



AN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PHARMACY COUNCIL OF INDIA

PHARMACY TODAY

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PCI Launches
CAPSULE to
Transform
Pharmacy
Educators into
Future-Ready
Academic
Leaders



Patrons



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President's Message



Dr. Montukumar M. Patel

President-Pharmacy Council of India

Dear Esteemed Members of the Pharmacy Community,
It gives me immense pleasure to present the second edition of Pharmacy Today, the official newsletter of the Pharmacy Council of India. Since the launch of our inaugural edition, the Council has continued its unwavering commitment to strengthening pharmacy education, advancing the profession, and building a future-ready healthcare ecosystem for the nation.

Over the past few months, PCI has undertaken several transformative initiatives that reflect our vision of quality, innovation, and collaborative growth. The introduction of the NEP-aligned B.Pharm curriculum, expansion of CAPSULE – Creating Able Pharmacists for Sustainable Leadership in Education, development of new M.Pharm specializations, implementation of Faculty Development Programmes, strengthening of institutional quality through collaborations with QCI, and initiatives such as Pharma Anveshan, RAISE-2026, and the proposed collaboration with the Indian Medical Association (IMA) demonstrate our continued efforts to enhance every dimension of pharmacy education and professional practice.

We have also intensified our engagement with institutions, educators, industry leaders, and professional organizations through collaborative partnerships and direct interactions. These initiatives reaffirm PCI's belief that meaningful reforms can only be achieved through collective participation, transparent governance, and continuous dialogue with all stakeholders.

This edition also highlights PCI's emphasis on stakeholder engagement through physical hearings with institutional managements, policy reforms, academic collaborations, industry partnerships, and initiatives aimed at improving employability, research, innovation, and patient-centred pharmacy practice. Each initiative represents another step towards creating a robust, transparent, and globally competitive pharmacy education system.

As the regulatory body entrusted with shaping pharmacy education in India, PCI remains committed to creating an ecosystem that nurtures competent professionals, promotes innovation, encourages ethical practice, and contributes meaningfully to the nation's healthcare priorities. Our efforts today are laying the foundation for a stronger and more resilient pharmacy profession for generations to come.

I sincerely hope that Pharmacy Today continues to serve as a valuable platform for sharing the Council's initiatives, achievements, and future directions while strengthening communication with the pharmacy fraternity. I also invite educators, researchers, practitioners, students, and all stakeholders to actively contribute their ideas and experiences so that this newsletter grows into a collective voice of the profession.

Together, let us continue working towards excellence in pharmacy education and healthcare for a healthier and self-reliant India.

Warm Regards,

Dr. Montukumar Patel

President, Pharmacy Council of India

Vice President's Message



Shri J.H. Chaudhari

Vice President
Pharmacy Council of India

Dear Colleagues and Friends from the Pharmacy Fraternity,
It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the second edition of Pharmacy Today. The enthusiastic response received for our inaugural issue has encouraged us to further strengthen this platform as a medium for communicating the significant initiatives being undertaken by the Pharmacy Council of India.

The Council continues to move forward with a clear vision of transforming pharmacy education through academic excellence, institutional quality, digital innovation, leadership development, and stronger collaboration with national and international organizations. This edition showcases several important milestones, including the implementation of new B.Pharm curriculum. The leadership development program initiated under 'Creating Able Pharmacists for Sustainable Leadership' (CAPSULE) has now been translated into a program of National importance. The overwhelming participation of Faculties from across the country has made the endeavour of PCI, a grand success. After CAPSULE-3, we are looking forward for our next edition, CAPSULE-4. PCI has launched nationwide Faculty Development Programmes (FDP) to upskill Pharmacy Educators in Artificial Intelligence. New postgraduate specializations are in pipeline; quality assessment initiatives has already taken with Quality Council of India (QCI). Recently, PCI has organized a major career focused placement initiative for Pharmacy Students across the country. First of its kind in the name of RAISE-2026 has been organised with Gujarat State Pharmacy Council in association with various Pharmacy Colleges of the State. In a recent move, PCI has signed MOUs with organizations of national importance like USP, IMA, and IPC.

An equally important aspect of PCI's recent initiatives has been strengthening communication with institutions and stakeholders through direct interactions, consultative meetings, and collaborative decision-making. Such engagements enable the Council to understand ground realities, address concerns effectively, and promote a culture of shared responsibility for advancing pharmacy education. The PCI has initiated a series of high level interactive meetings with institutional managements and academic heads nationwide. This proactive approach will ensure that the regulatory decisions are made collaboratively and therefore an attempt of PCI for academic reforms through direct stakeholder engagement. The success of all these initiatives have been made possible due to the active participation and support of educators, institutions, State Pharmacy Councils, industry partners, healthcare organizations, and students across the country.

Together, we are building a stronger, more progressive, and globally competitive pharmacy profession that is equipped to meet the evolving healthcare needs of the nation. I hope this edition provides valuable insights into the Council's ongoing work and inspires every member of the pharmacy fraternity to actively participate in the collective mission of advancing pharmacy education and professional practice in India.

My sincere congratulations to the Editorial Team for bringing together another informative edition, and my best wishes to all our readers.

Warm Regards,

J.H. Chaudhari

Vice President, Pharmacy Council of India



A Profession Transformed: PCI's Legislative Reforms, Educational Overhaul, and the Research Imperative

Dear Colleagues,
Warm Greetings from Editorial Board!



