



News Updates: September 23, 2014

OPPI

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [US takes a dig at India's IPR regime](#)

Synopsis: US has rapped India's weak intellectual property regime on the eve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country, saying US companies "seek to invest" in India, but "need transparent governance, a fair regulatory environment, and strong legal mechanisms" to protect their investments. "The PM's visit to US is a crucial one — more so to reassure all global companies who invest in R&D that their intellectual property will be protected in India if they are to put increasing investments into our country. The global pharmaceutical industry will want specific reassurances, given the major issues they have faced with respect to patent infringements, lack of data protection, threat of increasing compulsory licences, and the restrictive FDI policy", **Ranjit Shahani**, vice-chairman and MD, Novartis India told TOI. "We need an IP regime that can justify the high R&D spend required for the development of innovative medicines.", **Shailesh Ayyangar**, **president OPPI**, industry body representing MNC interests in the country, said.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Headline: [Pharmexcil's 10th AGM announces setting up of LSSDC](#)

Synopsis: The 10th annual general meeting (AGM) of Pharmexcil in Hyderabad announced setting up of a new forum called Life Sciences Sector Skilled Development council (LSSDC). The council headed by Satish Reddy of Dr. Reddy's Labs as Chairman and Ranjit Madan as chief executive officer, is aimed at helping the industry to overcome the shortage of skilled workforce, particularly in the pharma and life sciences sector. The governing body of the council will have representatives from various groups such as Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA), **Organisation of pharmaceutical producers of India (OPPI)**, Bulk drug manufacturers Association (BDMA), Indian Drug Manufacturers Association (IDMA), Confederation of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry (CIPI), Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises and Association of Clinical Research Organisation (ACRO), Pharmexcil and National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research (DISPAR) from the Academia.

NPPA/ Drug Pricing/ Drug regulation

Website: Moneycontrol

Edition: Online

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [NPPA withdraws price control guidelines of 108 formulations](#)

Synopsis: The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has withdrawn its disputed order for price control of 108 non-scheduled formulations. The order was to cap prices of a list of 108 cardiovascular and diabetes drugs, not part of NLEM (National List of Essential Medicines), and had created uproar from the industry leading to lawsuits contesting the order. Now with the withdrawal notification, the July 2014 order ceases to be valid. While it will be a disappointment for patients' waiting to see their pharmacy bills benefit from lower prices in these two mass market drug categories, the order withdrawal will come as a relief for the domestic drug industry. NPPA's order

had broadened the scope of price control even to drugs outside of NLEM, and the industry feared that the entire market was now susceptible to price control.

Similar report in-

First Post- [Drug pricing regulator withdraws price cap on 108 cardiac, diabetes drugs](#)

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Govt mulls price control on medical devices](#)

Synopsis: Lack of transparency in the health care sector could invite stricter norms and regulation. The government might cap the maximum retail price of medical devices, mainly the ones meant for hospital usage such as stents, catheters and implants, sources said. The health ministry and Department of Pharmaceuticals are working on a proposal to bring price regulation of medical devices under the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, which monitors the prices of medicines. The latter directly caps the prices of 348 medicines deemed essential; it also keeps a tab on other prescription-based drugs.

Website: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [NPPA develops IPDMS to create mechanism of obtaining market-based data related to drugs](#)

Synopsis: With the objective of creating an appropriate mechanism of obtaining market-based data related to drugs, the NPPA in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) has developed the Ingredient Pharmaceutical Database Management System (IPDMS), which is aimed at facilitating on-line submission of mandatory returns/reports under the DPCO, 2013 by manufacturers as defined under 2(1) (n) of the DPCO, 2013. The NPPA has now asked all the pharma companies in the country to register themselves under IPDMS for online filing of returns in Form II, III and V under DPCO 2013.

