

JULY MEDIA COVERAGE

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WIRES

Publication	Press Trust of India
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

NEW DELHI: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

MAINLINES

Publication	The Hindu
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Budget 2024: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments

Published - July 07, 2024 12:43 pm IST - New Delhi

PTI



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There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Publication	Hindustan Times
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Union Budget 2024 wish list: Tax benefits for pharma, IPR, infrastructure status for hotels

What does India's pharma industry expect from the 2024 Union Budget?

Anil Matai, Director General of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) sought incentives for training pharmaceutical employees, along with effective intellectual property rights for the pharma sector, both domestic and global to introduce innovative therapies in India for addressing unmet needs.

Publication	The Asian Age
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Incentivising R&D expenses will aid pharma

Incentivising R&D expenses will aid pharma

New Delhi, July 7: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Organisation of pharmaceutical producers of India (OPPI) director general Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said.

This would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration, he added.

Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Besides, he sought intro-



● **EXPANDING THE list of life-saving drugs eligible for goods services tax or import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability.**

duction of incentives for centres and companies that provide specialised training programmes for pharmaceutical employees. "Incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases are also crucial," Matai said.

Besides, enhancing the management of rare diseases through more centres of excellence, increased budget allocations for incentivising R&D on therapies for rare disease, and import duty waivers are essential, he noted.

"Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST or import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," he said.

Indian pharmaceutical alliance (IPA) secretary general Sudarshan Jain said the policy direction should leverage the industry's knowledge-driven foundation and the status as a global manufacturing hub.

— PTI

Publication	Times of India
Date	24-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Lower duty on drugs set to ease cancer care

Budget 2024: Lower duty on drugs set to ease cancer care



Anil Matai, director general of Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, said, "We appreciate that Govt has reiterated the importance of patient assistance programmes offered by the pharma industry to improve access of life-saving drugs by extending the customs duty waiver."

Publication	Times of India
Date	24-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Budget 2024: Lower duty on drugs set to ease cancer care

Lower duty on drugs set to ease cancer care

TEAM TOI

To make life-saving treatment more accessible and alleviate the financial burden on patients, the Budget exempts three cancer drugs from customs duty.

The three cancer drugs—Trastuzumab, Deruxtecan, Osimertinib and Durvalumab—had a duty levy of 10%. Last year, key cancer drug Keytruda, made by Merck, was similarly exempted from customs duty.

Removal of import duty on rare disease drugs and those used for critical diseases has been a long-standing demand. Typically, medicines attract a basic customs duty of 10%, while certain life-saving drugs or vaccines attract a concessional rate of 5% or are completely exempt from duties.

Sudarshan Jain, secretary general, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance said, “The Indian pharmaceutical industry is a global manufacturing hub contributing 20% of worldwide generics demand. The budget introduces various initiatives for supporting manufacturing. We welcome the strong emphasis on R&D such as a renewed focus on basic research, exemption of customs duty on cancer drugs and removal of angel tax for start-ups.”

Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, chairperson, Biocon & Biocon Biologics said, “The allocation of Rs 1 lakh crore financial pool will spur

Prices of med tech components may decline

The Budget has reduced or removed the basic customs duty on components for medical technology items like X-ray tubes and flat panel detectors. This is a crucial step towards self-reliance and enabling access to care in a cost-conscious, underpenetrated market.

AiMeD Forum Coordinator Rajiv Nath said: “We are thankful to the GoI for the reduction in duty on the import of components of X-ray equipment until these get to be produced in India. This enables continuity in investment in efforts to become a manufacturing hub of X-ray equipment globally.”

private sector-driven research and innovation at commercial scale. Removal of customs duty on three cancer drugs will provide relief to cancer patients. However, govt needs to consider GST exemption for all cancer drugs.”

Anil Matai, director general of Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, said, “We appreciate that Govt has reiterated the importance of patient assistance programmes offered by the pharma industry to improve access of life-saving drugs by extending the customs duty waiver.”

FINANCIALS

Publication	Mint
Date	1-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Pharma industry seeks better incentives to increase investments in R&D, grow market size to \$120-\$130 bn

A global opportunity

India is the largest producer of generic drugs globally, supplying 20% of the total global generics volume to over 200 countries. It also supplies around 60% of the total global vaccine requirement, contributing 40% to 70% of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) demand.

The industry further contributes about 2% to India's gross domestic product (GDP), while creating employment for around 3.5 million people in the country.

Industry body Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), which represents various global research-based pharma firms in India, is optimistic about continued reforms in policies aimed at bolstering innovation in the industry and streamlining its regulatory processes.

Suggesting the need to accelerate R&D and innovation in the country, the industry bodies have continued to push the government to explore various methods to incentivize R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

"Recognizing the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200% deduction rate on R&D expenditures," said Anil Matai, director general of OPPI.

"This would significantly boost our ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration."

Publication	The Economic Times
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Pharma sector seeks tax sops, effective intellectual property rights regime

Synopsis

Union Budget: Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

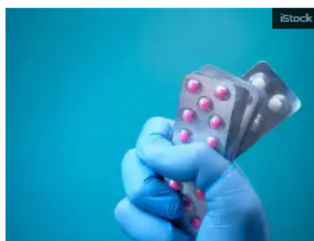


Image for representation

Budget: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming **Union Budget**, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions. The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said. This would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration, he added.

Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs. "Incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases are also crucial," Matai said.

Publication	The Economic Times
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Pharma sector seeks tax sops, effective intellectual property rights regime

Pharma Sector Seeks Tax Sops, Effective IP Rights Regime

PTI

New Delhi: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharma industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions. The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added. "Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the



OPPI director urges Centre to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments


Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said. This would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration, he added.

Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs. "Incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases are also crucial," Matai said. Besides, enhancing the management of rare diseases through more centres of excellence (CoEs), increased budget allocations for incentivising R&D on therapies for rare disease, and import duty waivers are essential, he noted.


"Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST/import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," Matai said.





In order to attract investment and contribute to a more resilient and future-ready pharmaceutical industry, the government should provide incentives for investments in bonds issued by pharmaceutical companies, he added.


Publication	Financial Express Hindi
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	From tax cuts to IPR system to promote research, pharma industry demands from finance minister



FE Hindi Desk
07 Jul 2024 20:32 IST

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Experts have placed a demand in front of the government to promote the growth of the pharma industry in the country. (Image: Freepik)

Budget 2024 Expectation: The domestic pharmaceutical industry wants the government to take steps to cut corporate tax and create an effective intellectual property rights (IPR) system to promote research and development (R&D) in the pharma sector in the upcoming budget. Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), said that the government should take steps to promote research and development. For this, multi-national companies should be given incentives related to research and development and corporate tax concessions should be given to the sector.