Prof. Dr. Nilimanka Das
Editor-in-Chief, Pharmacy Today

This is with a profound sense of professional conviction that I address you in this milestone edition of Pharmacy Today. The developments that have unfolded across Indian pharmacy landscape are historic. Taken individually, each represents a significant reform. Taken together, they constitute a structural transformation of the pharmacy profession- encompassing dimensions from undergraduate education and postgraduate specialization to career progression, research funding and Institutional quality assurance.

Here's a tighter version at approximately 350 words (349 words) while preserving the original tone, headings, and all major reforms.

Legislative Reform: The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023

The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023 introduced significant changes to the Pharmacy Act, 1948 by amending Sections 26A, 41, 42 and 43. The Act replaces imprisonment with monetary penalties for specified violations, including procedural lapses in education approvals and practice registrations. This decriminalization reflects a trust-based regulatory approach while maintaining strict expectations of compliance.

The New B. Pharm Syllabus, 2026: A much-awaited move.

The revised B. Pharm syllabus, 2026 aligns with the National Education Policy 2020 and introduces AI and digital health subjects across semesters. It prepares graduates for emerging roles in pharmacovigilance, computational drug development and healthcare automation. PCI is also working to integrate the Indian Knowledge System (IKS), blending modern pharmacy education with India's intellectual heritage.

Quality Assurance: The QCI Accreditation Initiative

PCI has launched an outcome-based accreditation framework with the Quality Council of India (QCI) to assess pharmacy colleges on 11 parameters, including curriculum, clinical training, teaching-learning environment, research, assessment, resources, quality systems and stakeholder feedback. The initiative aims to enhance transparency, accountability and continuous quality improvement.

Pharmacist Recruitment, Promotion and Service Regulations, 2025

The Pharmacist Recruitment, Promotion and Service Regulations, 2025, notified in the Gazette of India on 8 June 2026, establish the first nationally uniform

six-tier promotional hierarchy under the 7th Central Pay Commission, from Pharmacy Officer (Level 7) to Joint Director (Pharmacy) (Level 12). The regulations standardize recruitment, strengthen patient care and provide pharmacists with a clear career progression pathway.

Postgraduate Expansion: M. Pharm (Medical Devices) and M.Pharm (Pharmaceutical Management)

PCI is advancing M. Pharm (Medical Devices) to bridge pharmaceutical sciences with India's growing med-tech sector, and M. Pharm (Pharmaceutical Management) to develop expertise in healthcare administration, supply chain management, pharmaceutical marketing and organizational leadership.

Research Funding: PhD, RPS, and LMCEs

PCI is developing the Research Promotion Scheme (RPS), Doctoral Fellowship (PhD) Scheme, and Laboratory Modernization and Capacity Enhancement Scheme (LMCEs) to strengthen research infrastructure, support faculty and promote doctoral research in PCI-approved institutions.

PCI's urge to State Governments: Establish Pharmacy University & Recognize Pharmacy Education under Health/Medical Education

PCI has urged State Governments to establish dedicated Pharmacy Universities and recognize pharmacy education under State Health or Medical Education Departments. With nearly 6,000 PCI-approved institutions, pharmacy has evolved into a core healthcare profession. PCI's statutory authority under Section 12 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948 was reaffirmed by the Supreme Court in the 2020 Dr. S.K. Toshniwal Educational Trust judgment, recognizing PCI as the paramount regulator of pharmacy education in India.

A Call to the Profession

Every reform described in this edition places responsibility on the shoulders of pharmacists, educators and Institution leaders to respond with commitment and urgency. The revision of the B.Pharm syllabus demands updated pedagogy. The service regulations demand advocacy and implementation. The QCI framework demands institutional introspection and the research funding ecosystem demands infrastructure and work culture to utilize it effectively.

The transformation of Indian pharmacy is not a future aspiration rather a present reality.

With regards.

Prof. Nilimanka Das

Editor-in-Chief, Pharmacy Today
Pharmacy Council of India

Shaping the Future:

PCI Launches CAPSULE Initiative to Empower Pharmacy's Academic Leaders

The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has introduced CAPSULE (Creating Able Pharmacists for Sustainable Leadership in Education), a flagship initiative designed to mentor pharmacy educators into forward-thinking academic leaders.

Recognizing that great institutions start with visionary leadership, PCI created CAPSULE as a hands-on platform to help senior faculty, institutional heads, and emerging educators build long-term resilience and innovation. In a short amount of time, the program has become one of the Council's standout initiatives, bringing together educators nationwide to tackle the changing dynamics of modern classrooms.



Why CAPSULE Matters Now

Pharmacy education is facing a major turning point. Our classrooms and labs are shifting rapidly due to several key drivers:

- The rollout of NEP 2020
- Shifting healthcare demands and a stronger focus on skill-based learning
- The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital tools
- Growing standards for quality assurance

Cultivating Visionary Leaders

CAPSULE bridges the gap between traditional teaching and modern institutional governance. The program gives educators the practical skills they need to lead with purpose, upgrade quality systems, spark meaningful research, and handle educational reforms smoothly. By focusing on ethical, grounded leadership, CAPSULE is helping India's pharmacy colleges stay competitive and deeply impactful.

