmaceutical sector), his government will need to tackle three obstacles. The first obstacle is intellectual property (IP) rights. India has been hostile to IP protection, especially for biopharmaceuticals. In recent years, India has invalidated or otherwise attacked patents on a significant portion of innovative drugs available in India in order to make way for local champions. These attacks have been implemented through 'compulsory licences' and state approvals of copies of patented drugs. India should clarify that compulsory licences will be confined to genuine public health emergencies (as prescribed by international agreements), and reform drug approval procedures. The second obstacle is the regulatory system. There is an unpredictable regulatory environment for clinical trials and drug approvals. India should streamline those measures, simplify administrative procedures for review of drug approval applications, and harmonise drug review standards with international standards. The third area is the broader healthcare system. The government's spending on healthcare is among the lowest in the world — \$55 per capita, which is less than its BRICS peers. Within this limited budget, India devotes less than 1% of its GDP to medicines and collects more in tariffs and taxes on medicines than it spends on medicines. India can increase public spending on healthcare and create a framework for expansion of private health insurance.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [A new order](#) (editorial)

Synopsis: Gilead Sciences, the California-headquartered biotechnology company, has authorised seven India-based drug makers - Cipla, Ranbaxy, Mylan, Strides Arcolab, Hetero, Cadila Healthcare and Sequent Scientific - to manufacture and sell the generic versions of its hepatitis C medicine, Sovaldi, in 91 developing countries. Earlier in the week, Lupin, the fourth largest Indian drug maker, announced that it will develop and supply products for the bio-pharmaceutical division of Merck. This came just days after the company had bagged the rights to sell certain products of Salix Pharmaceuticals of the United States, which specialises in gastroenterology, in Canada. This is an interesting shift. For many years now, Indian generic drug makers and patent-holding innovator companies were at loggerheads. While the latter argued that innovation needed to be rewarded and, therefore, sought to sell their medicine at a premium, generic drug makers accused them of evergreening patents and blocking inexpensive alternatives through unfair means. In this they found support from health activists, as well as an increasing number of governments. Particularly noteworthy were Cipla's innumerable fights with patent-holding companies, including Gilead, over medicine used for the treatment of HIV/AIDS. What really caught the attention of observers was that one of the seven companies identified by Gilead for generic Sovaldi was Cipla. Has confrontation given way to cooperation? Or have Western companies figured out how to buy off companies producing generic drugs?

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Asian-Indian groups oppose Gilead Hepatitis C drug](#)

Synopsis: Asian and Indian groups have filed a fresh bout of opposition at the Kolkata patent office against the sofosbuvir's patent application of Gilead's Hepatitis C drug sofosbuvir. The pre-grant opposition has been filed by Bangkok-based Asia-Pacific Network of People living with HIV/AIDS, the Sankalp Rehabilitation Trust and the Hepatitis Coalition of Nagaland. The groups are being represented by the Lawyers Collective. The move seeks to keep the oral Hepatitis C drug affordable, by ensuring that generic drug companies are allowed to make the drug. "We believe this patent application should be rejected," Anand Grover, Director, Lawyers Collective, and senior counsel at the Supreme Court, said in a statement.

Website: Moneycontrol

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Why cheaper drug only for 91 nations? Protesters to Gilead](#)

Synopsis: US drugmaker Gilead Sciences may believe its voluntary license deal with seven Indian drugmakers is a path-breaking attempt to make Hepatitis-C treatment affordable, but not everyone sees it that way. No good deed goes unpunished and US drug-maker Gilead Sciences is learning this the hard way. What began as a soft murmur against Gilead's voluntary licensing deal with 7 Indian generic drug-makers for its Hec-C treatment have become a full-blown protest.