Patents/ IPR/ Compulsory licensing

Website: Moneycontrol

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Headline: [New IPR policy: Nirmala holds 1st meeting with stakeholders](#)

Synopsis: Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today discussed with stakeholders various issues related with intellectual property rights to outline the contours of the new IPR policy. "Had a brainstorming session with IPR stakeholders, experts and practitioners for a holistic IPR Policy," Sitharaman said in her tweet. On September 8, the Minister had announced that the government will come out with a policy on intellectual property rights (IPRs) to make it more robust. An official said that today was the first meeting in which all the stakeholders, including government officials from different departments, academicians, IPR practitioners and professors participated.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Opinion piece: Amit Kapoor, Chair, Institute for Competitiveness & Editor of Thinkers co-authored with Sankalp Sharma, Senior Researcher, Institute for Competitiveness, India

Headline: [Intellectual Property Rights and India's competitiveness](#)

Synopsis: Intellectual Property Rights are important from the standpoint of maintaining present as

well as ensuring future competitiveness. They also have an impact on the FDI inflows in a developing country, which helps not just in terms of capital inflows, but also in terms of technology and expertise. Strengthening IPR thus becomes imperative from the viewpoint of economic development. According to the most recent IP Index by GIPC (Global Intellectual Property Center) of the US Chamber of Commerce, India's rank is the last among 25 countries for which the Center prepares the Index. It is alarming, and steps need to be taken to ensure we do better on various aspects covered under the specific index. IP forms the bedrock of a knowledge-based economy. The term Intellectual Property (IP) reflects that its subject matter is a product of the mind or the intellect. IP could be in the form of patents, trademarks, geographical indications (GIs), industrial designs, layout-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits; plant variety protection and copyright.

Health Ministry

Publication: The New Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Memorandum Submitted to Harsh Vardhan](#)

Synopsis: Seeking support to set up a full-fledged cancer centre with international standards here, the volunteers of Justice V R Krishna Iyer campaign for cancer centre met Union Health Minister Dr Harshvardhan at Nedumbassery on Monday. On behalf of Justice V R Krishna Iyer, a memorandum was submitted by Dr Sanil Kumar, one of the volunteers of the campaign along with BJP state secretary A N Radhakrishnan. Dr Sanil Kumar said that the Health Minister assured that he would take up the issue with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Modi government

Publication: Daily News & Analysis

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [US drug lobby awaits Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to fix IPR, clinical research issues](#)

Synopsis: Ahead of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US this week, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), an organisation that represents America's leading bio-pharmaceutical research companies, said the lax rules over patent protection in India is a serious concern and an impediment for investment in India's healthcare market. It, however, looks forward to discuss issues on clinical research and intellectual property rights with the Indian government.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [PM Modi's US visit: Defense partnership and economic relations to remain top agenda](#)

Synopsis: Defence and security partnership, energy including renewable energy relations and economic and investment ties and technology transfer will dominate Narendra Modi's maiden visit to the USA as Prime Minister that is widely expected to correct sentiments in the India-US relations that have been soured since 2011. On his longest trip abroad since taking over as the PM, Modi leaves for USA on September 25-26 for nearly seven days during which he will give his maiden speech at UN General Assembly on September 27 in New York and then proceed to Washington for the summit meeting with President Barack Obama on September 30.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [PM Modi's US visit: Sushma Swaraj set to be part Prime Minister's delegation](#)

Synopsis: External affairs minister Sushma Swaraj will accompany Prime Minister Narendra Modi from New York to Washington, DC for the summit meeting with US President Barack Obama on September 30, officials said, setting to rest speculation over her participation after she did not get to travel with the prime minister on his trips to Brazil and Japan. Swaraj will join the PM's delegation in New York on September 26 and then proceed to Washington, DC with it. The minister, who is due to travel to New York on September 23, is scheduled to return to the city for United Nations related meetings including commemoration of non-violence Day by UN on October 2 before flying back to India a day after the PM, officials said.

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Deliverables from Modi's visit](#)

Synopsis: There will be no "transformational initiative" proposed during the bilateral visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama, but announcements are expected on infrastructure, energy, education, and Mr. Modi's "smart cities" initiatives. Sources tell The Hindu that several MoUs are expected to be signed during the visit, as well as agreements on renewable energy technology, skills development, and an educational MoU on online interactive courses with premier American Universities like MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) called 'EDX.'