By focusing on real-world digital transformation and adaptive governance, CAPSULE is laying the groundwork for the future of healthcare education.

This proactive effort by the PCI marks a proud milestone for the profession, ensuring our educators are fully equipped to inspire and guide the next generation of pharmacists.

Laying the Foundation

CAPSULE-1 Sets a New Benchmark for Academic Leadership

The journey toward transforming pharmacy education officially kicked off with the launch of the first edition of CAPSULE on April 17 and 18, 2026. This inaugural event marked a major milestone for the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI), setting a vibrant new benchmark for leadership development across the country. The two-day program focused on the practical skills today's academic leaders need most, covering everything from strategic planning and institutional governance to driving research, maintaining high quality standards, and responsibly adopting new digital tools.

Instead of just listening to lectures, attendees dived into highly interactive sessions led by a fantastic group of educators and industry pioneers.

The sessions gave everyone a space to open up about real, everyday campus challenges and brainstorm fresh approaches to ethical leadership. By the end of the event, CAPSULE 1 did much more than just share ideas. It built a close-knit network of motivated educators ready to lead with renewed purpose.



A Truly National Effort

The sheer turnout highlighted a shared, nationwide energy to elevate educational standards:

102
Passionate
Participants

100
Unique
Institutions

28
States
Represented

Insights from Experienced Mentors

- Dr. Mahesh Dattatraya Burande (Director, IPER, Pune)
- Dr. Sanjay D. Sawant (Director, RIPANS, Aizawl)
- Dr. Anoop Kishore (Associate Professor, MCOPS, Manipal)
- Dr. V. K. Mourya (Former Principal, Government College of Pharmacy, Aurangabad & Pharma Consultant)
- Prof. Dr. Harish Dureja (Professor & Dean R&D, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak)
- Dr. Aditya Shukla (Director of Research & Operations, VCherish Labs Pvt. Ltd., Sonipat)



Keeping the Momentum Going: CAPSULE-2 Deepens the Leadership Impact

Riding the wave of success from the first event, the second edition of CAPSULE scaled up its mission to empower pharmacy educators. This second cohort drew in another fantastic group of faculty members from every corner of the country, all eager to grow their leadership skills. This time around, the conversations focused heavily on reflective leadership, institutional strategy, and change management. Participants explored how to build robust quality systems, keep ethical values at the heart of our colleges, and navigate the practical integration of AI and digital tools in today's classrooms. The interactive sessions were guided by an outstanding team of mentors who brought a great mix of academic wisdom and real-world industry experience.

Rather than focusing on abstract theories, the program handed participants actual, practical tools to handle institutional governance and lead their teams through major educational shifts smoothly.

CAPSULE-2 successfully kept the energy alive, leaving another batch of educators feeling inspired, connected, and ready to make a real difference on their home campuses.



A Growing Community

The enthusiasm across the country remained incredibly strong, bringing together a diverse and dedicated group:

110

Committed
Participants

100

Different
Institutions

28

States
Represented

Learning from Trusted Experts

- Ms. Shabnam Jussa Gaitonde (Founder, The Next Step)
- Dr. V. K. Mourya (Former Principal, Government College of Pharmacy, Aurangabad)
- Dr. Mahesh Dattatraya Burande (Director, IPER, Pune)
- Dr. Sanjay D. Sawant (Director, RIPANS, Aizawl)
- Dr. Aditya Shukla (Director of Research & Operations, VCherish Labs Pvt. Ltd.)
- Dr. Anoop Kishore (Associate Professor, MCOPS, MAHE, Manipal)



The Momentum Continues: CAPSULE-3 Expands the PCI Initiative

Fresh off the success of the earlier sessions, the third edition of CAPSULE took place on July 3 and 4, 2026. This latest gathering marked yet another great milestone for the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) as they continue to build a strong, supportive network of leaders across the pharmacy education community. The two-day workshop took a deep dive into the everyday essentials of running a modern institution, focusing on practical academic governance, smart leadership strategies, and keeping up with institutional compliance. The sessions were led by a wonderful mix of returning mentors and new experts, all bringing practical, real-world advice to the table. Attendees spent time exploring how to handle compliance smoothly, use digital tools and AI responsibly, and build a culture of ethics on campus without losing focus on academic excellence. By providing a space to share real campus challenges, CAPSULE 3 has left another batch of educators feeling inspired and fully equipped to guide their colleges into the future.



A Steady National Footprint

The consistent turnout from across the country shows just how eager educators are to learn and grow together:

103

Enthusiastic
Participants

100

Different
Institutions

28

States
Represented

Guidance from Familiar and Fresh Voices

- Dr. Aditya Shukla (Director of Research & Operations, VCherish Labs Pvt. Ltd.)
- Ms. Shabnam Jussa Gaitonde (Founder, The Next Step)
- Dr. V. K. Mourya (Former Principal, Government College of Pharmacy, Aurangabad)
- Dr. Mahesh Dattatraya Burande (Director, IPER, Pune)
- Dr. Nazma Inamdar (Professor, Government College of Pharmacy, Amravati)
- Dr. Anoop Kishore (Associate Professor, MCOPS, MAHE, Manipal)

After Massive Success, PCI to Expand CAPSULE Nationally

The momentum behind the CAPSULE initiative continues to surge with the rollout of CAPSULE 3, a pivotal phase dedicated to empowering higher education administrators. Designed to address the rapidly shifting demands of modern academia, the latest iteration of the programme has successfully translated leadership theory into concrete institutional progress.

