

FEBRUARY 2026

Date	Headline and Source	Link	Summary
1 st February	UP to host 1st pharma conclave to boost mfg, investment The Times of India, February 01, 2026	UP to host 1st pharma conclave to boost mfg, investment UP to host 1st pharma conclave to boost mfg, investment	Other industry bodies like the Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association, Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association of India, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India and the Federation of Pharma Entrepreneurs are also participating. The event will also showcase infrastructure projects such as the bulk drug park in Lalitpur and the medical device park in Greater Noida.
1 st February	Apollo Hospitals, Roche Diagnostics partner to deploy AI-led clinical decision support Media Brief, February 01, 2026	Apollo Hospitals, Roche Diagnostics partner to deploy AI-led clinical decision support	The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with Roche Diagnostics India Pvt. Ltd. during THIT 2026, Apollo's global health technology platform, underscoring the commitment of both organisations to accelerate digital transformation in clinical care.
1 st February	AI fuels new era of cancer detection BioSpectrum India, February 01, 2026	AI fuels new era of cancer detection	Mumbai-based startup Qure.ai is currently utilising deep learning algorithms to analyse medical imaging, enabling faster and more accurate lung cancer detection. The company has recently joined hands with the global player Johnson & Johnson MedTech, to establish AI-led Incidental Pulmonary Nodule (IPN) detection clinics across leading hospitals in India.
2 nd February	Health Sector Budget 2026 Live Updates: Biotech booster, Regulatory reset and Allied care push steals the show for Healthcare The Economic Times, February 02, 2026	Health Sector Budget 2026 Live Updates: Biotech booster, Regulatory reset and Allied care push steals the show for Healthcare	The Rs 10,000 crore outlay over five years reflects India's clear long-term vision to build a resilient, innovation-driven, end-to-end biopharmaceutical ecosystem - spanning research, advanced manufacturing, regulatory excellence, and patient access. Anil Matai Director, General OPPI
2 nd February	Budget 2026: OPPI calls Biopharma Shakti India's leap toward global leadership Bio Voice News, February 02, 2026	Budget 2026: OPPI calls Biopharma Shakti India's leap toward global leadership	Rahul Koul is a New Delhi-based journalist who writes on a variety of topics related to the life sciences sector. For a decade and a half, Rahul has been covering the industry and academia extensively, also contributing to many knowledge reports periodically.
2 nd February	Exemption on drugs for cancer, rare disease: Patientfirst or minimal benefits? The Hindu Business Line, February 02, 2026	Exemption on drugs for cancer, rare disease: Patientfirst or minimal benefits?	Anil Matai, Director, Director General Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), said, the patientfirst intervention reduced the cost burden of advanced, often lifesaving therapies for families. By easing the financial barriers to

			accessing complex treatments, the Budget meaningfully advances equitable access to care, as noncommunicable diseases such as cancer, autoimmune disorders, and diabetes rise. OPPI represents largely multinational companies.
2 nd February	Budget 2026: Tax removed on 17 cancer drugs, brings relief to patients Business Today, February 02, 2026	Budget 2026: Tax removed on 17 cancer drugs, brings relief to patients	Most of the cancer drugs covered under the exemption are manufactured by large multinational pharmaceutical companies based in the United States and Europe, including Roche, Novartis, Bristol Myers Squibb, Merck & Co and Johnson & Johnson. These medicines include targeted therapies, immunotherapies and cell or gene-based treatments used in late-stage and difficult to treat cancers.
2 nd February	Budget 2026: Duty waiver on 17 cancer drugs to cut treatment costs Money Control, February 02, 2026	Budget 2026: Duty waiver on 17 cancer drugs to cut treatment costs	Most of these therapies are marketed globally by multinational innovators, including Novartis, Eli Lilly AstraZeneca, AbbVie, Roche, Takeda, Bayer and Bristol Myers Squibb. By easing duty-related barriers, the Budget helps create an environment where scientific progress can reach patients more effectively, said Amitabh Dube, country president and managing director, Novartis India.
3 rd February	Uttar Pradesh gears up to showcase pharma investment opportunities at Pharma Conclave 1.0 Express Pharma, February 03, 2026	Uttar Pradesh gears up to showcase pharma investment opportunities at Pharma Conclave 1.0	Other leading industry bodies, namely the Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (IDMA), Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association of India (BDMAI), Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), and the Federation of Pharma Entrepreneurs (FOPE), are also joining, underscoring the collective commitment to advancing Uttar Pradesh as a premier destination for pharmaceutical and medical device investments.
3 rd February	Union Budget 2026 Healthcare Push Sends Strong Signals! Industry Reacts to Biopharma Innovation & Access Focus Health Buzz, February 03, 2026	Union Budget 2026 Healthcare Push Sends Strong Signals! Industry Reacts to Biopharma Innovation & Access Focus	Industry bodies such as the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA), Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), and Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD) welcomed the move as a much-needed push to reduce import dependence (currently 60–70% for biologics) and strengthen India's position in global supply chains.
3 rd February	Budget 2026: Customs duty relief to make cancer, rare disease drugs cheaper Business Standard, February 03, 2026	Budget 2026: Customs duty relief to make cancer, rare disease drugs cheaper	Other global players with products on the list include AbbVie (Ibrutinib), Blueprint Medicines/Ariad (Ponatinib), Bayer (Darolutamide), and Bristol Myers Squibb (Ipilimumab), alongside multiple immune