Unethical medical practices

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Self-regulatory code for doctors, hospitals soon](#)

Synopsis: A new self regulatory code of conduct for doctors and hospitals, in the process of being formulated, could hold investors and members on the boards of medical establishments responsible for unethical practices in the establishment such as giving cuts to doctors and diagnostic facilities or taking bribes from pharmaceutical companies. The Indian Medical Association (IMA) and the Association of Hospital Providers of India (AHPI) have constituted a joint committee to formulate the code.

Health Ministry

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Indian launches plan to drastically reduce newborn death](#)

Synopsis: India aims to drastically reduce its newborn deaths--from present 29 per thousand live births to below 10 by 2030--with a new plan unveiled by Health Minister Harsh Vardhan today that spells out six strategies covering preconception to care beyond newborn's survival. India Newborn Action Plan, Vardhan said, will put in practice six evidence-based strategies while expressing confidence that the country will achieve the target long before 2030.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [Govt launches plan to reduce newborn mortality rate by 2030](#)

Business Standard- [Will achieve infant mortality reduction goals soon: Minister](#)

The Hindu- [Plan to reduce child deaths launched](#)

Daily News & Analysis- [With 13.3 lakh under-5 children dying annually, India launches action plan to reduce child mortality](#)

The Telegraph- [Save-baby plan](#)

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [NHRC notice to Health Ministry over shortage of HIV drugs](#)

Synopsis: Taking cognisance of media reports that life saving medicines for HIV patients, are out of stock in metros like Delhi and Mumbai, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and asked for a report within two weeks. Describing the shortage of drugs as "a serious issue of violation of human rights of HIV patients," the Commission directed the Ministry to submit a report on the short term and long term measures proposed for preventing shortages of such essential medicines.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Health ministry to revise Schedule M-III for medical devices to make it harmonious with international standards](#)

Synopsis: The Union health ministry is contemplating to revise the Schedule M-III for medical devices under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 replacing the present limited Schedule M-III to address the problems of medical device industry and to make the requirements for medical devices harmonious to the international standards. The medical devices industry in the country has been airing the difficulties faced by the industry in respect of implementation of the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules made thereunder regarding the implementation of Good Manufacturing Practices for medical devices. The industry has been demanding that the requirement of GMP compliance for medical devices should be as per IS: 15579: (ISO 13485) standards.

Publication: Deccan Chronicle

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [National accreditation for Regional Cancer Centre in Thiruvananthapuram](#)

Synopsis: Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan will launch an ambitious Rs 120 core development plan for Regional Cancer Centre (RCC) here besides declaring it as State Cancer Institute. The Union Minister will hand over National Accreditation Board for Hospitals (NABH) accreditation certificate to RCC which is the first cancer institute in government sector to receive this recognition. Dr Harsh Vardhan will inaugurate two modern radiotherapy machines at the Centre.

Modi government

Publication: The Hindustan Times

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [India, China ink 12 pacts; \\$20 billion investment in next 5 years](#)

Synopsis: China has pledged on Thursday to invest \$20 billion in India in the next five years besides allowing greater market access to Indian companies in sectors like pharmaceutical and farm-products. India and China also signed an audio-visual co-production pact, part of diplomatic deals sealed during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to India.

Similar reports in-

The Economic Times- [China President Xi's India visit: Five-Year Trade and Economic Development Plan signed](#)

The Times of India- [China to invest \\$20 billion in next 5 years](#)

The Hindu Business Line- [China to open doors wider for Indian goods](#)

Publication: The Hindustan Times

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Opinion piece: Dileep Mavalankar, director, Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar

Headline: [Xi visit: MoUs done, now let's discuss health, education](#)

Synopsis: It is a welcome change to see Chinese President Xi Jinping meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Ahmedabad, as opposed to other heads of states who have avoided Gujarat. China is an economic, military and scientific powerhouse and to become one India needs to learn a lot from China. First, we need to invest in basic quality education. China might not have produced many Nobel Prize winners, but it has invested heavily in primary, secondary and college education. In India, our primary education is struggling in spite of World Bank loans, secondary education and colleges are weak and

research is unheard of in many of our universities.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Union Government provides massive relief in flood affected J&K Rescue operations regularly coordinated by NCMC](#)

Synopsis: The Central Government is providing massive relief and coordinating timely rescue operations in the flood affected State of J&K. The National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) chaired by the Cabinet Secretary Shri Ajit Seth met every day for the last two weeks to take detailed and meticulous stock of the day-to-day situation in the flood affected State. Reviewing the situation with the State Government Authorities every day, the Cabinet Secretary directed the concerned Central Ministries and Departments to provide immediate and necessary assistance to flood affected people and the areas.

