

BATTLING FOR RIGHT TO MEDICINE FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Ref: The Economic Times, Wednesday, 04.01.2017



Whether Patients can procure the medicine themselves or not or what is the domicile of the patient who requires the drug are the parameters for their treatment? This is what has been alleged by the father of a patient who is suffering from Tuberculosis. The father filed a case against LRS TB Hospital who refused to provide/procure the drug Bedaquiline citing protocol as well as its inability with respect to the equipment required for administering/monitoring the same. The patient has been trapped amongst varied opinion and line of treatment of one doctor based in Mumbai and the hospital in Delhi. On one hand, the hospital authority state that the patient can import the drug on compassionate ground itself, on the other hand the doctor says that it would take more than 45 days for the drug to reach the patient if applied on compassionate grounds. In this scenario of contradictory opinions, what options does an individual person has? It is prima facie apparent that the exclusive and absolute right rests with the company whether to give the drug or not? Is our government not taking any steps to regulate this mechanism or this life threatening disease shall never be eradicated and continue to surround lives of our people? The Delhi high court in its adjudication has directed the Drug department to clear the application for the patient within 24 hours and also clarified that domicile requirement has not been prescribed by any statute. These directions of the Court shall go a long way for the drug resistance and drug procurement process for the needy patients. However at the same time it is mandatory that the same is duly monitored by qualified doctors and well equipped hospitals.

MESENTERY- NEW ORGAN IN HUMANS

Ref: The Economic Times, Thursday, 05.01.2017



Scientists from Ireland have recently identified an organ in the human body called “Mesentery” which had been considered as a fragment since centuries. The organ being a continuous organ attaches stomach, intestines, pancreas, spleen, and other organs to the posterior wall of the abdomen. This revelation shall open new avenues for research as well as treatment of gastro diseases as well as neurology. This part has now been incorporated in medical text books as well. A human body thus consists of 79 organs including 5 vital organs which keeps a person healthy.

WIFI CHARGE IN STICKER

Ref: The Economic Times, Thursday, 05.01.2017



Energy Square, a French Start up has developed a product which is a charging pad and a sticker that can be simply placed behind a device. The sticker has electrode which enables the charging of a device through micro USB or USB C or a lighting connector. The pace of our life and the rampant use of mobile phones, ipad, tablets have welcomed the ease wireless enabled sticker charger. However, being easy to use it also has its own limitations with respect to use of a normal charger, replacement of stickers, costs, etc. The start up company is working towards the same and shall develop advanced versions soon.

ENFORCEMENT OF DAMAGES FROM BIKRAM YOGA

Ref: The Times of India, Friday, 06.01.2017



The Los Angeles Court had held Bikram Chaudhary liable for sexual harassment against his legal advisor and ordered both compensatory of USD 1 million as well as punitive damages to the tune of USD 6 million.

In the process of execution of the said order, the court ordered one of the fitness business proceeds to be remitted towards payment of damages along with some other assets of the accused. This adjudication including remittance of damages has set a higher level in the matters of sexual harassment and shall be a precedent globally as well.

IIT-KHARAGPUR BAGS 'TECH OSCAR'

Ref: The Times of India, Monday, 09.01.2017



Parag Havaladar, an alumni of IIT-Kharagpur has been felicitated by the Academy of Motion Pictures & Science by being awarded Technical Achievement Award popularly called the "Technical Oscar". The award is for the development of an expression-based facial performance-capture technology which had been developed by him at Sony Pictures Image works. This has been used for creating varied styled animations for example The Amazing Spider Man, Watchmen etc. Again, the Indian brain has left a mark in the creativity industry.

PATENTS OF US IN 2016

Ref: The Economic Times, Wednesday, 11.01.2017

2016 U.S. PATENT RANKING			
Ranking	Company	Country	Grants
1	IBM	United States	8,088
2	Samsung Electronics	Korea	5,518
3	Canon	Japan	3,665
4	Qualcomm	United States	2,897
5	Google	United States	2,835
6	Intel	United States	2,784
7	LG Electronics	Korea	2,428
8	Microsoft	United States	2,398
9	TSMC	Taiwan	2,288
10	Sony	Japan	2,181

U.S. PATENTS IN 2016

An intriguing analysis and study revealed that inventors of India constituted around 658 patents for IBM in the year 2016. The arena of technologies covered but not limited to artificial intelligence, cloud, cognitive health, cyber security and other strategic growth areas for the company. Here are the top 10 throughing the Patent filing lists of USA: 1) IBM-8,088 2) Samsung 5,518 3) Canon 3,665 4) Qualcomm 2,897 5) Google 2,835 6) Intel 2,784 7) LG 2,428 8) Microsoft 2,398 9) TSMC 2,288 10) Sony 2,181

BULLETS SPROUTING PLANTS

Ref: The Times of India, Friday, 13.01.2017



Biodegradable bullets loaded with special seeds are the innovation and requirement for present day Army arenas. The spent shells are difficult to be cleaned or disposed off and thus the Department of Defence is soliciting proposals for the bullets. This innovation and implementation shall be instrumental in enhancing greenery as well as reduce pollution levels along with being a medium of use of spent shells. The US Army Corps of Engineers' Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory has already developed and tested seeds that can be embedded into a biodegradable composite. The US Army is planning a three phase development so as to use these bullets at the training facilities. Further, efforts are being made to ensure that there is no harm to animals or wildlife while consuming these plants. These kinds of bullets can be introduced in various arenas which shall work as a double edged sword whereby the used shells shall be reused for germination of plants and environment shall also improve tremendously.

