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Alliance Fortnightly Insight

Fortnightly Newsletter

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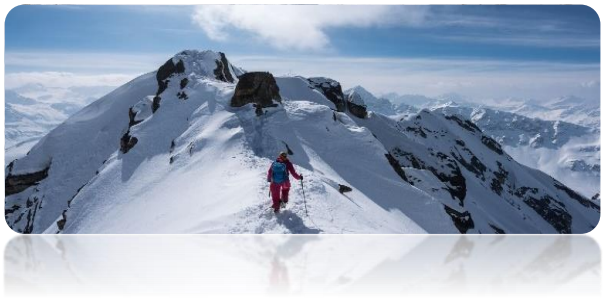
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Editor's Columns

Pharma Industry eat a Glance: Curreently sales mofe all companies fell by 20-30% in April. Demand for general medicines declined drastically. Sales representatives are facing obstructions in supplying medicines acro ss the country. Only Square pharmaceuticals, Beximco pharma and Acme Laboratores achieved sales targets in April. Companies are fearing deeper crisis in the coming months. 70% sales representatives are inactive. Sales of paracetamol and medicines for acidity, heart diseases and diabetes have increased. Prescription for medicines have dropped by 80% in towns, export also dropped by 5-10 percent due to problems over customs clearance during the ongoing shutdown. ACI Pharmaceuticals, which ranks eighth on the list of top pharmaceutical companies in the country, has witnessed a 20 percent drop in sales. According to Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceuticals Industries (BAPI), 25 percent of the country's drugs sold are anti-ulcerant or hyperacidity, antibiotic and insulin. Sales of such drugs are regular across the country. Even though the doctors are not seeing patients, people need to refill their prescriptions.

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Trump falsely accuses his predecessor, Obama, of treason

Trump has been openly accusing Obama of committing crimes for months, but has consistently refused to state which crimes, especially when reporters question him. Recently Trump offered that Obama had committed treason for spying on his campaign, without any evidence. In contrast, there is no proof that the Obama has spied on Trump's campaign, or committed other actions that meet the description of traitor. Trump's remarks fall into a trend of years of alleging, without proof, that Democratic partisans within the Department of Justice and the FBI exploited their resources to probe members of his team and threaten his presidency.

Four years since Brexit, support for EU surges

Four years on from the UK's Brexit vote, a majority of British voters would now opt to remain inside the European Union. Whatever is happening in the UK, the apparent trend of increased support for the union among its own ranks will be welcome news to Eurocrats. Brussels has been careful to prevent Brexit setting a trend for increased Euroskepticism and has myriad internal problems due to disagreements between member states on issues like China and migration. Latest data suggests that the UK remains divided on Brexit, however, in the rest of the union, support for remaining in the EU remains very high and is actually rising.

Business leaders need to bring out necessary changes to end racism.

The tragic executions of black people and the sight of American cities burning in the aftermath make it evident that to break that cycle of systemic racism, something must be done immediately. Business leaders should be at the vanguard of transition. Their homes are being wrecked, their neighborhoods are suffering more casualties, and their workers and consumers are feeling the pain. Majority of corporate executives are striving to act responsibly. Target, the popular Minneapolis-based chain, closed six stores and vowed to repair others that had been destroyed. CEO Brian Cornell expressed dismay at Floyd 's death, and recently acknowledged the cooped-up pain of other black lives lost. The pandemic has brought out the best in some big businesses, which have modified production or work schedules speedily to contribute to health crisis solutions. But a much more complex, longstanding issue is the injustice epidemic behind the riots. It's possible for all business leaders to begin the change process now. Firstly companies need to lead by example with the help of diversity trainings and demonstrate by actions. Next is by spreading awareness, identifying systematic barriers and overcoming them. Some problems, such as disproportionate incarceration of black males or a lack of funding for public education, require government action, but business leaders can be a powerful lobby for change.