Publication	Financial Express
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024 Date, Time Highlights: It's a wrap for pre-Budget consultation, Nirmala Sitharaman all set to present 'historic' Modi govt's Budget 3.0 on July 23

Budget 2024 Date, Time Live Updates: Pharma Industry urges Govt to incentivize R&D investments and provide tax concessions

Industry bodies are calling for increased incentives for research and development (R&D) investments in the domestic pharmaceutical sector, emphasizing the need for corporate **tax** concessions to foster growth. Establishing a robust intellectual property rights regime is deemed essential for the industry's expansion. Anil Matai, Director General of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of **India** (OPPI), urges the government to consider methods such as deductions on R&D expenses and research-linked incentives for multinational companies (MNCs). Matai also suggests extending the scope of section 115BAB of the **Income Tax Act**, 1961, to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical R&D, with a 200% deduction rate on R&D expenditures.

Publication	Business Standard Hindi
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Tax concessions in Budget, Pharma industry wants effective IPR system Tax concessions in Budget 2024

Budget 2024: बजट में कर रियायतें, प्रभावी आईपीआर व्यवस्था चाहता है फार्मा उद्योग

ऑर्गेनाइजेशन ऑफ फार्मास्युटिकल प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑफ इंडिया के महानिदेशक अनिल मताई बजट को लेकर उद्योग की मांग रखते हुए कहा कि सरकार शोध एवं विकास को बढ़ावा देने के कदम उठाए।

PTI भाषा

Last Updated- July 07, 2024 | 1:04 PM IST



Publication	Business Standard Hindi
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Demand for tax concessions, effective IPR system

कर रियायत, प्रभावी आईपीआर व्यवस्था की मांग

घरेलू फार्मास्युटिकल उद्योग चाहता है कि सरकार आगामी बजट में क्षेत्र में शोध एवं विकास (आरएंडडी) को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कॉरपोरेट कर में रियायत दे और एक प्रभावी बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार (आईपीआर) व्यवस्था स्थापित करने के लिए कदम उठाए। इससे देश में फार्मा उद्योग की वृद्धि को प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा।

ऑर्गेनाइजेशन ऑफ फार्मास्युटिकल प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑफ इंडिया (ओपीपीआई) के महानिदेशक अनिल मताई बजट को लेकर उद्योग की मांग रखते हुए कहा

कि सरकार शोध एवं विकास को बढ़ावा देने के कदम उठाए। इसके लिए बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों को शोध एवं विकास से संबद्ध प्रोत्साहन दिए जाएं और क्षेत्र को कॉरपोरेट कर में रियायतें प्रदान की जाएं। मताई ने कहा, 'ऊंचे जोखिम की वजह से हमारा सुझाव है कि आयकर कानून, 1961 की धारा 115बीएबी का दायरा ऐसी कंपनियों तक बढ़ाया जाए, जो सिर्फ फार्मा शोध एवं विकास में लगी हैं। ऐसी कंपनियों को शोध एवं विकास खर्च पर 200 प्रतिशत की कटौती दी जाए।' भाषा

Publication	Business Standard
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime



Business Standard

Friday, August 02, 2024 | 03:06 PM IST EN | Hindi

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Sensex + (-1.07%)
80989.65 -877.90

Nifty + (-1.13%)
24729.45 -281.45

Nifty Midcap + (-0.79%)
58029.30 -461.10

Nifty Smallcap + (-0.77%)
8786.20 -68.40

Nifty Bank
51457.35

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Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime

"Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST/import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," Matai said



UNION BUDGET

OPPI Represents The Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies, Including AstraZeneca, Novartis And Merck, In India | Photo: Shutterstock

Press Trust of India | New Delhi
3 min read Last Updated : Jul 11 2024 | 11:58 AM IST

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There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

Publication	Financial Express
Date	18-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024 Expectations: 'Need to introduce policies to provide direct and indirect tax benefits for R&D and investments'

Budget 2024 Expectations: 'Need to introduce policies to provide direct and indirect tax benefits for R&D and investments'

Budget 2024: Sudarshan Jain, Secretary General, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance highlighted that Indian pharmaceutical industry has been instrumental in shaping global health outcomes by providing affordable, quality medicines.

Written by [Sushmita Panda](#)
 July 18, 2024 13:24 IST



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Union Budget 2024: Incentives for developing treatments for new diseases are also crucial. (Image Credit: Pixabay)







Budget 2024 Expectations: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will announce [Union Budget 2024-25](#) on July 23. Ahead of the Union Budget 2024-25, industry leaders of the healthcare sector emphasise on the need to enhance quality healthcare in India.

"We commend the government's efforts to enhance quality healthcare in [India](#) and are optimistic about the continued reforms and policies aimed at bolstering innovation and streamlining regulatory processes. We at [OPPI](#) look forward to the upcoming Union budget and are hopeful that it will have a positive impact on the healthcare and pharma sector. To accelerate R&D and innovation, we urge the government to explore methods to incentivize R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions," Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) said.


Publication	The Economic Times
Date	22-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Pharma MNCs seek relief from price control for patented drugs

Pharma MNCs seek relief from price control for patented drugs

By Teena Thacker, ET Bureau • Last Updated: Jul 22, 2024, 02:09:00 AM IST

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Synopsis
 The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) is requesting exemptions for patented and orphan drugs from government price controls. They argue that current regulations hinder innovation and want more control over pricing post-patent expiry to provide economic incentives for inventors.



File photo

The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), which represents prominent multinational pharma companies, has sought exemption for patented and [orphan drugs](#) from the government-set price controls, people in the know told ET.

It has asked the government to do away with the existing practice of 50% price cuts upon patent expiry, arguing that the government's price-setting provisions will stymie innovation.

In a recent meeting held with the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), the OPPI also sought exemption from price controls for drugs used for rare diseases.

Publication	The Economic Times
Date	22-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Pharma MNCs seek relief from price control for patented drugs

ALSO WANT EXEMPTION FOR DRUGS USED FOR RARE DISEASES

Pharma MNCs Seek Relief from Price Control for Patented Drugs

Ask govt to do away with current practice of 50% price cuts upon patent expiry

Teena Thacker

New Delhi: The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), which represents prominent multinational pharma companies, has sought exemption for patented and orphan drugs from the government-set price controls, people in the know told ET.

It has asked the government to do away with the existing practice of 50% price cuts upon patent expiry, arguing that the government's price-setting provisions will stymie innovation.

In a recent meeting held with the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), the OPPI also sought exemption from price controls for drugs used for rare diseases.

Last year, in May, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) notified that the ceiling price of the drugs going off patent will be reduced by 50% to curb profiteering by pharmaceutical companies. It was decided that the drug pricing regulator will take the market data and fix a new price after one year.



Rule Check

Price setting provisions will stymie innovation: **OPPI**

Last year, NPPA notified ceiling price of drugs going off patent will be reduced to 50%

Aim is to curb profiteering by cos

Drug pricing regulator to take market data, fix new price after 1 year

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ling price of the drugs going off patent will be reduced by 50% to curb profiteering by pharmaceutical companies. It was decided that the drug pricing regulator will take the market data and fix a new price after one year.

"The move has hit the companies hard as the NPPA has taken away the option from them to reduce the prices on their own," a

company executive said, requesting anonymity. "It will now be mandatory for the company to reduce the price to 50% once the patent expires. Earlier, the company had an option to continue with the same price till generic products hit the market," he said.