Participants routinely praise the initiative for its immediate, real-world utility. "CAPSULE transformed our understanding of academic leadership," noted one attendee, highlighting how the curriculum equips educators to become genuine agents of change. A heavy focus on modern challenges proved to be a major highlight, with participants noting that sessions on AI and digital leadership were exceptionally timely and relevant.

The tangible outcomes of the programme underscore its structural success. Beyond strengthening core leadership capabilities and deepening governance understanding, CAPSULE 3 has directly driven the creation of comprehensive institutional action plans.

Looking ahead, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has proposed a zone-wise implementation model to scale the initiative nationwide, replicating the successful framework of Pharma Anveshan.



Participant Perspectives: The Impact of CAPSULE

- "CAPSULE transformed our understanding of academic leadership."
- "The programme provided practical solutions for quality improvement."
- "The sessions on AI and digital leadership were highly relevant."
- "CAPSULE encouraged us to become agents of change."
- "The interaction with experts created a valuable professional network."

What We Achieved Together

PCI did not want this to be just another training program. Through honest discussions and hands-on workshops, our participants walked away with real, tangible tools.

- **Real-World Leadership & Governance**
Practical strategies to manage campuses and handle everyday administrative challenges with clarity.
- **Blueprints Ready for Day One**
Concrete, customized action plans designed to be put to work at home institutions right away.
- **A Clear View of the Future**
No confusing tech-hype, just real, practical ways to navigate AI and digital changes without getting left behind.
- **A Network of True Peers**
Lifelong connections with educators across the country who understand the exact same challenges you face.
- **The Momentum to Keep Improving**
A fresh perspective and the exact tools needed to spark meaningful, lasting growth back on campus.



PCI Introduces the New B.Pharm Syllabus (2026) to Transform Pharmacy Education

The Pharmacy Council of India has officially introduced the revised B.Pharm Syllabus (2026). Aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, this update represents a significant milestone in pharmaceutical education, shifting the pedagogical paradigm toward producing comprehensive, future-ready professionals.

Rather than a routine revision, the curriculum establishes a competency-based, outcome-oriented framework. It emphasizes the development of practical skills, rigorous clinical decision-making, professional communication, and ethical practice to meet the evolving demands of global healthcare.

Crucially, the syllabus prioritises experiential learning. Through structured internships, industrial training, hospital postings, and community engagement, students receive vital exposure to real-world healthcare environments.

By aligning with national initiatives such as Skill India, Startup India, and Atmanirbhar Bharat, the B.Pharm Syllabus (2026) strategically prepares graduates with the advanced knowledge, technological competencies, and core professional values required to drive innovation and excellence within the global pharmaceutical sector.



What Does the New Syllabus offer?

1 Advanced Technology:

Incorporates Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning, data analytics, and precision medicine.

2 Pharma 4.0 Integration:

Emphasizes smart manufacturing, industrial automation, and digital quality management systems.

3 Research and Enterprise:

Introduces dedicated modules on research methodology, intellectual property rights, innovation management, and entrepreneurship.

4 Patient-Centric Practice:

Strengthens clinical competencies through comprehensive training in pharmacovigilance, medication therapy management, and patient counselling.

How PCI is Driving Innovation in Pharmacy Through Pharma Anveshan



Great pharmacy education is about so much more than memorizing textbooks. It is about sparking curiosity, fostering scientific thinking, and encouraging students to look at real-world healthcare challenges and ask: “How can we solve this?”

To bring this vision to life, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) created Pharma Anveshan, a dynamic national movement designed to build a thriving culture of research, creativity, and entrepreneurship across pharmacy colleges.

Inspired by Professor Mahadeva Lal Schroff, the Father of Pharmacy Education in India, this initiative bridges the gap between classroom theory and real-world impact. Tied closely to National Pharmacy Education Day, it gives young minds a nationwide platform to pitch their brightest ideas and transform them into practical healthcare solutions.

Pharma Anveshan is an incredible launchpad where students showcase breakthrough concepts across several key categories such as patents and research projects with high industrial potential, working models and medical prototypes and cutting-edge healthcare innovations and pharmaceutical technologies.

The PCI envisions Pharma Anveshan as a powerful catalyst. By encouraging institutions to build their own mini-Silicon Valleys of research, the program is successfully transforming today's students from passive learners into the innovators, researchers, and healthcare leaders of tomorrow.

WHAT PHARMA ANVESHAN IS ALL ABOUT

- **A Research-First Mindset:**
Building strong scientific temperament and problem-solving abilities.
- **Industry Collaboration:**
Connecting students directly with industry experts to turn academic ideas into viable products.
- **Entrepreneurial Spirit:**
Encouraging students to think like founders and create their own startups.

PCI to Host ‘Pharma Anveshan Bharat 2026’ in Ahmedabad

In a major stride toward driving research and self-reliance in healthcare, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is set to organise Pharma Anveshan Bharat 2026 on July 11, 2026, at the Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA) Campus in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Building upon the success of regional chapters across various states, this upcoming premier national conclave will serve as a powerful intersection where innovation meets opportunity, research finds practical application, and young Indian talent receives national recognition.

