



UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

MAGAZINE NOTES

India's Pharma — The Generics vs. Innovation Dilemma

15 February 2026 ·

SCIENCE & TECH

ECONOMY

GS2

GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[in linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotesFree UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**bharatnotes.com →

ADVERTISE

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

India's Pharma — The Generics vs. Innovation Dilemma

 **Down to Earth** Chapter 14 · 1 min read ·

Context

- Indian Patent Office rejected AbbVie's patent application for cancer drug **Venetoclax**, utilising **Section 3(d)** of the Indian Patents Act
- Section 3(d) prevents “evergreening” — patenting minor modifications without enhanced therapeutic efficacy

The Innovation Gap

- India built its “pharmacy of the world” reputation on affordable generics (e.g., Cipla's **\$1/day HIV therapy** in 2001)
- Global paradigm shifting toward biologics, CRISPR, and AI-driven drug discovery
- India's R&D expenditure: **below 1% of GDP**
- Lacks integrated biotech-AI ecosystem unlike China (now holds **20% of global drug pipelines**)

Way Forward

- Balance Section 3(d) public health safeguards with heavy state-backed R&D investment (targeting **≥2% of GDP**)
- Bridge academia-industry gap to transition from reverse-engineering to first-in-class breakthrough therapies

UPSC Angle

- **GS3:** S&T, industrial policy, IPR
- **GS2:** Health policy, right to health

 FACTS CORNER — KNOWLEDGE PEDIA **INDIA PHARMA:**

Section 3(d): prevents evergreening (Indian Patents Act)

Venetoclax: AbbVie patent rejected by Indian Patent Office

Cipla HIV therapy: \$1/day (2001)

India R&D spend: <1% of GDP

China's share of global drug pipelines: 20%



CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[in linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/magazines/2026/down-to-earth-february-2026/india-pharma-generics-vs-innovation/>

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing → bharatnotes.com](#)

📌 OPPORTUNITY

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

Ideal for: Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · bharatnotes.com