

## MARCH 2025

Date	Headline and Source	Link	Summary
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Merck to increase workforce at Indian sites by year end Medical Dialogues, March 02, 2025	<a href="#">Merck to increase workforce at Indian sites by year end</a>	Drug Maker Merck expects to boost employment in India with increment in its workforce across its India sites by the end of the year, a senior executive of the company said. At the BioAsia conference in India's Telangana state, Dave Williams, Executive Vice President said, By the end of this year, we expect to have roughly 2,700 employees. And in a couple of years, I fully expect we'll double that number or more.
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	CDSCO Panel Approves Johnson and Johnson's Protocol Amendment proposal for Teclistamab study Medical Dialogues, March 03, 2025	<a href="#">CDSCO Panel Approves Johnson and Johnson's Protocol Amendment proposal for Teclistamab study</a>	The Subject Expert Committee (SEC) functional under the Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has approved Johnson and Johnson's proposal for protocol amendment of the anticancer drug Teclistamab study. This came after the firm presented protocol amendment 4 dated 01 October 2024 protocol no. 64007957MMY3006.
4 <sup>th</sup> March	AstraZeneca Pharma India gets CDSCO approval to import, sell cancer treatment medicine The Economic Times, March 04, 2025	<a href="#">AstraZeneca Pharma India gets CDSCO approval to import, sell cancer treatment medicine</a>	The approval by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Directorate General of Health Services, Government of India is for import, for sale and distribution of Durvalumab solution for infusion 120 mg/2.4 ml and 500 mg/10 ml (Imfinzi) for an additional indication, the company said in a regulatory filing.
6 <sup>th</sup> March	AstraZeneca to bring innovative medicines faster to India, says MD Panchal Live Mint, March 06, 2025	<a href="#">AstraZeneca to bring innovative medicines faster to India, says MD Panchal</a>	AstraZeneca India has seen its profit and revenue jump in the past year, driven by a robust product portfolio focused on cancer and noncommunicable diseases. The drugmaker's British-Swedish parent has already received 14 product approvals in the past two years and aims to expedite more launches to bolster its business in India, a top company official said.
7 <sup>th</sup> March	CDSCO approves AstraZeneca to import Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate for treatment of Hyperkalaemia in adult patients BioSpectrum India, March 07, 2025	<a href="#">CDSCO approves AstraZeneca to import Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate for treatment of Hyperkalaemia in adult patients</a>	AstraZeneca Pharma India Limited has received permission from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Directorate General of Health Services, Government of India to import pharmaceutical formulations of new drug for sale or distribution for Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate (SZC) powder - oral suspension 5g and 10g.

7 <sup>th</sup> March	Ozempic maker Novo Nordisk prepared to enter India despite patent expiry, generic competition Live Mint, March 07, 2025	<a href="#">Ozempic maker Novo Nordisk prepared to enter India despite patent expiry, generic competition</a>	Danish drugmaker Novo Nordisk is prepared to enter the Indian market and other markets with its blockbuster drug Ozempic, despite losing patent exclusivity early next year. Even as we face patent expiration for Semaglutide, we'll probably still launch the product in markets and [drive] volume growth, and to do that we need to have a very large manufacturing footprint, Lars Fruergaard Jørgensen, Novo Nordisk's chief executive officer, said in a press briefing on Thursday.
9 <sup>th</sup> March	AstraZeneca Pharma India secures CDSCO nod to import, sell Durvalumab for small cell lung cancer Medical Dialogues, March 09, 2025	<a href="#">AstraZeneca Pharma India secures CDSCO nod to import, sell Durvalumab for small cell lung cancer</a>	AstraZeneca Pharma India Limited has received permission from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Directorate General of Health Services, Government of India to import for sale and distribution of Durvalumab solution for infusion 120 mg/2.4 ml and 500 mg/10 ml (Imfinzi) for an additional indication.
11 <sup>th</sup> March	AstraZeneca's Durvalumab gets CDSCO approval for lung cancer Healthcare Radius, March 11, 2025	<a href="#">AstraZeneca's Durvalumab gets CDSCO approval for lung cancer</a>	AstraZeneca has received CDSCO approval for a new indication of Durvalumab, allowing its use in treating limited-stage small cell lung cancer (LSSCLC) after platinum-based chemoradiation therapy AstraZeneca Pharma India Ltd, a science-led biopharmaceutical company, received a Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) approval to import for sale and distribution of Durvalumab 120 mg/2.
12 <sup>th</sup> March	AstraZeneca's Durvalumab Gains CDSCO Approval, Reshaping LSSCLC Treatment in India India Med Today, March 12, 2025	<a href="#">AstraZeneca's Durvalumab Gains CDSCO Approval, Reshaping LSSCLC Treatment in India</a>	AstraZeneca Pharma India has received approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) for an expanded indication of Durvalumab, marking a significant development in lung cancer treatment, according to The Economic Times.
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Bihar Secures Focus on Eye Health with Fifth State-Level Consultation on Glaucoma Prevention Business News This Week, March 13, 2025	<a href="#">Bihar Secures Focus on Eye Health with Fifth State-Level Consultation on Glaucoma Prevention</a>	Under the ongoing collaborative campaign between Sightsavers India and AbbVie India, the fifth state-level consultation on glaucoma prevention was held in Patna, Bihar. The consultation, held at Hotel Lemon Tree Premier, brought together ophthalmologists, public health experts, civil society representatives, and media professionals to discuss ways to tackle glaucoma, a leading cause of irreversible blindness.
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Pharmaceutical bodies welcome uniform marketing code	<a href="#">Pharmaceutical bodies welcome uniform marketing code</a>	A high-level committee formed under Niti Aayog's VK Paul also held meetings with the representatives of pharma lobby groups to