It is learnt that in a meeting held last week, the OPPI suggested that DoP amend Para 32 (i) to "exclude all patented drugs" from operation of DPCO till the expiry of the patent term in India. Para 32 of the DPCO gives powers to the NPPA to exempt certain class of drugs from price control for a period of five years. It says that the price cap won't apply if a new drug is developed through a unique and indigenous process, is patented under the Indian Patents Act, and is not produced elsewhere.

It has also asked the DoP that ceiling prices of patented drugs should only be fixed after expiry of the patent and by using the provisions of market-based pricing and that there should not be any "arbitrary" 50% price cuts upon patent expiry.

According to OPPI, patents and other intellectual property protections are required to provide economic incentives to inventors.

Publication	Hindu BusinessLine
Date	24-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Healthcare sector hopes to stay in the race, benefit from innovation fund

Healthcare sector hopes to stay in the race, benefit from innovation fund

Updated - July 23, 2024 at 10:58 PM.

Three cancer drugs, x-ray component exemptions could benefit patients

BY PT JYOTHI DATTA

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Publication	Hindu BusinessLine
Date	24-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Healthcare sector hopes to stay in the race, benefit from innovation fund

Healthcare sector hopes to stay in the race, benefit from innovation fund

PT Jyothi Datta
Mumbai

Health may not have got the big bang announcement it hoped for, but will get a leg-up from some of the nine stated priorities, including digital infrastructure, say experts. The innovation, research and development support, for example, held out hope for the pharmaceutical and medical devices industry; while cuts in the customs duty on three cancer drugs and basic customs duty (BCD) on x-ray components could translate to less expensive medical bills for patients.

The cancer medicines on which 10 per cent customs duty was scrapped, were Trastuzumab Deruxtecan (breast cancer), Osimertinib (non-small cell lung cancer), and Durvalumab (immunotherapy for cancer).

Basic Customs Duty was reduced on x-ray tubes and flat panel detectors for use in medical x-ray machines under the Phased Manufacturing Programme, to synchronise it with domestic capacity addition, the Budget said.

BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

The Centre's total allocation for health was ₹90,958.63 crore, up nearly 13 per cent over last Budget's ₹80,518 crore. Its flagship Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme received an allocation of ₹7,300 crore, as com-



LARGER PIE. The allocation for health was ₹90,958.63 crore, up nearly 13 per cent over the last Budget

pared to the revised estimated of ₹6,800 crore (2023-24). The allocation for PLI (pharmaceuticals) stood at ₹2143 crore.

The National Research Fund for basic research and prototype development, the Finance Minister said, would be operationalised. "We will set up a mechanism for spurring private sector-driven research and innovation at commercial scale with a financing pool of ₹1 lakh crore in line with the announcement in the interim budget," she added.

Shuchi Ray, Partner, Deloitte India, "hoped that a significant allocation under this priority will be made towards research in pharma and medical devices. While higher allocation to the sector and certain sector specific announcements could have helped, still, the integration of healthcare with most of the priorities, has still kept the sector in the race."

UNMET EXPECTATIONS

The Association of Indian Medical Device Industry's







Rajiv Nath pointed to their expectation of a "nominal duty increase on at least those medical devices that India had substantial manufacturing capacity" as demonstrated during the pandemic. "During Covid-19 pandemic, Indian medical devices showed its resilience in manufacturing syringes, masks, oximeters, oxygen concentrator and certain testing kitsRemoval of nil duty exemption on some of these medical devices would have acted as a further enabler for Make in India drive and enhance our global competitiveness," he said.

Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, pointed to their unmet expectations on incentives to develop medicines for rare diseases affecting small populations. "The incentivisation of R&D investments in India is necessary as it will be a significant move towards Atma Nirbhar Bharat, and a more resilient and future-ready pharmaceutical industry," he said.

Publication	The Economic Times
Date	29-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Drug MNCs for keeping patient aid plan out of trade margin formula

Drug MNCs for keeping patient aid plan out of trade margin formula

by Teena Thacker, ET Bureau • Last Updated: Jul 29, 2024, 12:28:00 AM IST

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Synopsis

The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) recommended excluding Patient Assistance Programmes (PAPs) from Trade Margin Rationalisation to maintain affordability for patients. They noted that PAPs are crucial for providing access to expensive drugs, especially for oncology and rare diseases. OPPI also sought exemption for patented and orphan drugs from government-set price controls and opposed post-patent price cuts.



New Delhi: The industry body representing multinational pharma companies in India has proposed that medicines provided under the [patient assistance programme \(PAP\)](#), which is designed to provide free access to drugs which are otherwise expensive, should be kept outside the scope of [trade margin rationalisation](#) (TMR).

According to the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India ([OPPI](#)), PAP increases access and affordability and putting them under the ambit of TMR will severely impact patients who end up paying more for such products.

A lot of multinational companies including [Novartis](#), Roche and [AstraZeneca](#) run PAP. In most of the programmes, which cover expensive cancer drugs or those for rare diseases, there are no intermediaries or trade as such. The hospital buys the drug directly from the manufacturer and bills it to the [patient](#).

Publication	The Economic Times
Date	29-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Drug MNCs for keeping patient aid plan out of trade margin formula

AS GOVT LOOKS TO BRING DRUGS UNDER TRADE MARGIN RATIONALISATION...

Drug MNCs for Keeping Patient Aid Plan Out of Trade Margin Formula

Say move will impact patients who will have to pay more for expensive medicines

Teena Thacker

New Delhi: The industry body representing multinational pharma companies in India has proposed that medicines provided under the patient assistance programme (PAP), which is designed to provide free access to drugs which are otherwise expensive, should be kept outside the scope of trade margin rationalisation (TMR).

According to the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), PAP increases access and affordability and putting them under the ambit of TMR will severely impact patients who end up paying more for such products.

A lot of multinational companies including Novartis, Roche and AstraZeneca run PAP. In most of the programmes, which cover expensive cancer drugs or those for rare diseases, there are no intermediaries or trade as such. The hospital buys the drug directly from the manufacturer and bills it to the patient.

The government is planning to apply the TMR formula to drugs in order to bring down their prices.

The Department of Pharmaceuticals has been holding meetings with the stakeholders to discuss reforms in the pricing framework

Affordable Care

Hospitals buy drugs directly from manufacturers, no intermediaries and bills it to the patients

60% of PAPs provide oncology drugs, rest cover critical care, rare diseases, and cardiology



The govt is planning to implement TMR to lower drug prices

OPPI seeks exemptions for patented and orphan drugs from price controls

PAPs are beneficial by offering affordable prices for critical therapies

COS RUN PROGRAMME

Many drug multinational companies including Novartis, Roche and AstraZeneca run patient assistance programme

drugs and medical devices. Several meetings have taken place this month.

Presentations have been given so far by the OPPI, Indian Drug Manufacturers Association, Indian

MEETINGS ON

Dept of Pharma holding meetings with stakeholders to discuss reforms in pricing framework drugs, medical devices

Pharmaceutical Alliance, All India Drugs Action Network and the Laghu Udyog Bharti.