			checkpoint inhibitors that are predominantly imported.
4 th February	AstraZeneca India receives CDSCO approval for Durvalumab in combination with FLOT chemotherapy Express Pharma, February 04, 2026	AstraZeneca India receives CDSCO approval for Durvalumab in combination with FLOT chemotherapy	AstraZeneca Pharma India, a global, science-led biopharmaceutical company, announces the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) approval for Durvalumab in combination with FLOT chemotherapy (fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin and docetaxel) as the first and only perioperative immunotherapy approach for adult patients with resectable gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma (GC/GEJC), showing survival benefit.
4 th February	Budget relief on the label: Govt proposes to drop duty on rare disease drugs The Economic Times, February 04, 2026	Budget relief on the label: Govt proposes to drop duty on rare disease drugs	Apart from the drugs for rare diseases, the budget proposal includes full duty waivers on 17 anticancer drugs Over the past three years, the government has been gradually removing customs duty on many patented and imported anticancer and rare disease drugs that are sold by multinational drug makers such as Roche, GSK, Sanofi and Novartis.
5 th February	AstraZeneca gets CDSCO approval for Durvalumab in gastric cancer treatment The Economic Times, February 05, 2026	AstraZeneca gets CDSCO approval for Durvalumab in gastric cancer treatment	AstraZeneca Pharma India on Wednesday said it has received approval from the national health regulator for Durvalumab in combination with chemotherapy for treatment of gastric or gastroesophageal junction cancer .The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has granted approval for Durvalumab in combination with FLOT chemotherapy (fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin and docetaxel) as the first and only perioperative immunotherapy approach for adult patients with resectable gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma.
6 th February	AstraZeneca s gets CDSCO nod for Imfinzi combo in gastric cancer The Economic Times, February 06, 2026	AstraZeneca s gets CDSCO nod for Imfinzi combo in gastric cancer	UK pharma major, AstraZeneca has secured the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) approval for its PDL1 blockbuster durvalumab (Imfinzi) in combination with FLOT chemotherapy for treating gastric cancer.
8 th February	Pharma associations explore investment opportunities in UP as part of Pharma Conclave 1.0 PharmaBiz, February 08, 2026	Pharma associations explore investment opportunities in UP as part of Pharma Conclave 1.0	In order to explore investment opportunities in the growing Uttar Pradesh (UP) pharma industry, a high-level delegation of pharma associations like the Indian Drug Manufacturers Association (IDMA), the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IP Alliance) and the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) met Chief Minister (CM) of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath.

11 th February	AstraZeneca Pharma India receives CDSCO approval for Durvalumab indication in endometrial cancer Express Pharma, February 11, 2026	AstraZeneca Pharma India receives CDSCO approval for Durvalumab indication in endometrial cancer	AstraZeneca Pharma India informed that it has received permission from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, 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 under the brand name Imfinzi for an additional indication.
11 th February	AstraZeneca gets Indian regulator s nod to market cancer drug Imfinzi Business Standard, February 11, 2026	AstraZeneca gets Indian regulator s nod to market cancer drug Imfinzi	AstraZeneca Pharma India Ltd on Tuesday said it has received permission from India's drug regulator to market Durvalumab solution for infusion used in cancer treatment for an additional indication. The company has received permission from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, Directorate General of Health Services, to import for sale and distribution of Durvalumab solution for infusion of strengths 120 mg/2.4 ml and 500 mg/10 ml (brand name Imfinzi) for an additional indication, AstraZeneca Pharma said in a regulatory filing.
13 th February	BMS is committed to pioneering AI-driven innovation in pharma commercialisation Express Pharma, February 13, 2026	BMS is committed to pioneering AI-driven innovation in pharma commercialisation	Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) is committed to pioneering AI-driven innovation in pharma commercialisation. We are setting a new industry benchmark for how advanced technologies can enhance decision-making, accelerate operations, and deliver tailored engagement at scale, ultimately transforming patient lives.
17 th February	Drugmaker Sanofi to expand India GCC, increase workforce to over 4,500 employees The Economic Times, February 17, 2026	Drugmaker Sanofi to expand India GCC, increase workforce to over 4,500 employees	French drugmaker Sanofi said on Monday it will expand its global capability centre (GCC) in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad, and increase its workforce to more than 4,500 employees. The center currently employs over 2,600 people.
18 th February	Eli Lilly eyes India as global manufacturing hub amid rising drug demand Business Standard, February 18, 2026	Eli Lilly eyes India as global manufacturing hub amid rising drug demand	Mounjaro-maker Eli Lilly wants to turn India into a hub for its global supply chain, a senior executive at the US drugmaker said, as part of its previously committed \$1 billion investment to contract manufacturing in the country Sales of the blockbuster weight-loss drug doubled within months of its launch in India, and became its top-selling medicine by value, underscoring the growing popularity of obesity treatments in a country projected to have the world's second-largest obese population by 2050