Publication: Mint

Edition: Online

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Narendra Modi to launch 'Make in India' campaign on 25 September](#)

Synopsis: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch a 'Make in India' campaign in New Delhi next week at a function that will be attended by about a thousand global and domestic business leaders. "On 25 September, the Prime Minister will launch the Make in India programme," power minister Piyush Goyal said. According to officials, several top global companies from countries including the US, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Poland, Australia, China, Italy, Germany and France are likely to attend the function.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Germany respects India's concern on food security](#)

Synopsis: Germany has expressed optimism that a solution could be found with regard to India's concerns over the food security issues at the WTO. German Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel gave this indication at a meeting with Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad who is in Germany, where he is meeting government and industry officials to apprise them of the changed investment environment in India.

Similar report in-

Mint- [WTO: Germany optimistic on solution over India's concerns](#)

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Praise of Narendra Modi's government based on facts: President Pranab Mukherjee](#)

Synopsis: President Pranab Mukherjee Wednesday said his praise of the Narendra Modi government was based on facts. "It's all facts. Everyone knows the Indian economy has been doing badly since 2008-09. The steps taken by the new government will lead to the possibility of greater FDI," he told journalists in a media interaction while returning from Vietnam. "There are certain positive signs (for the Indian economy)," he said. Prime Minister Modi Tuesday got a welcome boost from Mukherjee, who unexpectedly largely abandoned his prepared speech to a gathering of the Indian community in Vietnam and instead extolled the NDA government's steps to improve the economy and burnish India's global image.

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Gates Foundation to help fight kala azar](#)

Synopsis: Having contributed to the eradication of polio in India, the Gates Foundation is now planning to work with the new Indian government to wipe out kala azar. The foundation's co-chairs, Melinda Gates and her husband, former Microsoft co-founder and CEO Bill Gates, are in India to meet the new government, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Cabinet colleagues, Ms. Gates said in an exclusive interaction with The Hindu. "With polio, there were a lot of people who were worried that we were bringing in money or that we were diverting government funds and all that was going to happen was another scheme — that we were going to get it eradicated and then melt away. But there was a very purposeful plan put in place, where those resources were trying to bring up the quality of primary healthcare centres," Ms. Gates said. Those successes will propel the government's push to eradicate kala azar by 2015, she added.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Of what use is a mandate if you can't do unpopular things: Microsoft's Bill Gates to BJP](#)

Synopsis: Billionaire Bill Gates on Thursday called on the BJP government to take unpopular steps to accelerate growth, while pushing for an increase in the country's healthcare spend. "For the overall economy to grow, India needs to do unpopular things — do things that are good for the country. What good is a mandate if you can't do unpopular things," said the founder of Microsoft and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who is in India this week.

Publication: The Hindustan Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Bill Gates shares Modi vision of affordable toilets](#)

Synopsis: Having stepped down as chairman and then turning to a "technology adviser" for Microsoft's new CEO Satya Nadella, he now spends his time trying to save people from preventable death. It's not easy, but the impatient optimist and co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has a plan. Funding the fight against polio was a small part of it. Gates speaks to health editor Sanchita Sharma about the things that excite him, things that annoy him, and the optimism that keeps him going.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Bill Gates meets Jaitley in Delhi](#)

Synopsis: Bill Gates, Chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, met Finance Minister Arun Jaitley here on Thursday. Earlier in the day, Bill Gates attended the inauguration ceremony of the Indian Newborn Action Plan (INAP) by Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan. Speaking on the occasion, Bill Gates wholesomely praised Dr. Vardhan for his pioneering work in polio eradication.

