



## **Manufacturing of Components of High-end Medical Devices in the Country Will be Another Big Step in Moving Towards Aatmanirbharta**

**01 February-28 February, 2023**

“Working on the vision of reducing import dependency through indigenous production, government of India is focussing on production of high value pharmaceuticals and high-end medical devices. Manufacturing of components of high-end medical devices in the country will be another big step in moving towards Aatmanirbharta,” Dr Mansukh Mandaviya said this while appreciating the efforts of the applicants selected under the scheme.

Under the Aatmanirbharta initiative of the government, department of pharmaceuticals launched the PLI scheme for pharmaceuticals in 2021. The financial outlay under this PLI scheme is Rs 15,000 crore over a period of six years. So far, 55 applicants have been selected under the scheme, including 20 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The financial year of 2022-2023 being the first year of production for the PLI Scheme, DoP has ear-marked Rs 690 crore as the budget outlay.

On the other side, the Indian pharmaceutical sector received a positive push as FM Nirmala Sitharaman announced a new programme to promote research and innovation will be taken up through centre of excellence (COE). She was speaking, while presenting the Union Budget 2023-24. On another note, some section of the society has expressed dissatisfaction over the allotted budget as insufficient.

On a different note, while unveiling FSSAI's new year calendar, which celebrates International Year of Millets 2023, Minister Mansukh Mandaviya suggested that in hospitals, patients can be offered healthy food that would be nourishing, healthy, and complement the treatment prescribed. Mandaviya quoted “Let us have a 'Healthy Food Street or Food Hub' in every town and district, where millet-based recipes are available along with hygienic amenities”.

In this sixth volume of Occasional News Wrap, various dimensions of health regulation issues have been captured, which appeared by way of op-eds, articles, news etc. during the month of February, 2023.

	Article/Op-ed	Key Takeaway
1.	<p><b>FSSAI rules on incorporating millets as nutritional menu in canteens soon</b></p> <p><i>By Mansukh Mandaviya Business Standard IANS February 1, 2023</i></p>	<p>'Let us have a 'Healthy Food Street or Food Hub' in every town and district, where millet-based recipes are available along with hygienic amenities," <a href="#">Mandaviya</a> said. Unveiling FSSAI's new year calendar, which celebrates International Year of Millets 2023, he suggested that in hospitals, patients can be offered healthy food that would be nourishing, healthy, and complement the treatment prescribed.</p>
2.	<p><b>Pharma industry hails move to promote research and innovation through COE</b></p> <p><i>By Rashmi Mabiyan ETHealthWorld February 1, 2023</i></p>	<p>Union Budget 2023-24: Pharma industry hails move to promote R&amp;D; Eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047 'welcome step; Med Device Industry Disappointed. The Indian pharmaceutical sector received a positive push as FM Nirmala Sitharaman announced a new programme to promote research and innovation will be taken up through centre of excellence (COE). She was speaking, while presenting the Union Budget 2023-24.</p>
3.	<p><b>Regulators halt eye products' production at Global Pharma Healthcare site</b></p> <p><i>By Sohni Das Business Standard February 4, 2023</i></p>	<p>Chennai-based Global Pharma Healthcare, which has been under the scanner of the US FDA for potential <a href="#">bacterial contamination</a> of its eye-drops, has been asked to stop production of its ophthalmic range of products at its site. A joint team of officials from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and State Drug Controller inspected the site on Friday. In the joint investigation report.</p>
4.	<p><b>IMA called Right to Health Bill as anti-poor</b></p> <p><i>ET Healthworld.com TNN February 10, 2023</i></p>	<p>IMA national president said the government is trying to shake off its responsibility by mandating <a href="#">free treatment</a> to every patient in emergency, whereas even a minor cut or disease is an emergency for a common patient, while the terminology of medical emergency is defined quite differently and that needs to be comprehended.</p>
5.	<p><b>Public health outlay inadequate; Govt. must focus on non-communicable disease</b></p> <p><i>By Jayakrishnan T and Vidya Kuniyil Policy Circle February 13, 2023</i></p>	<p>The Union Budget 2023-24 presented by Finance Minister has allotted Rs. 89,155 crore, or 1.98% of the country's GDP, for healthcare. The outlay is 3.43% higher than the actual expenditure of Rs. 86200 crore incurred last year. The increase is <a href="#">insignificant and insufficient</a> considering the state of India's health infrastructure. India continues to rank among countries with the lowest public health spending.</p>