The advancement of modern pharmacy education relies heavily on nurturing scientific inquiry and cultivating entrepreneurial mindsets. Recognising this imperative, the PCI has consistently championed initiatives that bridge the gap between academic research and commercial industry needs. Pharma Anveshan Bharat 2026 represents the ultimate culmination of this nationwide movement, providing a collaborative stage for the country’s finest student innovators, young researchers, and emerging pharmaceutical scientists.

From State Laureates to National Catalysts

Participation in this high-stakes national event is exclusively reserved for the first, second, and third prize winners from the state-level Pharma Anveshan chapters. This rigorous filtering process ensures that the national platform represents the highest tier of ingenuity emerging from Indian pharmacy colleges. The event’s key highlight will feature

THE COMPETITION WILL FOCUS ON

- **Patent Innovations**
Ideas possessing significant technological weight and strong intellectual property potential.
- **Design and Model**
Practical prototypes, biomedical devices, and novel engineering solutions targeting real-world healthcare challenges.
- **Academic Research with Industry Potential**
High-calibre scientific research projects packing strong translational value and immediate industrial applicability.

intense national-level presentations by more than 150 elite innovators and researchers competing with their state-level winning projects.

Bridging the Industry–Academia Divide

Beyond the spirit of competition, the conclave is designed to function as a dynamic networking ecosystem. Finalists will step out of their traditional laboratories to engage directly with eminent academicians, industry executives, intellectual property lawyers, and regulatory specialists.

These interactions will provide students with rare, first-hand insights into critical professional milestones, including the commercialisation of laboratory research, navigating patent filing pipelines, adopting emerging pharmaceutical automation, and aligning project outcomes with contemporary industry expectations.

Rigorous Evaluation and Looking Ahead

The presentations will undergo

a comprehensive evaluation by a distinguished grand jury consisting of veteran scientists, patent experts, and regulatory leaders. Rather than focusing solely on academic theory, the jury will grade entries based on strict criteria: originality, scientific merit, industrial relevance, practical applicability, societal impact, and presentation skills. The highest-performing innovators will receive national recognition through prestigious cash prizes, trophies, and certificates.

The vibrant, world-class infrastructure of the AMA Campus provides an ideal backdrop for a national innovation conclave of this magnitude, fostering leadership and confidence among future pharmacy professionals.

As India cements its position as a global pharmaceutical powerhouse, initiatives like Pharma Anveshan Bharat 2026 remain vital. By identifying, mentoring, and honouring young talent, the PCI continues to build a self-sustaining, innovation-driven ecosystem that will shape the future of global healthcare.

New Pharmacist Service Regulations Promise Higher Pay & Guaranteed Promotions for Pharmacists



GENERAL PHARMACY CADRE

Position	Classification	Pay Level
Pharmacy Officer	Group B	Level 7
Senior Pharmacy Officer	Group B	Level 8
Assistant Chief Pharmacy Officer	Group B	Level 9
Chief Pharmacy Officer	Group A	Level 10
District Pharmacy Officer / Deputy Director	Group A	Level 11
Joint Director (Pharmacy)	Group A	Level 12

In what is being hailed as one of the most significant reforms in the history of Indian healthcare, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has successfully secured the notification of the Pharmacist Recruitment, Promotion and Service Regulations, 2025. This landmark regulatory framework marks a transformative shift for over 1.4 million registered pharmacists across the nation, effectively dismantling decades of career stagnation in government services and elevating the entire profession.

For years, government pharmacists faced limited upward

mobility and a lack of professional recognition, often remaining in the same tier for their entire careers. The 2025 regulations directly remedy these long-standing grievances by standardizing recruitment rules nationally and establishing a highly structured, transparent upward pathway that extends all the way into senior administrative and policy-making roles.

A Monumental Shift: Group B Status and Upgraded Pay Scales

In a massive structural upgrade,

entry-level pharmacists have been elevated from Group C to Group B status. This reclassification comes with a substantially improved remuneration structure designed to attract and retain top-tier talent within the public healthcare infrastructure.

The newly established promotional pathway for the General Pharmacy Cadre outlines a clear trajectory across civil service tiers:

Evolving Beyond Dispensing: The Specialized Clinical Cadre

Beyond structural promotions, the regulations fundamentally redefine the day-to-day role of the pharmacist. Moving away from the traditional view of pharmacists as mere drug dispensers, the framework accelerates India's shift toward clinical, patient-oriented pharmacy practice.

To achieve this, the regulations have introduced a Specialized Pharmacy Cadre, creating vital new government positions:

- **Clinical Pharmacy Officers:** Integrating pharmacists directly into the patient-care team alongside physicians to monitor bedside therapy.
- **Drug Information Pharmacy Officers:** Specializing in providing evidence-based data to healthcare teams to ensure the rational and safe use of medicines.

Strengthening India's Public Healthcare System

Securing Your Future Across India
Because these regulations standardize recruitment and promotion rules nationally, they

protect pharmacists from fractured state-by-state discrepancies. Whether you work in a major metropolitan hospital or a rural district clinic, you are now backed by a unified, secure framework that guarantees fair treatment, better remuneration, and an open path to leadership.

Ultimately, the 2025 regulations represent a win-win for both professionals and the public. While pharmacy graduates can look forward to rewarding, progressive career paths and improved financial security, patients across India will benefit from an upgraded, safer, and much more robust healthcare

delivery model.