In their presentation before the department, the OPPI suggested keeping PAPs out of the ambit of

the TMR.

"Innovative companies (Indian and MNCs) provide PAPs for patented, first-in class/breakthrough drugs, innovative targeted therapies like biologics and complex monoclonal antibodies. About 60% of PAPs provide oncology drugs, the rest are still for critical care medicines, rare diseases, cardiology," it said, adding that PAP is provided where the cost of therapy is high and member companies are unable to provide a much lower "India-specific price over significant external reference pricing".

The OPPI further said that in the absence of PAPs, companies would not be able to provide net prices at the current level, thereby significantly impacting access to treatment.

"PAPs help companies, government and patients to achieve the desired outcomes—prices that work for India," it added.

The OPPI has also sought exemption for patented and orphan drugs from the government-set price controls, people in the know told ET.

It has asked the government to do away with the existing practice of 50% price cuts upon patent expiry, citing that the government's price setting provisions will stymie innovation.

ONLINE & TRADE

Publication	Express Pharma
Date	1-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	OPPI urges government to boost R&D and innovation in pharma sector ahead of Union Budget

OPPI urges government to boost R&D and innovation in pharma sector ahead of Union Budget

Anil Matai, Director General of OPPI, highlights key recommendations for enhancing pharmaceutical development in India

By **EP News Bureau** — On Jul 1, 2024

BUDGET 2024 | **LATEST UPDATES**



178 | 0

In anticipation of the upcoming Union budget, the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) has voiced its expectations and recommendations for the healthcare and pharma sector. Anil Matai, Director General of OPPI, expressed optimism about the government's ongoing efforts to enhance quality healthcare and the continuous reforms aimed at bolstering innovation and streamlining regulatory processes.

"We commend the government's efforts to enhance quality healthcare in India and are optimistic about the continued reforms and policies aimed at bolstering innovation and streamlining regulatory processes. We at OPPI look forward to the upcoming Union budget and are hopeful that it will have a positive impact on the healthcare and pharma sector," Matai stated.

To accelerate research and development (R&D) and innovation, OPPI urges the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments. These suggestions include deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for multinational corporations, and corporate tax concessions.

Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, Matai proposed extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development, and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures. "This would significantly boost our ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration," he added.

Matai also emphasised the importance of establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime to drive growth and encourage research-based pharmaceutical companies, both global and Indian, to introduce innovative therapies in India. He recommended introducing incentives for centres and companies that provide specialised training programs for pharmaceutical employees, promoting growth, and supporting continuous professional development in the sector.

Publication	Moneycontrol Hindi
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Budget 2024: Pharmaceutical industry wants tax exemptions, IPR changes

The pharma industry says that in the upcoming budget, there is a need to encourage research and development investment, give exemption in corporate tax and promote the growth of the domestic pharmaceutical industry. Pharma Producers Association of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai has demanded the government to encourage investment related to research and development and provide exemption in corporate tax

MONEYCONTROL NEWS | UPDATED JUL 07, 2024 AT 5:21 PM

Publication	Moneycontrol
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

PTI | JUL 11, 2024 / 11:24 IST

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There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming [Union Budget](#), Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said.

Publication	YourStory
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Outlining the pharma sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

He added that the initiatives will help accelerate R&D and innovation in the sector.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200% deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said.

This would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration, he added.

Matai also sought to establish an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based **pharma** companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Publication	CNBC TV18
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged Centre to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

Publication	NDTV Profit
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Pharma Industry Urges Government For Research And Development Incentives, Tax Concessions In Union Budget



There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies. Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

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Publication	MSN
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Union Budget 2024 wish list: Tax benefits for pharma, IPR, infrastructure status for hotels

What does India's pharma industry expect from the 2024 Union Budget?

Anil Matai, Director General of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) sought incentives for training pharmaceutical employees, along with effective intellectual property rights for the pharma sector, both domestic and global to introduce innovative therapies in India for addressing unmet needs.

He also recommended creating more centres of excellence (CoEs) for R&D on rare diseases.

Also Read: [Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma talks about Paytm issues, expectations from union budget 2024](#)

Apart from this, "expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST/import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," Matai said, adding that the government should give incentives for investing in bonds of pharma companies.

OPPI represents pharmaceutical companies like AstraZeneca, Novartis and Merck, in India, that are involved in research.

Publication	Zee Biz Hindi
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Pharma industry seeks tax concessions in budget, R&D to get boost

मताई ने कहा, ऊंचे जोखिम की वजह से हमारा सुझाव है कि आयकर कानून, 1961 की धारा 115BAB का दायरा ऐसी कंपनियों तक बढ़ाया जाए, जो सिर्फ फार्मा R&D में लगी हैं. ऐसी कंपनियों को आरएंडी खर्च पर 200 फीसदी की कटौती दी जाए.

उन्होंने कहा कि इससे क्लिनिकल परीक्षण और पेटेंट पंजीकरण सहित जरूरी अनुसंधान और विकास करने की क्षमता में बेतहाशा बढ़ोतरी होगी. मताई ने विकास को गति देने के लिए एक प्रभावी IPR व्यवस्था स्थापित करने तथा वैश्विक और घरेलू दोनों ही प्रकार की अनुसंधान आधारित फार्मा कंपनियों को भारत में नवीन उपचार पद्धतियां शुरू करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने की भी मांग की, ताकि अपूर्ण चिकित्सा जरूरतों को पूरा किया जा सके.

Publication	News 18
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024 Expectations: Pharma Sector Seeks Tax Benefits, Effective Intellectual Property Rights Regime

“Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures,” Matai said.

This would significantly boost the sector’s ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration, he added.

Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Besides, he sought introduction of incentives for centres and companies that provide specialised training programmes for pharmaceutical employees.

“Incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases are also crucial,” Matai said.

Besides, enhancing the management of rare diseases through more centres of excellence (CoEs), increased budget allocations for incentivising R&D on therapies for rare disease, and import duty waivers are essential, he noted.

“Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST/import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability,” Matai said.

To attract investment and contribute to a more resilient and future-ready pharmaceutical industry, the government should provide incentives for investments in bonds issued by pharmaceutical companies, he added.

OPPI represents the research-based pharmaceutical companies, including AstraZeneca, Novartis and Merck, in India.

Publication	Outlook
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget Wish List: Pharma Industry Seeks Tax Benefits, Effective Intellectual Property Rights Regime

Budget Wish List: Pharma Industry Seeks Tax Benefits, Effective Intellectual Property Rights Regime

IPA is an association of leading research-based pharmaceutical companies in India. The members include Cipla, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Sun Pharma and Lupin



Pharma Industry

PTI

Published on: 07 Jul 2024, 12:16 pm

There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

Publication	Millenium Post
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime

New Delhi: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights (IPR) regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

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The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

Also Read - [Mamata congratulates Swapnil](#)

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said.

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Publication	Millenium Post
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime

BUDGET WISH LIST

Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime

OUR CORRESPONDENT

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and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Besides, he sought introduction of incentives for centres and companies that provide specialised training programmes for pharmaceutical employees. "Incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases are also crucial," Matai said. Besides, enhancing the management of rare diseases through more centres of excellence (CoEs), increased budget allocations for incentivising R&D on therapies for rare disease, and import duty waivers are essential, he noted.

"Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST/import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," Matai said. In order to attract investment and contribute to a more resilient and future-ready pharmaceutical industry, the government should provide incentives for investments in bonds issued by pharmaceutical companies, he added. OPPI represents the research-based pharmaceutical companies, including Astra-Zeneca, Novartis and Merck, in India.

Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) Secretary General Sudarshan Jain said the policy direction should leverage the industry's knowledge-driven foundation and the status as a global manufacturing hub. The thrust should be on quality and innovation, he stated. Given the

high risk, lengthy development periods, and low success rates in research, continuous investment is crucial, he added.

"The 2024-25 budget should introduce policies that provide direct and indirect tax benefits to encourage research and investment in becoming a global benchmark in quality," Jain said.

Publication	ibc24
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Pharma industry wants tax concessions, effective IPR regime in Budget

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai, while demanding the industry for the budget, said that the government should take steps to promote research and development. For this, R&D incentives should be given to MNCs and corporate tax concessions should be provided to the sector.

Publication	Daily Excelsior
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

“Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures,” Matai said.

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Publication	LatestLY
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget Wish List: Pharma Industry Seeks Tax Benefits, Effective Intellectual Property Rights Regime

Agency News PTI | Jul 07, 2024 11:16 AM IST

A- A+



New Delhi, Jul 7 (PTI) There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

Publication	ET HealthWorld
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Pharma sector seeks tax sops, effective intellectual property rights regime

Budget 2024: Pharma sector seeks tax sops, effective intellectual property rights regime

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PTI
 Updated On Jul 8, 2024 at 06:40 PM IST



New Delhi: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions. The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

Publication	Business Today
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Union Budget 2024-25 wish list: Expectations from health, pharma sector

"We commend the government's efforts to enhance quality healthcare and are optimistic about the continued reforms and policies aimed at bolstering innovation and streamlining regulatory processes," said Anil Matai, Director General of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

To accelerate R&D and foster innovation, Matai recommends that the government explores avenues to incentivise R&D investments. His proposals include deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for multinational corporations, and corporate tax concessions.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200% deduction rate on R&D expenditures," he added. "This would significantly boost our ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration," he further said.

Matai stressed the crucial role of a robust intellectual property rights regime to stimulate growth and encourage research-based pharmaceutical companies--both global and Indian--to introduce innovative therapies in India. He advocated for incentives for centres and companies that offer specialised training programs for pharmaceutical employees, promoting growth and continuous professional development in the sector.

Focusing on rare diseases, Matai calls for increased incentives for developing treatments, enhanced management through more Centres of Excellence (CoEs), greater budget allocations for R&D on rare disease therapies, and import duty waivers. "Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST/import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," he highlighted.

Publication	Navhind Times
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024-25: Tax cuts top wish list of all stakeholders

Outlining the sector's wish list, the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), director general Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures,"

Matai said.

"It would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development including clinical trials and patent registration," he added. Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Publication	Drug Today Online
Date	8-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024–25: The pharmaceutical industry puts out its wish list

Budget wish list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime

NEW DELHI: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

Publication	NDTV
Date	9-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Tax Benefits, Intellectual Property Rights On Pharma Industry's Budget Wishlist (ndtv.com)

New Delhi: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime to push the growth of the domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

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Publication	Express Pharma
Date	9-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Transforming India's pharma sector: Opportunities and Innovations under Modi 3.0

Transforming India's pharma sector: Opportunities and Innovations under Modi 3.0

Anil Matal, Director General, OPPI shares an optimistic outlook for further enhancements in quality healthcare through continued reforms and policies aimed at fostering innovation and streamlining regulatory processes

By Anil Matal — On Jul 9, 2024

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Anil Matal, Director General, OPPI



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India's pharmaceutical industry is set for significant transformation under the Modi 3.0 government. The sector's spectacular growth over the past two decades has positioned India as a global leader, often referred to as the "Pharmacy of the World." Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched several groundbreaking programs in healthcare, such as Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, and the successful COVID-19 vaccination drive. These initiatives have reshaped the pharma landscape, promoting preventive healthcare, robust infrastructure, and innovative technologies.

With the government entering its third term, there is an optimistic outlook for further enhancements in quality healthcare through continued reforms and policies aimed at fostering innovation and streamlining regulatory processes.

Fostering innovation through Intellectual Property and R&D

As India builds on its fundamental strengths, focusing on innovation is crucial to propel growth, and increase access to life-saving treatments. To strengthen innovation and research, India needs to improve regulatory policies, particularly around patent and price control, to capitalise on growth opportunities. A strong IPR ecosystem will be critical as pharma companies enhance their efforts to transform the healthcare landscape in India.

Global pharma companies with a strong presence in India have partnered with Indian companies, while others are actively collaborating to foster innovations in various therapy areas. A robust IPR framework is essential for these collaborations and future partnerships to thrive. This includes implementing IP training programs, providing access to legal resources, and partnering with educational institutions to enhance IP knowledge.

The government has a significant opportunity to incentivise R&D investments through fiscal measures such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions. Protecting IP rights is crucial to encourage and recognise innovation and innovators.

Publication	CNBC TV18
Date	12-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024: Healthcare and pharma sectors push for reforms and incentives

Ray suggested that incorporating these modern treatments under AB-PMJAY could enable economically disadvantaged populations to access improved healthcare.

Anil Matai, Director General, the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) echoed similar sentiments.

"To accelerate R&D and innovation, we urge the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions. Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200% deduction rate on R&D expenditures," he said.

Another proposal Matai shared was to establish an effective intellectual property rights regime, which is critical for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and Indian to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

"We recommend introducing incentives for centers and companies that provide specialized training programs for pharmaceutical employees, promoting growth and supporting continuous professional development in the sector," Matai said.

OPPI also called for incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases. Besides, enhancing the management of rare diseases through more CoEs, increased budget allocations for incentivising R&D on therapies for rare disease, and import duty waivers are essential.

Publication	Jagran
Date	19-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024 Expected To Emphasise PLI Scheme, More Announcements Likely To Promote Manufacturing

Budget Expectations: Pharma Industry's Call For Quality And Innovation

Sudarshan Jain, Secretary-General of the Indian Pharmaceuticals Alliance, emphasises the need for focus on quality and innovation in the upcoming budget. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has completed the consultation process with all stakeholders before the budget. Anil Matai, Director-General of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, states that these initiatives will help boost R&D and innovation in the industry.

Publication	ET HealthWorld
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Health Sector Budget 2024 LIVE: All eyes on FM's Union Budget 2024 prescription for Health Sector

Healthcare Budget 2024 Reactions

"We deeply appreciate the government's decision to exempt three critical cancer medicines - Trastuzumab Deruxtecan, Osimertinib, and Durvalumab - from customs duties. This move will provide much-needed relief to cancer patients by reducing the financial burden of these life-saving drugs. The current customs duty of 10% was a significant cost barrier, and this exemption is a welcome step towards making advanced cancer treatments more accessible.