	The Economic Times, March 14, 2024		review the matter. Members of the OPPI, IPA IDMA attended the meeting on November 4 last year. The panel was formed by health minister Mansukh Mandaviya after reports suggested that companies were spending exorbitantly on promotion of drugs.
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Manipal Hospitals backer Novo Holdings to expand in India, open Mumbai office VC Circle, March 14, 2024	<a href="#">Manipal Hospitals backer Novo Holdings to expand in India, open Mumbai office</a>	Novo Holdings, the controlling shareholder of Danish obesity drugmaker Novo Nordisk, plans to open an office in India this year to tap innovation and a growing healthcare market, its CEO Kasim Kutay said on Tuesday. The firm, whose assets under management rose to 149 billion euros (\$163 billion) at the end of 2023 from 108 billion a year earlier, manages a portfolio of 170 companies across life sciences and capital investments in equities, fixed-income assets, and real estate.
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Sanofi India, Emcure Pharma announce exclusive distribution partnership Business Standard, March 14, 2024	<a href="#">Sanofi India, Emcure Pharma announce exclusive distribution partnership</a>	Sanofi India and Emcure Pharmaceuticals on Monday announced an exclusive distribution and promotion agreement for Sanofi's cardiovascular products in India. Effective immediately, Emcure Pharmaceuticals will exclusively distribute and promote Sanofi India s Cardiovascular brands including Cardace, Clexane, Targocid, Lasix, and Lasilactone.
17 <sup>th</sup> March	DoP organises Industry dialogue on PRIP Scheme in Mumbai Medical Dialogues, March 17, 2025	<a href="#">DoP organises Industry dialogue on PRIP Scheme in Mumbai</a>	Mr Anil Matai Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) highlighted the necessity of a conducive policy environment to further drive industry participation in research and development. Mr Bharat Shah National President, Indian Drug Manufacturers Association (IDMA) highlighted the challenges and opportunities for MSMEs in adopting research-led growth strategies and welcomed Government's effort in catalysing innovation through the PRIP scheme.
17 <sup>th</sup> March	CDSCO Panel Approves Updated Package Insert for Novartis Ofatumumab Injection Medical Dialogues, March 17, 2025	<a href="#">CDSCO Panel Approves Updated Package Insert for Novartis Ofatumumab Injection</a>	The Subject Expert Committee (SEC) functional under the Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has approved the proposal presented by the drug major Novartis for update in package insert for the drug product Ofatumumab solution for injection in prefilled syringe of 20 mg/0.4 mL with changes in sections of contraindications, warnings and precautions, patient counseling information and instructions for use.