Key Objectives

- Career advancement opportunities.
- Creation of specialized pharmacy positions.
- Standardization of recruitment rules.
- Strengthening public healthcare services.
- Improved patient-oriented pharmacy practice.
- Better utilization of pharmacy professionals.

PCI Welcomes New Voices to the Central Council

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO INDUCT THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIVES INTO THE COUNCIL:

FROM STATE PHARMACY COUNCILS [U/S 3(G)]



SHRI SANDEEP BADOLA
(UTTAR PRADESH)



Mr BIRENDRA KUMAR BARMAN
(ASSAM)



Dr NARENDRA DEVANABOYINA
(ANDHRA PRADESH)

SHRI DZIESEVOTUO (NAGALAND)

FROM STATE GOVT [U/S 3(H)]



Dr SHRIKANT VIJAYRAO JOSHI
(GUJARAT)



Dr SHELESH JAIN
(MADHYA PRADESH)

At the 122nd Central Council meeting, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) proudly welcomed a distinguished group of new members. Representing a vibrant cross-section of the country, these leaders bring invaluable regional

insights to our national policy-making table.

Their diverse grassroots experience will be instrumental in driving forward our academic reforms, professional development, and regulatory initiatives. This expansion reflects PCI's unwavering commitment to

collaborative, inclusive governance.

We also take this moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing members for their dedicated service and valuable contributions. With this renewed team, PCI is set to shape the future of pharmacy education and professional practice across India.

PCI Rolls Out Nationwide FDP Calendar to Upskill Pharmacy Educators in AI

Recognising that the future of healthcare education relies entirely on the calibre of its instructors, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has officially launched a comprehensive, nationwide Faculty Development Programme (FDP) initiative. This massive training campaign is designed to systematically upgrade the pedagogical skills, research productivity, and digital fluencies of pharmacy educators across every region of India.

The ambitious initiative successfully took off with an inaugural five-day block from 4–8 May 2026, hosted by the prestigious L. M. College of Pharmacy in Ahmedabad. Centred around the highly contemporary theme, “Transforming Teaching and Research through Application of Generative AI,” this initial chapter directly trained educators on

deploying artificial intelligence across core academic operations, including automated student assessment, scientific writing pipelines, clinical research modelling, and modern academic leadership.

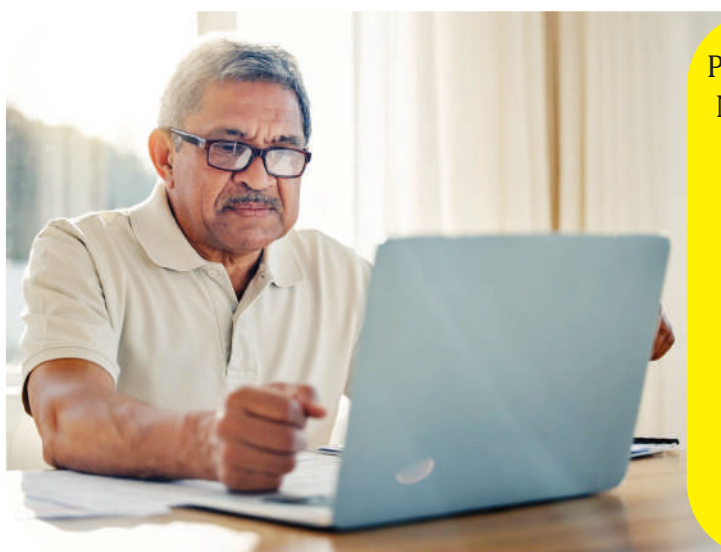
Expanding Across the Regions

Building directly upon the momentum of the GenAI rollout, the PCI has mapped out an intensive, multi-city regional calendar for July 2026. This nationwide circuit focuses on establishing continuous professional development, embedding outcome-based education models, and teaching educators how to use emerging digital technologies responsibly.

The Core Objective: Empowering the Classroom Line

By creating this vast, interconnected network of updated educators, the PCI aims to tackle the root causes of educational stagnation. The program targets several professional milestones for attending faculty members:

- **AI-Enabled Pedagogy:** Seamlessly adopting AI-backed educational tools to streamline lesson planning and track student learning outcomes.
- **Elevated Research Yields:** Introducing specialised workflows to help faculty publish high-impact scientific research and enhance institutional patent outputs.
- **Strategic Leadership:** Cultivating advanced managerial competencies so mid-level teachers can successfully guide pharmacy colleges into future regulatory landscapes.



PCI Rolls Out Nationwide FDP calendar to Upskill Pharmacy Educators in AI and Sensitise on new B.pharm syllabus

THE UPCOMING PAN-INDIA TRAINING TOUR WILL ROLL THROUGH THESE LEADING PHARMACY INSTITUTIONS:

Date (2026)	Host Institution	Location
10 July	Amity Institute of Pharmacy	Noida
14 July	Geetanjali Institute of Pharmacy	Udaipur
18 July	KIIT School of Pharmacy	Bhubaneswar
20 July	Galgotias University	Greater Noida
21 July	BCDA College of Pharmacy & Technology	Kolkata
22 July	Assam Don Bosco University	Guwahati
24 July	Vaish Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research	Rohtak
30 July	Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute	Chennai

PCI Introduces Doctoral Fellowship Scheme to Encourage Pharmaceutical Innovation

The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is launching the Pharmacy Council of India Doctoral Fellowship Scheme (PDFS). This landmark initiative is designed to nurture the next generation of scientific leaders by providing sustained financial support to meritorious scholars pursuing full-time Ph.D. research at PCI-approved institutions.