We appreciate that the Government of India has reiterated the importance and necessity of Patient Assistance Programmes (PAP) offered by the pharmaceutical industry to improve access of life-saving drugs by extending the customs duty waiver on drugs and medicines imported to India for the supply under PAP through to March 31, 2029. The clarion call of Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has once again been reiterated with Innovation and Research & Development being announced as one of the nine priority areas envisaged by the Government in this budget.

The operationalization of the Anusandhan National Research Fund is a progressive step towards bolstering basic research and prototype development in India. Furthermore, establishing a financing pool of ₹1 lakh crore to spur private sector-driven research and innovation is a landmark initiative. This fund is expected to catalyse significant advancements in pharmaceutical R&D, fostering an ecosystem of innovation.

While we appreciate the positive strides taken in the Union Budget 2024, we were also hoping that the government could announce incentives for pharma companies to develop medications for rare diseases affecting small populations. This may also help in attracting investment into India to undertake R&D for rare diseases. We were hoping for focused measures like the establishment of more CoEs for the management of rare diseases.

We were also hoping for stricter and unambiguous enforcement of IP regulations required for Pharma MNCs to introduce newer innovative therapies for Indian patients. The incentivization of R&D investments in India is necessary as it will significantly move towards AtmaNirbhar Bharat and a more resilient and future-ready pharmaceutical industry. Overall, the Union Budget 2024 reflects a forward-looking and inclusive approach, and the pharmaceutical sector looks forward to actively participating in and contributing to the realization of these transformative initiatives." – Mr. [Anil Katal](#), Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI)."



Publication	Express Pharma
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Union Budget 2024-25 reflects a forward-looking and inclusive approach

Union Budget 2024-25 reflects a forward-looking and inclusive approach

Anil Matai, Director General, OPPI expressed that while positive strides were taken in the Union Budget 2024-25, the pharma sector hoped for incentives to develop medications for rare diseases affecting small populations

By Anil Matai — On Jul 24, 2024

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Anil Matai, Director General, OPPI



The Union Budget 2024-25, presented by FM Nirmala Sitharaman, marks a significant milestone as the first budget of the re-elected BJP-led NDA government.

We at OPPI commend the government's commitment to improving healthcare access and innovation in India, reflecting a forward-looking approach that aligns with our industry's aspirations. We deeply appreciate the government's decision to exempt three critical cancer medicines – Trastuzumab Deruxtecan, Osimertinib, and Durvalumab – from customs duties. This move will provide much-needed relief to cancer patients by reducing the financial burden of these life-saving drugs. The current customs duty of 10 per cent was a significant cost barrier, and this exemption is a welcome step towards making advanced cancer treatments more accessible.

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The operationalisation of the Anusandhan National Research Fund is a progressive step towards bolstering basic research and prototype development in India. Furthermore, the establishment of a financing pool of Rs 1 lakh crore to spur private sector-driven research and innovation is a landmark initiative. This fund is expected to catalyse significant advancements in pharmaceutical R&D, fostering an ecosystem of innovation. The government's ongoing efforts to enhance the 'Ease of Doing Business' through initiatives such as the Jan Vishwas Bill 2.0 and incentivising states to implement business reforms action plans and digitalisation are indeed commendable. Simplifying regulatory processes and reducing these hurdles will create a more conducive environment for pharmaceutical companies to operate, innovate, and expand.

Publication	The Week
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget Govt proposes to fully exempt 3 cancer drugs from customs duty

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said the move will provide much-needed relief to cancer patients by reducing the financial burden of these life-saving drugs.

"While we appreciate the positive strides taken in the Union Budget 2024, we were also hoping that the government could announce incentives for pharma companies to develop medications for rare diseases affecting small populations," he added.

Matai further said: "We were also hoping for the stricter and unambiguous enforcement of IP regulations required for Pharma MNCs to introduce newer innovative therapies for Indian patients."

Publication	Devdiscourse
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Government Proposes Tax Exemption on Cancer Drugs in 2024 Budget

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said the move will provide much-needed relief to cancer patients by reducing the financial burden of these life-saving drugs.

"While we appreciate the positive strides taken in the Union Budget 2024, we were also hoping that the government could announce incentives for pharma companies to develop medications for rare diseases affecting small populations," he added.

Matai further said: "We were also hoping for the stricter and unambiguous enforcement of IP regulations required for Pharma MNCs to introduce newer innovative therapies for Indian patients."

Publication	BioVoice
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget 2024 reflects a forward-looking and inclusive approach: Anil Matai, DG, OPPI



New Delhi: In his post budget reaction, Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) said: "The Union Budget 2024-25, presented by FM Nirmala Sitharaman, marks a significant milestone as the first budget of the re-elected BJP-led NDA government."

"We at OPPI commend the government's commitment to improving healthcare access and innovation in India, reflecting a forward-looking approach that aligns with our industry's aspirations. We deeply appreciate the government's decision to exempt three critical cancer medicines – Trastuzumab Deruxtecan, Osimertinib, and Durvalumab – from customs duties. This move will provide much-needed relief to cancer patients by reducing the financial burden of these life-saving drugs. The current customs duty of 10% was a significant cost barrier, and this exemption is a welcome step towards making advanced cancer treatments more accessible," said Matai.

Publication	Rediff.com
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Govt cuts customs duty on 3 cancer drugs

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India director general Anil Matai said the move will provide much-needed relief to cancer patients by reducing the financial burden of these life-saving drugs.

"While we appreciate the positive strides taken in the Union Budget 2024, we were also hoping that the government could announce incentives for pharma companies to develop medications for rare diseases affecting small populations," he added.

Matai further said: "We were also hoping for the stricter and unambiguous enforcement of IP regulations required for Pharma MNCs to introduce newer innovative therapies for Indian patients."

Medical Technology Association of India chairman Pavan Choudary noted that customs duty reduction on finished goods is a pending demand.

Publication	IndiaMedToday
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Budget Reactions 2024

Healthcare Budget 2024 Reactions

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Publication	PRovoke Media
Date	23-Jul-24
Edition	Online

Digital Marketing/Advertising**Winner:**

- Lost & Found in Singapore — Singapore Tourism Board with MSL India, MX Player

Certificate of Excellence

- Bharat Ke Liye (For India) — Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) with Weber Shandwick India

Publication	BioSpectrum
Date	31-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Union Budget Drives Home 'Viksit Bharat' Mantra

Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) said, "While we appreciate the positive strides taken in the Union Budget 2024, we were also hoping that the government could announce incentives for pharma companies to develop medications for rare diseases affecting small populations. We were hoping for focused measures like the establishment of more CoEs for the management of rare diseases. We were also hoping for the stricter and unambiguous enforcement of IP regulations required for Pharma MNCs to introduce newer innovative therapies for Indian patients." Industry leaders are also expressing the unmet need for focus on areas of API manufacturing and reducing import dependence. Ashutosh Gupta, Director of Medicamen Organics Limited and former Chairman Pharmexcil Export Promotion Council of India said, "There is not much for the pharmaceutical sector in Budget 2024. We were expecting some more announcements to promote the API sector. We also expected some announcements on R&D."

