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#### **Newsletter March 2015**

# 1. Centre approves 25 panels of experts for SECs for evaluation of applications of clinical trials, new drugs & devices.

The Union health ministry has approved 25 panels of experts of various therapeutic areas for evaluation of various categories of applications of clinical trials, new drugs and new medical devices. These SECs will advise the DCGI for the in-depth evaluation of non-clinical data including pharmacological toxicological data, clinical trial data (phase I. II. III. and IV) etc. furnished by the applicants for approval of new drug substance of chemical and biological origin and new medical device be to introduced for the first time in country including the vaccines & r-DNA derived products.

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### 2. Indian scientists turn coconut oil into biofuel.

Scientists who have been running the four-stroke diesel engine of a light pick-up truck on coconut oil for the past one year have approached the union government to

commercialise the biofuel.

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#### 3. Delhi HC allows Glenmark to make, sell antibiotic drug Linezolid.

Delhi High Court on 5<sup>th</sup> February set aside its single restraining judge's order Mumbai-based generic drug maker Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd from making and selling antibiotic medicine Linezolid. Linezolid is a synthetic antibiotic used to treat infections of the skin and blood, as also pneumonia.A bench of justices Badar Durrez Ahmed and Sanjeev Sachdeva, while setting aside the single judge's 19 January interim directed order. Glenmark maintain to accounts of manufacture and sale of its medicine and file the same in the court.

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# 4. Microsoft and Samsung make up in patent contract dispute.

Microsoft and Samsung Electronics have settled a dispute over payment of royalties to the software giant. The agreements between the two companies also provided for credits and potential reimbursements for marketing expenses to Samsung for the development of smartphones and tablets running the Windows operating system from Microsoft.

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### 5. US and Japan join the Hague System.

The US and Japan are the latest countries to join the System Hague for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, meaning number of countries covered by the agreement now totals 64. Their entering into the agreement will mean that industrial design applicants in both the US and Japan will be able to file just a single application to cover all the nations signed up the to agreement, rather than separate ones in multiple jurisdictions. Designers other Hague countries will also have easier access to the US and Japan.

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6. NPPA rolls back proposal on display of distinguishing mark & ceiling prices of

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#### scheduled drugs on labels.

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has rolled back its earlier proposal for display of distinguishing mark and ceiling prices of scheduled drugs on the label of the drugs, to make consumers aware about the ceiling prices of controlled drugs as notified by the NPPA from time to time.

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## 7. BHU researchers develop biosensor to predict heart attack.

Researchers from the department of biochemistry, Institute of Medical Sciences, Hindu University Banaras (BHU) have made a sensitive and specific graphene oxideelectrochemical based biosensor for detection of specific micro-particles blood samples and predict the risk of heart attack or brain stroke. **IMS** has already applied for its patenting.

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# 8. Microsoft, ZTE do not infringe InterDigital patents: Court.

InterDigital, a patent licensing

firm, lost an infringement fight on 18<sup>th</sup> February as a US court ruled appeals wireless phones made by Nokia, since purchased by Microsoft, and ZTE do not infringe InterDigital on patents. The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit upheld a decision by International Trade Commission, which found the patents were not infringed.

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## 9. Mylan to Distribute Gilead's Hepatitis C Drugs in India.

Mylan Inc. Indian subsidiary will he exclusive the distributor of Gilead Sciences Inc hepatitis C treatments. Under the deal, Mylan will distribute Gilead's Sovaldi and Harvoni hepatitis treatments, starting in the second quarter. Mylan will also have nonexclusive rights to manufacture and distribute generic versions of Sovaldi, Harvoni and—upon approval—two investigational hepatitis C treatments in 91 developing countries.

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10. Merck grants free

### license for pediatric HIV drug.

Drugmaker Merck & Co. has granted a free license allowing one of its HIV medicines to be made and sold inexpensively for use in young children in poor countries hard hit by the AIDS virus.

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# 11. Apple ordered to pay \$533 million for patent infringement

Apple Inc has been ordered to pay \$532.9 million after a federal jury in Texas found that its iTunes software infringed three patents owned by patent licensing firm Smartflash LLC.

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### 12. No proposal to change patent law.

Indian government ruled out amendment to the patent law, asserting that there are no gaps in protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

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