By funding high-quality doctoral research, the PCI aims to foster a robust culture of innovation, translational science, and industry collaboration across the country's pharmaceutical landscape.

To ensure academic excellence, the PCI is deploying a dedicated online portal to manage the entire lifecycle of the fellowship, from transparent, merit-based application processing to financial management and performance monitoring.

Furthermore, fellows will undergo periodic evaluations by expert committees constituted by the Council. To participate in the scheme, institutions must meet strict regulatory benchmarks, possessing adequately equipped infrastructure and qualified research supervisors.

By empowering top-tier talent with a stable research environment, the PDFS is poised to elevate India's scientific output, drive the development of new patents, and produce a highly skilled workforce for the global pharmaceutical and regulatory sectors.



Fellowship Architecture & Core Eligibility

The scheme targets exceptionally talented young researchers, offering a structured pathway of financial assistance for a maximum of three years.

Financial Structure:

Recipient scholars will receive funding structured as a Junior Research Fellow (JRF) for the first two years, transitioning to a Senior Research Fellow (SRF) for the final year, subject to satisfactory academic progress.

Key Eligibility Criteria:

- Must hold a Master's degree in Pharmacy (M.Pharm).
- Must possess a valid Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test (GPAT) qualification.
- Must be under 30 years of age at the time of admission.
- Must commit exclusively to full-time doctoral research; beneficiaries are prohibited from holding outside employment or accepting concurrent fellowships.

Targeted Research Domains

The PDFS is strategically designed to accelerate breakthrough discoveries across both foundational and frontier branches of healthcare technology:

PCI to Introduce Research Promotion Scheme (RPS) to Drive Innovation



The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is set to launch the Research Promotion Scheme (RPS). This initiative will provide vital financial support to regular, full-time faculty members at PCI-approved institutions, shifting pharmacy education from a teaching-only model to a vibrant, research-driven ecosystem. The program focuses on “bench-to-bedside” translational science, designed to turn laboratory discoveries into practical healthcare solutions. To qualify as a Principal Investigator, applicants must hold a Ph.D. in

Pharmacy and possess a valid Bharat Pharmacist (BH-P) registration number. Selected projects will receive funding for up to three years, with grants strictly balanced: up to 60% is earmarked for non-recurring infrastructure, like equipment and specialized software, while the remaining 40% covers recurring costs, including consumables and research personnel fellowships. By encouraging interdisciplinary collaborations across industries and academia, the RPS aims to build indigenous healthcare technologies and elevate national public health standards.

Pharmacy Council and IPC Join Forces for Patient Safety

India's healthcare landscape is witnessing a transformative shift as the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) partners with the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC). This strategic alliance positions pharmacists at the forefront of national patient safety and drug monitoring. Recognizing that pharmacists are vital to public health, the collaboration focuses on embedding robust pharmacovigilance practices directly into everyday practice. This initiative actively educates students, faculty, and practicing professionals

**MOUs
Signed
with IPA,
FOPE, KDPMA,
LSSSDC**

about Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) reporting and the rational use of medicines. A cornerstone of this partnership is the rollout of specialized Skill Development Programmes under the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI). These sessions equip professionals with critical competencies in causality assessment and medication error prevention. By integrating these safety concepts into pharmacy education, PCI and IPC are fostering a proactive culture of accountability, ultimately ensuring safer medication outcomes for patients nationwide.

PCI Encourages Postgraduate Research Through GPAT and PMSPPS

A Structured Support System for Advanced Research

The scholarship framework is specifically calibrated to build a self-sustaining research ecosystem. By ensuring stable financial backing, the PCI seeks to achieve several interconnected goals:

- **Promoting Core Research:** Encouraging postgraduates to take up high-impact, long-term laboratory investigations without the stress of funding shortages.
- **Nurturing Merit:** Ensuring that academic capability, rather than financial background, determines a student's access to top-tier postgraduate specialisations.
- **Easing the Financial Burden:** Allowing scholars to focus entirely on innovation, scientific writing, and skill development during their critical master's residency.

53617

Candidates appeared in GPAT 2026.

5362

Candidates qualified the examination.

Tech-Driven Management and Transparency

To overhaul the legacy challenges of scholarship delivery, the PCI has deployed a fully digitised, modern administrative framework. These updates guarantee that funds reach eligible scholars seamlessly while maintaining absolute institutional accountability. Key operational pillars driving the implementation include:

1 Digital Scholarship Management: An end-to-end online platform that streamlines the application, verification, and tracking processes for students.

2 Aadhaar Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBAS): The integration of robust biometric monitoring to ensure authentic student engagement and precise verification.

3 Institutional Nodal Officers: Dedicated campus representatives appointed across pharmacy colleges to resolve student queries locally and fast-track documentation.

4 Direct & Timely Disbursement: A streamlined financial pipeline designed to prevent bureaucratic delays and ensure regular, predictable fund transfers.