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Corporates sign up for 'Make in India' campaign](#)

Synopsis: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reached out to corporate honchos to promote his 'Make in India' campaign. Mukesh Ambani, Cyrus Mistry and Maruti Suzuki's Kenichi Ayukawa are among the 500 who have so far confirmed their attendance at the launch of the campaign on September 25. The 'Make in India' campaign is a drive to promote the country as an investor-friendly destination and increase manufacturing growth to 10 per cent annually. Other corporate heads who have confirmed their presence include: CK Birla (CK Birla Group), Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (Biocon), Nikhil Nanda (Escorts), KM Mammen (MRF), CS Verma (SAIL), Shashi Ruia (Essar), Harshpati Singhania (JK Paper), Ajay Shriram (DCM Shriram) and Sanjay Lalbhai (from Arvind and Lalbhai Group). "We expect many more to do so in the next two days," a Government official told BusinessLine.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Headline: [Ficci to send delegation to US ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit](#)

Synopsis: Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US, industry body Ficci has mounted a multi-sectoral innovation and technology-led business delegation to showcase Indian innovations to investors, venture capitalists and angel investors in the Silicon Valley. The delegation, which comprises of about 60 companies from sectors as diverse as information technology, healthcare & pharmaceuticals, clean energy, education and electronics, is leaving tonight and will depart from the US on September 26.

Similar report in-

The Hindustan Times- [Modi effect: India back on US biz radar, says FICCI chief Birla](#)

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Headline: [Swachh Bharat: States asked to gear up for cleanliness campaign from September 25](#)

Synopsis: The Centre has asked all states to gear up for an intensive national cleanliness campaign from September 25 to achieve the goal of 'Swachh Bharat' or Clean India by 2019, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Cabinet Secretary Ajit Seth has sent a letter to state chief secretaries detailing the steps to be taken for the successful campaign on cleanliness.

Publication: The Wall Street Journal

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Opinion piece: Daniel Twining, senior fellow for Asia at the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

Headline: [The U.S. Bets on Modi](#)

Synopsis: India's Narendra Modi was once subject to a U.S. visa ban for failing to halt communal violence while chief minister of Gujarat. He meets President Obama at the White House on Sept. 29 as an honored guest. Prime minister of the world's second-most populous country, with the biggest electoral mandate of any Indian leader in decades, he can afford to be magnanimous about former slights. The two leaders should embrace an agenda that strengthens their role as democratic and economic counterweights to growing global disorder. Obama might envy what Mr. Modi has already accomplished: India's stock market is up 30%, growth has surged to nearly 6%, and the defeated Congress Party is so feeble it cannot even lead India's fractured opposition. Mr. Modi makes the political weather in his country, whereas Obama seems a bystander in his own. But their countries' common interests compel cooperation.

Drug quality

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Government to take measures to plug the gaps on quality of drugs, to includes new checks](#)

Synopsis: The government is planning the largest nationwide survey ever conducted to estimate the extent of substandard and spurious drugs in the country alongside a series of measures to plug the gaps on quality of drugs. This could include mandating drugmakers to print prescribed storage conditions on label, urging state drug regulators on time-bound follow-ups of specific quality-related complaints from other countries and a pilot project on working out the modalities of bar-coding on drug packs to ensure authenticity.

FDA

Publication: The Hindu Business Line

Edition: National

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Health Canada asks Ipca to stop ingredients shipment](#)

Synopsis: Just months after Ipca voluntarily stopped the export of pharmaceutical ingredients to the United States, the drugmaker has been asked by Health Canada to stop similar shipments to Canada as well. Health Canada has taken the precautionary step of asking Ipca Laboratories in India to voluntarily stop shipment of products to Canada based on a review of a recent good manufacturing practices (GMP) inspection report by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) where they identified falsification and manipulation of data issues at the company, the regulator said.

Innovation in healthcare

Publication: Mint
Edition: National
Date: September 23, 2014
Headline: [Indian doctors explore disruptive technologies](#)

Synopsis: Healthcare bills continue to account for one the highest out-of-pocket expenses for India's poor. And yet, quality healthcare remains a distant dream. According to the Healthcare and Equity in India, 2011, report by The Lancet, expenditure on drugs represents 70-80% of out-of-pocket expenditure for outpatients in India. This has been increasing at a rate which is at least twice as fast as that of the general price increase. Around 39 million Indians fall below poverty line every year due to healthcare expenses. This makes access to healthcare one of the most critical challenges facing the country today. Technology is one of the solutions to this challenge, three Indian doctors presenting their innovations at the recently-held BMJ Awards will have you believe. The doctors who were final nominees in the "Innovation in Healthcare" category addressed three critical areas—medical emergency services, neglected tropical disease kala-azar and blindness caused by cataract.