18 th February	Sanofi to expand Hyderabad GCC; plans workforce growth beyond 4,500 Hrkatha, February 18, 2026	Sanofi to expand Hyderabad GCC; plans workforce growth beyond 4,500	Sanofi has announced plans to expand its global capability centre in Hyderabad, signalling continued confidence in India's talent ecosystem. The French drugmaker said the facility will grow to employ more than 4,500 people, up from its current workforce of over 2,600.
19 th February	Global pharma uses AI to speed drug timelines, but adoption remains uneven Business Standard, February 19, 2026	Global pharma uses AI to speed drug timelines, but adoption remains uneven	A similar strategy is unfolding at Takeda Pharmaceuticals, where AI is being embedded directly into R&D workflows rather than deployed as an add-on. Takeda's R&D leadership has described AI-native laboratories and redesigned discovery processes as central to improving productivity and raising the probability of technical success across its portfolio.
20 th February	Boehringer Ingelheim India and NIPER Raebareli Sign MoU to Strengthen Pharmaceutical Education and Research Collaboration ANI News, February 20, 2026	Boehringer Ingelheim India and NIPER Raebareli Sign MoU to Strengthen Pharmaceutical Education and Research Collaboration	Boehringer Ingelheim India Private Limited today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Raebareli, including its Centre of Excellence for Novel Drug Delivery Systems (CoENDDS).
22 nd February	National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research in Rae Bareli inks MoU with Boehringer Ingelheim India BioSpectrum India, February 22, 2026	National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research in Rae Bareli inks MoU with Boehringer Ingelheim India	In a bid to promote pharmaceutical education and research in India, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Rae Bareli-based National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) and Boehringer Ingelheim India. The MoU was signed in the presence of Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in New Delhi.
23 rd February	Boehringer Ingelheim, NIPER Raebareli ink MoU to Strengthen Pharmaceutical Education and Research Collaboration The Economic Times, February 23, 2026	Boehringer Ingelheim, NIPER Raebareli ink MoU to Strengthen Pharmaceutical Education and Research Collaboration	Boehringer Ingelheim India Private Limited today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Raebareli, including its Centre of Excellence for Novel Drug Delivery Systems (CoENDDS).
24 th February	Star Health Launches 32 Arogya Seva Kendras Across 9 States to Expand Primary Healthcare Access The CSR Universe, February 24, 2026	Star Health Launches 32 Arogya Seva Kendras Across 9 States to Expand Primary Healthcare Access	Pfizer India is supporting the pneumococcal vaccination component of the initiative. Saral Gupta, Director Market Access, Pfizer India, said, Adult immunization remains an overlooked yet vital component of India's preventive healthcare framework. Our country bears 23% of the global burden of community-acquired pneumonia and strengthening access to vaccination,

			especially for high risk adult groups, is critical to lowering the overall impact of such vaccine preventable diseases.
25 th February	Boehringer Ingelheim India and NIPER Raebareli join forces to boost pharma innovation Indian Pharma Post, February 25, 2026	Boehringer Ingelheim India and NIPER Raebareli join forces to boost pharma innovation	Boehringer Ingelheim India has signed a landmark MoU with the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Raebareli, including its Centre of Excellence for Novel Drug Delivery Systems (CoENDDS), to bolster pharmaceutical innovation in this country.
27 th February	Eli Lilly India launches obesity awareness campaign Express Pharma, February 27, 2026	Eli Lilly India launches obesity awareness campaign	Eli Lilly and Company (India) has announced the next phase of its integrated obesity awareness initiative with a campaign aimed at reshaping how obesity is perceived and discussed in India. The campaign is led by Indian personalities and combines lived experiences with science-led perspectives to shift the conversation from judgement and appearance towards science and empathy, reinforcing the importance of consulting a doctor as part of a comprehensive obesity care pathway.
27 th February	Novo Nordisk India partners with ORDI for Racefor7 Express Healthcare, February 27, 2026	Novo Nordisk India partners with ORDI for Racefor7	Novo Nordisk India and the Organization for Rare Diseases in India (ORDI) partnered for the 11th edition of Racefor7 run in Bangalore. From patients and caregivers to clinicians, the event brought together diverse voices in a collective push for stronger healthcare access and support for people living with rare diseases in India.
27 th February	Bayer secures India approval for expanded use of Nubeqa Express Pharma, February 27, 2026	Bayer secures India approval for expanded use of Nubeqa	Bayer has announced that its cancer drug Nubeqa has received approval in India for an expanded indication, providing clinicians access to a nonchemotherapy treatment option for patients who may not be able to tolerate chemotherapy.
27 th February	GSK survey flags Shingles impact and prevention gaps among adults with chronic conditions in India Express Pharma, February 27, 2026	GSK survey flags Shingles impact and prevention gaps among adults with chronic conditions in India	A global survey commissioned by GSK ahead of Shingles Action Week (23 February – 1 March 2026) highlights the impact of shingles on adults aged 50 and above living with certain chronic health conditions in India and identifies gaps in prevention-related conversations.