18 <sup>th</sup> March	Industry Dialogue on PRIP Strengthens Pharma Ecosystem Construction World, March 18, 2025	<a href="#">Industry Dialogue on PRIP Strengthens Pharma Ecosystem</a>	Mr Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Highlighted the need for a conducive policy environment to encourage greater industry participation in R&D. Mr Bharat Shah, National President, Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) Addressed the challenges MSMEs face in adopting research-led growth strategies and welcomed the PRIP scheme's role in catalysing innovation. Mr Veeraal Gandhi, Vice President, Association of Diagnostics Manufacturers India (ADMI) Spoke on India's potential to lead in diagnostic technologies, particularly in point-of-care innovations, to enhance advanced healthcare solutions.
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Global pharma giants Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk launch obesity awareness campaigns, exploring India market potential Money Control, March 19, 2025	<a href="#">Global pharma giants Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk launch obesity awareness campaigns, exploring India market potential</a>	American MNC pharma major Eli Lilly, which plans to launch its blockbuster obesity drug Mounjaro in India later this year, has started an awareness campaign with front page advertisements, talking about obesity as a chronic relapsing disease and not just a lifestyle choice.
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Eli Lilly launches Mounjaro in India for obesity and type 2 diabetes Express Healthcare, March 21, 2025	<a href="#">Eli Lilly launches Mounjaro in India for obesity and type 2 diabetes</a>	Eli Lilly and Company (India) has announced the launch of Mounjaro (tirzepatide) in a single-dose vial presentation following marketing authorisation from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO).
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Pfizer Gets CDSCO Panel Nod To Study Anticancer Drug Disitamab vedotin Medical Dialogues, March 23, 2025	<a href="#">Pfizer Gets CDSCO Panel Nod To Study Anticancer Drug Disitamab vedotin</a>	Citing that more geographically distributed government sites shall be included in the study, the Subject Expert Committee (SEC) functional under the Central Drug Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has recommended the drug major Pfizer for conducting phase 3 clinical study of the anticancer drug Disitamab vedotin.
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Eli Lilly Introduces Mounjaro in India: Much Needed Breakthrough in Obesity and Diabetes Management E Health, March 23, 2025	<a href="#">Eli Lilly Introduces Mounjaro in India: Much Needed Breakthrough in Obesity and Diabetes Management</a>	Eli Lilly and Company (India) has officially launched Mounjaro (tirzepatide) in the Indian market following marketing authorization from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO). This innovative, once-a-week injectable therapy is designed for chronic weight management and type 2 diabetes treatment, offering a unique mechanism of action that targets both GIP (glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide) and GLP1 (glucagonlike peptide1) receptors.
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Goal is to offer more innovative medicines	<a href="#">Goal is to offer more innovative medicines</a>	Eli Lilly, the \$45 billion US pharmaceutical giant known globally for its blockbuster

	The Times of India, March 26, 2025		weight-loss treatment Mounjaro (tirzepatide), aims to transform India from an underperforming market into a growth engine by addressing the country's rising diabetes and obesity challenges.
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Open to tie-ups in India for selling Mounjaro: Eli Lilly CEO David Ricks The Economic Times, March 26, 2025	<a href="#">Open to tie-ups in India for selling Mounjaro: Eli Lilly CEO David Ricks</a>	Pharma major Eli Lilly is open to partnerships with Indian companies to sell its blockbuster anti-diabetes and weight loss drug Mounjaro (tirzepatide), global CEO David Ricks told ET. The company launched the once-a-week injectable drug in India last week, triggering an avalanche of public responses, given its benefits of roughly 20% weight reduction in obese patients.
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Yakult unveils quirky #GutIsBusted campaign to promote Gut Health Awareness Media News4u, March 26, 2025	<a href="#">Yakult unveils quirky #GutIsBusted campaign to promote Gut Health Awareness</a>	Highlighting the importance of gut health, Taku Otsuka, Director of Sales, PR & Marketing, Yakult Danone India Pvt. Ltd., said, Today, world over, people are facing multiple health challenges. The health barometer suggests that 7 of every 10 Indians may be at risk of a lifestyle disorder.
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Eli Lilly plans to expand insulin access for diabetics, NCD therapies in India Business Today, March 27, 2025	<a href="#">Eli Lilly plans to expand insulin access for diabetics, NCD therapies in India</a>	Global pharmaceutical major Eli Lilly, which recently launched its blockbuster anti-obesity drug Mounjaro (tirzepatide) in India, is planning to expand insulin production, collaborate on noncommunicable diseases (NCD) therapies, and advance biomanufacturing in the country.
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Eli Lilly may manufacture weight-loss drug Mounjaro in India in future, says CEO David Ricks Money Control, March 27, 2025	<a href="#">Eli Lilly may manufacture weight-loss drug Mounjaro in India in future, says CEO David Ricks</a>	His comments come days after the American pharma major launched Mounjaro (tirzepatide), a weekly injection for obesity and Type 2 diabetes, after obtaining approval from India's Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO).

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