STARTUPS MIGHT BE FREED FROM LAWS

Ref: The Economic Times, Monday, 16.01.2017



The government has realized that the local and state laws are thwarting the development of a start up, whose incubation period is very crucial. In an attempt to further promote the success of start ups, the government is considering exemption of start ups from labour laws and other local state laws. DIPP has stated that along with relaxation of taxation, local laws and benefits by the government the start up would have much higher chances of growth. With respect to funding, the governments would soon categorize funds in early stage and growth stage so that they can be efficaciously enforced and monitored. We are at nascent stages of start up

development but all agencies are making a combined effort to fulfil the aims of this initiative.

NAZARA TECHNOLOGIES VIRTUAL STARS

Ref: The Economic Times, Monday 16.01.2017



Nazara technologies is partnering with celebrity brands to enhance its customer base in a manifold increase. Cricketers Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma have agreed to collaborate with this company which is launching mobile games for cricket which is the dominant sport for India. The 16 years old company gaming publisher will unveil Virat Super Cricket, Stick Cricket and then Virat Rohit next month through their partnership with London and Sydney-based mobile game developer Stick Sports. Thus, for cricketers, the avenues are much wider than advertisements, modelling or Bollywood, as such business ventures enhance their IP as well as their name is publicized both in the domestic as well as foreign market on a much larger scale.

FLYING TAXIS – IS IT REAL?

Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday, 18.01.2017



Airbus has announced tests of prototype of flying taxis by the end of 2017 and launch in 2021. The company is currently working on Project Vahana, an autonomous, single-passenger taxi capable of vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) and is working on a multiple passenger flying car. The congestion on road and on land shall shift its base to congestion in air, if these taxis are successful. However, they might be of utmost use in times of medical emergencies or natural calamities. The future of transport is particularly a hot topic as Nissan is ready to introduce its driverless cars in London for trials soon again first of its kind. We hope

the effect of these automation on environment are not ignored.

ROBOTIC AUTHOR

Ref: The Times of India, Thursday, 19.01.2017



Chinese daily newspaper published a 300 characters long article written in just a second by a robotic journalist on the topic of Spring Festival. The author Xiao Nan took a second to write the same and the professors are now analyzing it. This might lead to a Pandora of cross rights in articles, news item or books being published by robots. However, the pertinent issue would be who would be the actual author of this work, the scientist/engineer who fed the robot with the information or the robot which is not a human being or an individual?

TEAVANA ENTERS INDIA

Ref: The Times of India, Thursday, 19.01.2017



Starbucks recently launched its famous tea brand TEAVANA in India. The global chief had announced last year about its plans to tap the tea market in India through its 88 stores across India which are in partnership with Tata Group. India being the third largest tea drinking country in the world is the target for Starbucks. However, with local tea producers as well as other chains growing expansively it might not be a cake walk for Starbucks.

HEARTBEAT AS PASSWORD

Ref: The Times of India, Friday, 20.01.2017



The electronic health records may be accessible by the patient’s heartbeat in future. The

technique has been developed to ensure protection of privacy of the personal data of a patient. Under this technique, Scientists have encrypted patient data using a person's unique electrocardiograph (ECG)- a measurement of the electrical activity of the heart measured by a biosensor attached to the skin- as the key to lock the files, Essentially, the patient's heartbeat shall be the password to access their electronic health records.

JACKET DIAGNOSIS PNEUMONIA

Ref: The Times of India, Monday, 23.01.2017



Engineers of Uganda have innovated a "Smart Jacket" that can diagnose pneumonia faster than medical experts. A country experiencing highest number of deaths from Pneumonia are very positive towards this development. A 26 year old Olivia Koburongo, came with the idea and in collaboration with fellow telecommunication engineers came up with the product called "MamaOpe" (Mother's Hope) Kit". The kit is made up of a biomedical smart jacket and a mobile phone application which does the diagnosis in an easy and speedy manner. The health workers merely have to slip the jacket onto the child, and its sensors will pick, up sound patterns from the lungs, temperature and breathing rate. The information shall be sent to a mobile app, which shall analyse the information and determine the intensity of the disease and shall enable the medical experts to commence treatment accordingly without any delay.

SELF CLEANILESS SURFACE – AN IIT INNOVATION

Ref: The Economic Times, Friday, 27.01.2017



Nandini Bhandaru of India Institute of technology Kharagpur, has developed a water and oil repellent surface which presents a

potential low-cost self-cleaning solution for solar cell panel street lights and glass facades in high-rise buildings. A winner of Young Scientist Award in Engineering Science category has evaluated that developing these surfaces on large scale would be very cost effective. The use of nanostructures for self cleaning surfaces has multiple benefits, especially for India. The scientist is further developing an oil repellent anti finger print surface which can be used for touchscreen devices and could be widely applied. The technologies and products are being developed with industry intervention and thus shall soon see the commercialization also.

CHEQUE BOUNCING CASES IN GURUGRAM

Ref: The Times of India, Friday, 27.01.2017



The judicial courts in Gurgaon are heavily loaded with Cheque bouncing cases being the corporate hub. The number of cases arose to such an extent that 4 courts have been relegated only to deal with these matters. Despite the same, there is heavy pendency of the cases. We need more expeditious clearance of cheque bouncing case and strictures to be passed against accused so as to be deterrent.



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