Publication	BioSpectrum
Date	31-Jul-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Why global pharma companies choose India for GCCs

Why global pharma companies choose India for GCCs

31 July 2024 | Views | By Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI)

Post Share 0

Share

India's pharmaceutical industry is globally recognised for its capabilities in research and manufacturing and for its skilled labour. The country's attractiveness as a destination for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) is underpinned by several key factors, including cost-efficiency, a vast talent pool, robust infrastructure, and strong regulatory support.



India serves as a key global hub for development, attracting investments of more than \$7 billion. Global pharmaceutical companies have established GCCs in India which serve as centres of excellence for drug discovery, formulation development, and healthcare solutions, while also supporting a strong ecosystem by employing talent and increasing the knowledge base.

For instance, Novartis has had a significant footprint in India since 1947, and in the last two decades, it has evolved to be an integral part of the development journey of many breakthrough medicines in various therapeutic areas like cardiovascular, oncology, immunology, neurology, and ophthalmology, amongst others.

Similarly, MSD is primed to support the Indian government in protecting every woman through HPV vaccination with nearly 85 per cent of their products being manufactured locally.

Publication	BioSpectrum
Date	31-Jul-24
Edition	Print Magazine
Headline	Why global pharma companies choose India for GCCs

Why global pharma companies choose India for GCCs



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Anil Matai,
Director General,
Organisation of
Pharmaceutical
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In India, Novo Nordisk is conducting phase 2-4 clinical trials across major disease areas with over 3,000 enrolled patients. With 37 ongoing trials in various therapy areas, India accounts for 7-8 per cent of Novo Nordisk's global patient pool.

As GCCs have evolved to become centres for innovation and research, India has transformed into a hub for new product development for global enterprises. Consequently, over 50 per cent of the

world's GCCs are now located in India, driven by factors that provide a competitive edge for businesses aiming to optimise operations and drive innovation.

Cost-efficiency of conducting business

India offers a compelling cost-quality ratio, making it financially advantageous for companies to establish their GCCs in the country. Labour costs in India are significantly lower than those in countries like North America and Europe, enabling companies to reduce operational expenses while maintaining profitability. According to a NASSCOM report, companies setting up GCCs in India could achieve average cost savings of 40-50 per cent compared to their home countries. These savings extend beyond salaries to include operational costs such as real estate, utilities, and infrastructure.

Bayer's Hyderabad centre has been selected as a key APAC hub as India has a significant talent pool to support global drug development and manufacturing initiatives. There are over 100 employees currently working here. The Novartis Corporate Centre serves as one of the key global hubs for development wherein scientists are providing support in the development of many chemical entities developed and commercialised by Novartis globally.

Extensive Talent Pool

India boasts a large pool of highly skilled professionals with the world's second-largest English-speaking youth population and the highest number of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) graduates. The foundation of a thriving GCC model in India is the nation's abundant talent pool and expanding knowledge economy. The Indian talent is equipped to meet the demand because of its unique characteristics like generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) and cloud computing.

GSK's GCC in Bengaluru employs over 2,500 people in global business operations and R&D, with more than 50 per cent focusing on R&D in areas like safety science, regulatory, biostatistics, clinical operations, and more. Pfizer's Global Drug Development Centre in Chennai has emerged as a powerhouse of innovation, propelling the company's quest for groundbreaking medical solutions.

Bristol Myers Squibb's new facility in Hyderabad expands the company's global drug development and IT and digital capabilities. It is expected to be home

to over 1,500 employees, enhancing the company's workforce and impact on patients.

Robust infrastructure and regulatory support

The country has made substantial investments in modernising its infrastructure to support business operations. This includes state-of-the-art office spaces, reliable high-speed internet connectivity, and consistent power supply, which are crucial for the seamless functioning of the GCCs. Additionally, India's advanced transport systems and logistics networks facilitate the efficient movement of goods and personnel, ensuring that operations run smoothly and without interruption. For example, cities like Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Pune have developed into major business hubs, offering world-class infrastructure that meets the demanding needs of global companies.

Integrating advanced technologies such as AI, machine learning, and big data analytics into the infrastructure framework supports innovation and enhances operational efficiency. Digital infrastructure initiatives such as the creation of smart cities and tech parks provide an ecosystem conducive to cutting-edge research and development. Lilly's GCC in Bengaluru supports digital transformation and innovation by providing cloud automation, advanced analytics, AI, software engineering, and information security solutions. Leveraging expertise in data analytics and digital technologies, it enhances clinical trial processes and drives innovation in AI and machine learning for biopharmaceutical challenges.

Focus on Innovation and R&D

India is rapidly emerging as a global hub for pharmaceutical R&D, driven by a robust ecosystem that includes academic and research institutions, industry partnerships, and government support. This ecosystem fosters collaboration and innovation, making India an ideal location for GCCs in the pharmaceutical sector. These centres are at the forefront of cutting-edge research, clinical trials, and drug development, significantly contributing to the global R&D efforts of their parent companies.

Pfizer collaborated with the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (NIPER), Ahmedabad to encourage startups in India and help early-stage innovators advance on their journey. This collaboration is an example of how healthcare startups are turning their innovative ideas into market-ready solutions. Sanofi's The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)-approved R&D centre in Goa has developed innovative products and technologies for the past 15 years, focusing on

new product development, lifecycle management, new dosage forms, R&D support, technology transfer, site troubleshooting, product harmonisation, process improvements, and compliance.

Ferring India R&D works on technology platforms like FDG's, SmaRTgel, and LBOL-IR/XR, investing over 60 million Euros in Indian R&D, with 1-2 million Euros spent annually on capital expenditure. Lilly Capability Centre India (LCCI) in Bengaluru and Merck's new Healthcare R&D Excellence Centre in Bengaluru leverage India's strengths in drug development and technology, driving global healthcare innovation.

Growing Technological Infrastructure

The rapidly expanding technological infrastructure provides a significant competitive advantage, enabling global pharma companies to enhance their operations, drive innovation, and achieve cost efficiencies. The country's robust IT infrastructure supports various aspects of operations, including R&D, data management, and digital health initiatives. For instance, Roche is harnessing India's robust technology ecosystem to forge ahead in the digital landscape, crafting innovative solutions that resonate on a global scale. Roche Services and Solutions (RSS) adds expertise around the technological advancements happening in the healthcare space through the utilisation of AI/ML concepts contributing towards significant improvement in the lives of patients.

Similarly, AstraZeneca's Global Innovation & Technology Centre (GITC) in Chennai drives the company's digital journey and technology innovation, housing over 50 per cent of its global IT staff. GITC offers services in software engineering, cybersecurity, IT infrastructure, cloud, hyper-automation, AI/ML, extended reality, and IoT.

