

OPPI Coverage Dossier December 2025

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Wires

Publication	PTI
Date	22 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Eye on USD 500 bn by 2047: Pharma sector steps into 2026 with innovation on agenda

Eye on USD 500 bn by 2047, pharma sector steps into 2026 with innovation on agenda

By Munish Shekhavat

NEW DELHI: (Dec 22) India's pharmaceutical industry is stepping into 2026, marking the beginning of a critical five-year period to build the required ecosystem to establish itself as an innovation hub in its bid to become a USD 500 billion sector by 2047, amid near-term challenges of tariff fluctuations and global trade realignments.

The predominantly generic medicines-driven domestic drug industry, which has grown from USD 3 billion to USD 60 billion in size over the past 25 years, is shifting towards innovation in next-generation drugs.

Financials

Publication	Economic Times
Date	10 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Safeguards' slowing down access to breakthrough drugs in india

'Safeguards' Slowing Down Access to Breakthrough Drugs in India

Strong regulatory ecosystems in developed nations especially in Western Europe enable innovators to prioritise launches: Journal

Teena Thacker

New Delhi: Most innovative drugs are not available for low and middle income countries (LMICs), a study published in the reputed Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) said. Director general of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Anil Matai said, "regulatory system plays an important role" and influences timelines. OPPI represents multinational companies.

"We must acknowledge that countries with the highest levels of biopharmaceutical innovation typically have strong ecosystems of effective and enforceable intellectual property protection, including patents and regulatory data protection. India's IP and regulatory environment is evolving, but it still needs to mature further to support quicker access to breakthrough therapies," Matai said.

A recent cross-sectional study of 172 medicines approved by the FDA from 2015 to 2018 and tested in 89 countries, revealed that 24% were physically accessible in all countries where they were tested 5 years after FDA approval. Countries in Western Europe had notably better access (82%) than countries in Africa (28%), with no improvements over time for low- and middle income countries.

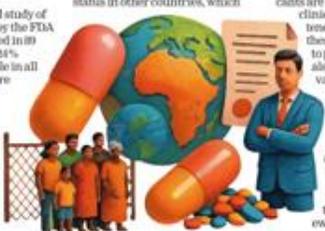
Explaining the approval process in India for new molecules, Matai said "extensive data" is required which adds layers, making it time consuming. "This includes the regulatory status in other countries, which means the product must first be approved elsewhere before being considered here. Additionally, unless a waiver is granted, applicants are required to conduct local clinical trials, further extending the timeline. While these safeguards are designed to protect patient safety, they also add stages to the approval process," he said.

Adding that countries with the highest levels of biopharmaceutical innovation have "strong ecosystems" of effective and enforceable intellectual property protection, including patents and regulatory data protection. "These frameworks enable and incentivise innovators to prioritise early launches." While the regulatory system in India has made notable progress, Matai said further predictability, harmonisation with global standards, waiver of unique local clinical trials when the global trial is consistent with ICH E7 and stronger IP protection will be critical for reducing the time lag.

Matai said the strong presence in generics, coupled with competitive pricing and deep distribution networks, has expanded domestic companies' market share while for multinational companies the environment has been shaped by a different set of dynamics.

"Factors such as longer innovation cycles, patent expiries, unpredictable evolving pricing pressures, and the need for a more predictable regulatory and IP framework have influenced their pace of expansion. In addition, MNC portfolios often focus on innovative, complex, or specialized therapies, which typically serve smaller patient populations compared to high volume generics," he said.

MEDICINE APPROVAL
Study of 172 medicines revealed that 24% were physically accessible in all countries where they were tested 5 years after FDA approval



Publication	Hindu BusinessLine
Date	15 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Tackling India's future, complex disease burden

Tackling India's future, complex disease burden

BY INVITATION



BHUSHAN AKSHIKAR



When Maya (name changed), a 42-year-old schoolteacher in Lucknow, collapsed in her classroom from a sudden heart attack, her family was left stunned. She exercised moderately, ate home-cooked meals and had no obvious risk factors. Streets away, her neighbour's father, already in his seventies, found himself battling a strain of tuberculosis that no longer responded to standard medicines. These stories, once exceptions, are becoming unsettlingly common in India. They reflect the profound way in which our disease patterns are shifting and reshaping the foundations of our healthcare system.

India's health challenges are no longer linear. We once believed we were steadily shifting from infectious diseases to chronic, lifestyle-driven conditions, but that transition is far more complex. Infectious diseases persist even as chronic illnesses surge, while climate change and antimicrobial resistance introduce new threats. The result is a converging, multidimensional disease burden that strains the health system on multiple fronts.

The response cannot be piecemeal. It requires a fundamental transformation in the way we plan, invest and deliver healthcare. What will it take to revolutionise healthcare?

First, healthcare must move from episodic intervention to lifelong engagement. The old model where people enter the system only when symptoms become severe is unsustainable. The transition demands a coordinated effort from government and private sectors to build infrastructure and incentives for preventive care, continuous monitoring and digital health access.

Second, India must build an intelligence-driven health system. Predictive analytics that combine climate data, demographic trends and disease surveillance can warn of outbreaks before they escalate. A recent international study by scientists from the Institut Pasteur and Beijing Normal University identified a climate indicator — based on Indian

Ocean temperature fluctuations — that can predict dengue outbreak intensity months in advance.

Third, innovation must be treated as a national priority. Therapies of the future like gene therapies, immunotherapies, mRNA platforms and AI-driven diagnostics must be integrated into India's health system with urgency. This means speeding regulatory pathways without compromising safety, creating financing models that make advanced therapies affordable and investing in local capacity.