Publication: The Hindu Business Line
Edition: National
Date: September 23, 2014
Opinion piece: Sanjay Purohit, CEO, EdgeVerve Systems
Headline: [A smarter way to find new drugs](#)

Synopsis: The pharma sector needs to embrace emerging technologies like Big Data analytics and cloud computing. What is the secret sauce of accelerating innovation when it comes to critical areas such as drug discovery, personalised medicines or simulated healthcare? Embracing continual innovation was always an imperative for the life sciences companies to stay relevant, and stay alive. This is not just confined to the new drug discovery team within the company, it spans the entire value chain of the innovation ecosystem. The question is whether enough is being done to drive R&D innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. And we cannot find the answers in silos. A cross-pollination of ideas across the ecosystem is vital as pharmaceutical companies are caught in the conundrum of navigating an increasingly complex global environment driven by competing market and consumer pressures, regulatory changes and a constant need for life-saving innovations.

General Industry

Publication: The Economic Times
Edition: Online
Date: September 22, 2014
Headline: [After China, GlaxoSmithKline faces pressure for change](#)

Synopsis: GlaxoSmithKline may have closed one chapter in a saga of corruption allegations by accepting a \$489 million fine in China, but the drugmaker has its work cut out to win back sceptical investors. That means continued pressure on Chief Executive Andrew Witty, seen not so long ago as one of the sector's star managers, who is under fire for allowing the erosion of GSK's all-important U.S. business just as much as for the woes in China.

Publication: The Economic Times
Edition: Online
Date: September 22, 2014
Headline: [Maneka Gandhi for a national mission to tackle malnutrition](#)

Synopsis: Union Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi today laid stress on putting in place a comprehensive time bound action plan in the form of 'National Nutrition Mission' to tackle malnutrition. "A comprehensive time bound action plan in the form of National Nutrition Mission needs to be put in place urgently to accelerate progress towards nutrition security in India," Gandhi said.

Publication: The Times of India

Edition: Patna

Date: September 22, 2014

Headline: [Poor cold chain at pvt health facilities: Report](#)

Synopsis: Most parents prefer private healthcare facilities for their infants' routine immunization (RI). But do a reality check before doing so next time. For, a recent Unicef survey reveals not even one of the 104-odd private facilities the Unicef experts visited in Patna has proper cold chain for storing those vaccines. The survey was conducted from February to April this year and a copy of the survey report has also been submitted to State Health Society of Bihar. According to the survey report, not a single facility had ice-lined refrigerator (ILR) for storing vaccines. Instead, 97% of the healthcare facilities stored them in domestic refrigerators.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: September 22, 2014

Headline: [Food safety standards should not be arbitrary: Harsimrat Kaur Badal](#)

Synopsis: Expressing concerns over imported food items getting stuck in customs, Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal today said safety standards should not be arbitrary and detrimental to the industry. Huge consignments carrying food processing ingredients are lying at ports due to the new labelling norms of the Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). The matter has been taken up with the PMO and the Health Ministry, she told reporters while briefing her ministry's 100-days initiatives.

Website: Kangla Online

Edition: Online

Date: September 23, 2014

Headline: [Social factors and the health sector](#)

Synopsis: As things stand now, there is no dearth of information to a certain extent with regard to common health issues. Of course, there are riders for factors like remoteness, lack of access to information and knowledge etc. But generally, it is a fact that there is now more information available along with the health care delivery systems making its presence felt both in the public and private sector. The increasing number of chemist shops in both urban and rural settings is an indicator that health is an integral community concern. Here again, a lot still needs to be done and achieved in terms of quality medical care and treatment that is affordable and easily available to people cutting across where they are located, how much they can afford for treatment etc.