Similar report in-

Daily News & Analysis- [Bill Gates meets Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari; to meet Narendra Modi today](#)

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Maha FDA files FIR against 4 persons for illegal stock, sales of prescription drugs](#)

Synopsis: To ensure compliance to the conditions of licence and Drug Price Control Order (DPCO-2013), Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has filed FIRs against four people at Dongri Police Station in South Mumbai for illegally selling and stocking medicines. According to an FDA official, these persons have been arrested and action will be initiated against them for violating the conditions of licence under Section 18 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. The arrested persons were selling prescription drugs at exorbitant prices in contravention to DPCO- 2013, Section 7 of Essential Commodities Act (EC Act) and Drugs and Cosmetics Act. This is amongst the first few such cases detected by the state regulator since it intensified its drive two months ago against people stocking and selling drugs illegally.

General Industry

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [REALITY CHECK HEALTH - Where State Drives Patients To Private Wards](#)

Synopsis: An expensive private sector has stepped in where govts failed -delivering health facilities that are often suspect. The trend grows while state facilities struggle to cope Cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes and traffic accidents are among leading causes of death and suffering in India. Lakhs of mothers and babies also continue to die, keeping maternal and infant mortality rates, two basic health indicators, unacceptably high. The situation where health problems of the developed and developing world's co-exist is made worse by a public health sector hobbled by perennial shortages of both infrastructure and personnel. This in turn forces most people to seek expensive and unregulated private healthcare, expensive and in many cases of questionable quality .

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Columnist: Devangshu Datta

Headline: [Lessons from the Ebola crisis](#)

Synopsis: Some lessons have been learnt from the Ebola crisis. WHO has reviewed its drug-use ethics. Policy-makers, starting with the FDA, have reviewed and accelerated drug-trial processes. The sense in the research and public health establishment is that a cure or cures will be found, however daunting the logistics of rolling that out at scale may be.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 18, 2014

Headline: [Cipla Ltd grants Salix Pharmaceuticals Ltd rights for Rifaximin](#)

Synopsis: Indian drugmaker Cipla Ltd has agreed to grant US-based Salix Pharmaceuticals Ltd rights relating to the "Rifaximin complexes" patent family controlled by Cipla, the two companies said on Thursday. The agreement excludes countries in Asia, other than Japan, and Africa.

Similar reports in-

Mint- [Cipla grants Salix rights for Rifaximin](#)

Business Standard- [Cipla, Salix Pharma sign patent out-licensing deal](#)

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [India Value Fund buys 10% in Biocon subsidiary Syngene](#)

Synopsis: India Value Fund Advisors (IVFA), an India-focused private equity fund, has picked up a 10 per cent stake in Syngene, the research services subsidiary of publicly-held Biocon Ltd, through its fund Silver Leaf Oak (Mauritius) Ltd for Rs 380 crore. The deal gives Syngene a valuation of Rs 3,800 crore. Notably, IVFA's move comes close on the heels of Biocon giving an exit to its earlier private equity investor in Syngene, GE Capital, at a valuation of Rs 2,800 crore. GE Capital had held 7.69 per cent in Syngene for which it received Rs 215 crore at the time of exit.

Publication: Deccan Chronicle

Edition: Hyderabad

Date: September 19, 2014

Headline: [Experts ask India to lead R&D in rare disease drugs](#)

Synopsis: Drug industry experts have called upon the Indian government to frame a policy on rare diseases to provide cure for 10 crore people suffering from them. Mr Ramaiah Muthyala, associate professor at University of Minnesota said, "The economic burden for curing rare disease is unbearable and since there is no market for drugs for rare disease in India, it just aggravates the situation".