Fourth, we must treat antimicrobial resistance as a national emergency. According to the World Health Organization, between 2018 and 2023, antibiotic resistance increased in over 40 per cent of monitored pathogen-antibiotic combinations, rising 5-15 per cent annually. This is not just a medical problem — it spans agriculture, animal husbandry, pharmacy practice and public behaviour. Strict stewardship, rapid diagnostics to distinguish bacterial from viral infections and public awareness are essential. Without these, routine surgeries, childbirth and even minor infections could become life-threatening within a generation.

Just as commitments to defence and energy are non-negotiable for national strength, healthcare too must be recognised as essential infrastructure. Partnerships will be critical to making this vision a reality. A healthy and fit population is a must for a self-reliant India. As the country aspires to become a \$5 trillion economy, the wellbeing of its citizens must form the cornerstone of that ambition.

The writer is President, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, and Vice-President and Managing Director, GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited. Views are personal.

Online

Publication	ET Pharma
Date	11 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Securing the Future: Innovation, IP, and India's Road to a Knowledge Economy



From The Economic Times

Securing the Future: Innovation, IP, and India's Road to a Knowledge Economy

Fostering innovation, enhancing ease of doing business and establishing a clear, strategic framework for a robust IP regime can empower India to realize its full potential as a global centre for innovation. Further, as global IP laws evolve, India's alignment with emerging global IP norms will be crucial for India's competitive growth in the knowledge economy.



Bhushan Akshikar · ET Pharma

Published On Dec 11, 2025 at 11:45 AM IST





Healthcare systems are able to thrive because of continuous research & innovation in the fields of science and technology that results in finding new treatment outcomes to address unmet medical needs.

It is encouraging that India witnessed a significant surge in IP filings between 2020–21 to 2024–25 with 180% increase in patent filings alone. Also encouraging for the research based pharmaceutical industry is the recognition by the Prime Minister during his Independence Day address, on the need to enable researchers and entrepreneurs to secure patents for new drugs and medical technologies.

Publication	Mint
Date	22 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Eye on USD 500 bn by 2047, pharma sector steps into 2026 with innovation on agenda

Another industry body, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) also agreed that the Indian pharma industry currently stands at a pivotal juncture.

“While external headwinds such as tariff fluctuations and global trade realignments present near-term challenges, they also reinforce the strategic importance of building resilient, high-quality manufacturing ecosystems,” OPPI Director General Anil Matai said.

The government's renewed focus on elevating manufacturing standards, strengthening protection of intellectual property as a key enabler for sustained investment in research and innovation, and aligning with global quality benchmarks is not just timely, but it is transformational, he said.

Publication	Business Standard
Date	22 December
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>'Eye on \$500 bn by 2047, pharma steps into 2026 with focus on innovation'</u>

India's pharmaceutical industry is stepping into 2026, marking the beginning of a critical five-year period to build the required ecosystem to establish itself as an innovation hub in its bid to become a \$500 billion sector by 2047, amid near-term challenges of tariff fluctuations and global trade realignments.

The predominantly generic medicines-driven domestic drug industry, which has grown from \$3 billion to \$60 billion in size over the past 25 years, is shifting towards innovation in next-generation drugs.

At the same time, it will also seek to capitalise on the opportunity to capture drugs worth over \$300 billion that are set to lose exclusivity over the next seven years.

"Today, Indian pharma stands at a defining moment and the next 25 years will be shaped by innovation, quality, and access," Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance Secretary General Sudarshan Jain said.

The innovation agenda has gained notable momentum among the domestic players, he noted.

Publication	The Week
Date	22 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Eye on USD 500 bn by 2047 pharma sector steps into 2026 with innovation on agenda

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OPPI represents research-based global pharmaceutical companies such as Pfizer, GlaxoSmithKline, and Boehringer Ingelheim.

Publication	Outlook Business
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs medical devices to provide relief to patients Industry players

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Publication	Millennium Post
Date	23 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Eye on \$500 Bn by 2047, Pharma Sector Steps into 2026 with Innovation on Agenda

The Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) represents 23 leading drug firms, including Sun Pharma, Cipla, Aurobindo Pharma and Dr Reddy's Laboratories.

Another industry body, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) also agreed that the Indian pharma industry currently stands at a pivotal juncture.

"While external headwinds such as tariff fluctuations and global trade realignments present near-term challenges, they also reinforce the strategic importance of building resilient, high-quality manufacturing ecosystems," OPPI Director General Anil Mehta said.

The government's renewed focus on elevating manufacturing standards, strengthening protection of intellectual property as a key enabler for sustained investment in research and innovation, and aligning with global quality benchmarks is not just timely, but it is transformational, he said. OPPI represents research-based global pharmaceutical companies such as Pfizer, AbbVie, Novartis, and Boehringer Ingelheim.

This dual emphasis on quality, innovation, and a predictable IP environment is catalyzing a shift from traditional volume-led growth to value-driven differentiation, Mehta said. Indian innovators are increasingly investing in complex generics, biosimilars, and next-generation therapies that address unmet patient needs both domestically and in regulated markets, he added.

Mehta noted that India is positioning itself to become a deep scientific talent and robust production capabilities by strengthening regulatory harmonisation, fostering industry-academia linkages, incentivising R&D, and reinforcing trust in the intellectual property ecosystem.

Publication	Pills in a Pod
Date	26 December
Edition	Online
Headline	Mastering Pharma Leadership: Brand Building & Strategy with Anil Matai (OPPI)



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