6.	<p><b>Data-driven decision-making critical for effective, efficient health outcomes: NITI Aayog CEO</b></p> <p><i>ETHealthWorld</i> February 13, 2023</p>	<p>Speaking at the International Health Dialogue’s conference on "Transforming Healthcare With IT (<a href="#">THIT</a>)," NITI Ayer Chairman emphasised that technology and innovation are critical to improving India’s healthcare system while adding that, “Digital health solutions such as telemedicine and electronic health records, as well as the development of novel solutions to specific healthcare concerns such as the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in illness diagnosis and treatment, will become even more important as we go forward.”</p>
7.	<p><b>Patients suffer as row over Right to Health Bill continues</b></p> <p><i>ToI</i> <i>TNN</i> February 17, 2023</p>	<p>Deadlock between private hospital associations and state government continues on the <a href="#">Right to Health Bill</a> affecting healthcare services for beneficiaries of government health scheme (RGS). Many hospitals have pasted notices on admission counters that benefits under Chiranjeevi and RGHS has stopped in their facility.</p>
8.	<p><b>Price revision in the offing in the diagnostic sector</b></p> <p><i>Sohni Das</i> <i>Business Standard</i> February 20, 2023</p>	<p>A price revision is in the offing in the <a href="#">diagnostics sector</a>, where rates have largely remained stable the past few years. With new entrants, primarily online players that had kept rates low, choosing to revise prices, the incumbents too have sensed an opportunity to do so.</p>
9.	<p><b>Mandaviya Focuses On High-end Medical Devices to Reduce Import Dependency</b></p> <p><i>By Mansukh Mandaviya</i> <i>BW Online Bureau</i> February 22, 2023</p>	<p>“Working on the vision of reducing import dependency through indigenous production, government of India is focussing on production of high value pharmaceuticals and high-end medical devices. Manufacturing of components of high-end medical devices in the country will be another big step in moving towards <a href="#">Aatmanirbharta</a>”. Dr Mansukh Mandaviya said this while appreciating the efforts of the applicants selected under the scheme.</p>
10.	<p><b>India saved 3.4mn people through Covid-19 vaccination drive: Report</b></p> <p><i>By Rythma Kaul</i> <i>Hindustan Times</i> February 25, 2023</p>	<p>India saved at least 3.4 million lives by undertaking a nationwide Covid-19 vaccination campaign at an <a href="#">unprecedented scale</a>, said a new report released by the Union health minister, Mansukh Mandaviya, adding that the vaccination campaign also yielded a positive economic impact by preventing a loss of \$18.3 billion.</p>

11.	<p><b>Covid vaccine mission is a lesson for the world</b></p> <p><i>Hindustan Times</i> February 27, 2023</p>	<p>When Covid-19 began in early 2020, most experts predicted India could face disastrous consequences. But the unprecedented and extraordinary response of the government under the personal and constant supervision of Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi belied such <a href="#">doomsday predictions</a>. India emerged stronger from the pandemic, setting an example of scientific and technological resilience for both the developed and developing world. PM Modi’s successful handling of the pandemic at a time when many developed countries, including China, struggled with Covid-19 management is now a success story cited worldwide. Under him, India has emerged as the “bright spot”.</p>
12.	<p><b>NPPA fixes retail price of 74 drug</b></p> <p><i>ET Healthworld.com</i> February 28, 2023</p>	<p>Drug price regulator National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority informed that it has revised the ceiling price of 80 scheduled formulations (<a href="#">NLEM 2022</a>) including the one to treat epilepsy and neutropenia. The ceiling price of one tablet of sodium valproate has been fixed at Rs 3.20. Similarly, the ceiling price of Filgrastim injection has been fixed at Rs. 1,034.</p>