Way Forward

The future of these hubs in India's pharmaceutical sector appears promising. Factors such as continued investment and talent accessibility, contribute to their sustained growth. Additionally, a favourable regulatory environment and an expanding healthcare market attract global companies to establish their hubs, facilitating collaborations and technology-driven solutions. These hubs also have ample opportunities to explore emerging technologies and foster collaborations, leading to breakthrough discoveries. Furthermore, increasing government support for innovation and entrepreneurship through initiatives and policies enhances the growth potential of these hubs. As we move forward, it's crucial to leverage the opportunities these GCCs present and continue to solve the healthcare challenges of India. **ES**

REGIONALS

Publication	Navshakti
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Tax incentives, need for effective intellectual property rights regime: expectations of the pharma industry

कर सवलती, प्रभावी बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार व्यवस्था हवी : फार्मा उद्योगाच्या अपेक्षा

नवी दिल्ली : विकासाला चालना देण्यासाठी आणि संशोधन आणि विकास गुंतवणुकीला (आर अँड डी) प्रोत्साहन देण्यासाठी कॉर्पोरेट कर सवलती देण्याची आणि प्रभावी बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार व्यवस्था स्थापन करण्याची गरज आहे, अशी अपेक्षा देशांतर्गत फार्मास्युटिकल उद्योगाने आगामी अर्थसंकल्पाच्या पार्श्वभूमीवर व्यक्त केली आहे.

ऑर्गनायझेशन ऑफ फार्मास्युटिकल प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑफ इंडियाचे महासंचालक अनिल मताई यांनी सरकारला आर अँड डी मधील गुंतवणुकीला प्रोत्साहन देण्यासाठी वेगवेगळ्या पद्धती शोधण्याचे आवाहन केले. त्यामध्ये आर अँड डी वरील खर्चाला करसवलत, बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना संशोधन-संबंधित प्रोत्साहने देणे आणि कॉर्पोरेट कर सवलती देण्यात यावे, अशी विनंती केली.

Publication	Deccan Chronicle
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Tax incentives, need for effective intellectual property rights regime: expectations of the pharma industry

Incentivising R&D expenses will aid pharma

New Delhi, July 7: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Organisation of pharmaceutical producers of India (OPPI) director general Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

"Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures," Matai said.

This would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration, he added.

Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Besides, he sought intro-



• **EXPANDING THE list of life-saving drugs eligible for goods services tax or import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability.**

duction of incentives for centres and companies that provide specialised training programmes for pharmaceutical employees. "Incentives for developing treatments for rare diseases are also crucial," Matai said.

Besides, enhancing the management of rare diseases through more centres of excellence, increased budget allocations for incentivising R&D on therapies for rare disease, and import duty waivers are essential, he noted.

"Expanding the list of life-saving drugs eligible for GST or import duty exemptions, including all oncology medications, will further improve patient affordability," he said.

Indian pharmaceutical alliance (IPA) secretary general Sudarshan Jain said the policy direction should leverage the industry's knowledge-driven foundation and the status as a global manufacturing hub.

— PTI

Publication	Telangana Today
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective intellectual property rights regime in Budget

New Delhi: There is a need to incentivise **R&D investments**, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic **pharmaceutical industry**, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for **MNCs**, and corporate tax concessions.

Publication	Navrashtra
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Pharma industry wants tax relief

फार्मा उद्योगाला हवी कर सवलत

दिल्ली, वृत्तसंस्था. आगामी अर्थसंकल्पात या क्षेत्रातील संशोधन आणि विकास(आर अँड डी) ला प्रोत्साहन देण्यासाठी सरकारने कॉर्पोरेट कर सवलती द्याव्यात आणि प्रभावी बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार व्यवस्था स्थापन करण्यासाठी पावले उचलवीत अशी देशांतर्गत औषध उद्योगाची इच्छा आहे.

यामुळे देशातील फार्मा उद्योगाच्या वाढीला चालना मिळेल. ऑर्गनायझेशन ऑफ फार्मास्युटिकल प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑफ इंडियाचे(ओपीपीआय) महासंचालक अनिल मताई यांनी अर्थसंकल्पाबाबत उद्योगांची मागणी मांडताना म्हटले की, सरकारने संशोधन आणि विकासाला चालना देण्यासाठी पावले उचलली पाहिजेत. यासाठी बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना संशोधन आणि



विकासाशी संबंधित सवलती देण्यात याव्यात आणि या क्षेत्राला कॉर्पोरेट कर सवलती देण्यात

याव्यात. जास्त जोखमीमुळे, आम्ही सुचवितो की आयकर कायदा, १९६१ च्या कलम ११५बीबीची व्याप्ती अशा कंपन्यांपर्यंत वाढवावी जी केवळ फार्मा संशोधन आणि विकासात गुंतलेली आहेत. अशा कंपन्यांना संशोधन आणि विकास खर्चावर २०० टक्के वजावट दिली पाहिजे.

Publication	Deccan Herald
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Budget wish-list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime

Budget wish-list: Pharma industry seeks tax benefits, effective IPR regime

NEW DELHI, PTI: There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation

of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

Publication	Trinity Mirror
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Pharma industries seek tax benefits, effective IP right regime

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New Delhi, July 7: Outlining the sector's wish list for the upcoming Union Budget, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai urged the government to explore methods to incentivise R&D investments, such

as deductions on R&D expenses, research-linked incentives for MNCs, and corporate tax concessions.

There is a need to incentivise R&D investments, offer corporate tax concessions and establish an effective intellectual property rights regime in order to push the growth of domestic pharmaceutical industry, as per the industry bodies.

The initiatives will help in accelerating R&D and innovation in the sector, he added.

“Recognising the high-risk, long-gestation nature of R&D, we suggest extending the scope of section 115BAB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to companies solely engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and providing a 200 per cent deduction rate on R&D expenditures,” Matai said.

This would significantly boost the sector's ability to undertake essential research and development, including clinical trials and patent registration,

he added.

Matai also sought establishing an effective intellectual property rights regime for driving growth and encouraging research-based pharma companies, both global and domestic, to introduce innovative therapies in India towards addressing unmet medical needs.

Besides, he sought introduction of incentives for centres and companies that provide specialised training programmes for pharmaceutical employees.

Publication	Veer Arjun
Date	7-Jul-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Demand for tax concessions, effective IPR system

बजट में कर रियायतें, प्रभावी आईपीआर व्यवस्था चाहता है फार्मा उद्योग

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। घरेलू फार्मास्युटिकल उद्योग चाहता है कि सरकार आगामी बजट में क्षेत्र में शोध एवं विकास (आरएंडडी) को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कॉर्पोरेट कर में रियायत दे और एक प्रभावी बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार (आईपीआर) व्यवस्था स्थापित करने के लिए कदम उठाए। इससे देश में फार्मा उद्योग की वृद्धि को प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा। ऑर्गेनाइजेशन ऑफ फार्मास्युटिकल प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑफ इंडिया (ओपीपीआई) के महानिदेशक अनिल मताई बजट को लेकर उद्योग की मांग रखते हुए कहा कि सरकार शोध एवं विकास को बढ़ावा देने के कदम उठाए। इसके लिए बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों को शोध एवं विकास से संबद्ध प्रोत्साहन दिए जाएं और क्षेत्र को कॉर्पोरेट कर में रियायतें प्रदान की जाएं।