In a major boost to higher education and pharmaceutical research in India, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is actively expanding its financial support pathways for meritorious pharmacy graduates. Through the strategic combination of the Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test (GPAT) and the Pradhan Mantri Scholarship for Pharmacy Post Graduate Studies (PMSPPS), the council is systematically removing financial barriers for talented students pursuing master's degrees.

Postgraduate education in pharmacy serves as the crucial incubation period where student practitioners transition into advanced researchers, academicians, and pharmaceutical scientists. Recognising that financial constraints often deter bright minds from pursuing higher academic goals, the PMSPPS initiative provides direct financial assistance to eligible M.Pharm students across the country, fostering an environment of uninterrupted academic excellence.

As India expands its footprint in complex drug discovery, biologicals, and global regulatory compliance, the need for highly qualified postgraduate professionals has never been more urgent. By anchoring postgraduate education in transparency and robust financial security, the PCI is successfully safeguarding the pipeline of future pharmaceutical pioneers.

PCI's New Specialisation M.Pharm in Medical Devices Set to Power India's Health-Tech Boom

India's healthcare landscape is undergoing a massive technological shift. From advanced diagnostic equipment to smart implantable devices and digital health systems, technology is redefining patient care. To fuel this momentum, the Pharmacy Council of India is launching a crucial new specialisation: M.Pharm (Medical Devices). The final draft syllabus, which is meticulously refined with expert feedback, is currently up for official Council approval and subsequent Gazette notification. This cutting-edge programme is tailored to build a highly skilled workforce for our tech-driven future. The curriculum zeroes in on vital industry pillars, including medical device regulations, design and development, biomedical applications, quality assurance, and safety risk management.

By blending pharmaceutical precision with biomedical engineering, the course opens up stellar career opportunities across medical device industries, regulatory agencies, R&D labs, and clinical evaluation bodies.

This initiative is a major step forward in alignment with national priorities like Make in India, Digital Health, and Atmanirbhar Bharat. By nurturing homegrown talent, India is poised to transform from a technology importer into a global manufacturing powerhouse for medical devices.

PCI Courses are Designed to:

1 Enhance employability.

2 Support industrial growth.

3 Promote specialisation.

4 Encourage innovation.

5 Strengthen healthcare delivery.

6 Create future-ready professionals.

PCI Bridges Science and Strategy with M.Pharm in Pharmaceutical Management

The Indian pharmaceutical sector is evolving rapidly, creating an urgent need for leaders who can combine scientific expertise with business acumen. Recognizing this critical gap, the Pharmacy Council of India has introduced M.Pharm (Pharmaceutical Management), a dynamic specialisation designed to groom the industry's next generation of executives.

This forward-thinking programme goes beyond traditional lab work, transforming pharmacy graduates into versatile corporate strategists. Students dive deep into core commercial areas, including pharmaceutical marketing,

supply chain management, healthcare economics, and regulatory affairs, whilst sharpening their leadership and communication skills.

The goal? To develop industry-ready managers capable of steering healthcare enterprises, optimizing global supply chains, and driving business development.

For ambitious professionals, this course opens doors to fast-tracked leadership roles and entrepreneurial ventures. By bridging the gap between pharmaceutical sciences and modern management practices, the M.Pharm in Pharmaceutical Management ensures that the future of India's healthcare business is in highly capable hands.

Transforming Pharmacy Education: A Snapshot of PCI's Recent Policy Milestones

The period between March and June 2026 has been a definitive season of growth and digitisation for the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI). Through a series of targeted circulars and structural updates, the Council has driven major reforms aimed at transparency, student welfare, and global readiness.

A cornerstone of this period is the rollout of the Revised B.Pharm Syllabus for the 2026–2027 academic session, fully aligned with NEP 2020. This shift marks a transition towards outcome-based learning, multidisciplinary choices, and practical skill development, ensuring our students graduate as industry-ready professionals.

Simultaneously, governance has received a tech-driven upgrade. The implementation of the Aadhaar Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBAS) for institutions, faculty, and M.Pharm GPAT scholars establishes high standards of transparency. Alongside this, the streamlined disbursement of the Pradhan Mantri Scholarship (PMSPPS) underlines a deep commitment to student welfare and research support.

From introducing niche skill development programmes in pharmacovigilance to refining faculty management protocols, PCI is actively building a modern, quality-driven pharmacy ecosystem. The future of healthcare education in India is officially here, and it is more robust than ever.



MAJOR CIRCULARS ISSUED DURING THE PERIOD

Date	Circular No.	Subject
23 March 2026	605	Disbursement of PMSPPS/GPAT Scholarship
23 March 2026	606	Submission of Nodal Officer details for PMSPPS and AEBAS
30 March 2026	607	New Courses (INTRO) and Increase in Intake (RAISE)
30 March 2026	608	Applications for Examining Authorities
06 April 2026	609	Clarification regarding EWS supernumerary seats
23 April 2026	610	Applications for Examining Authorities
30 April 2026	611	Implementation of Revised B.Pharm Syllabus
30 April 2026	612	Extension of approval process
04 May 2026	613	Mandatory registration on AEBAS Portal
04 May 2026	614	AEBAS for M.Pharm students
11 May 2026	615	Compliance of Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act
13 May 2026	616	GPAT Scholarship update
14 May 2026	617	Walk-in Interview notice
15 May 2026	618	Faculty relieving and change procedures
21 May 2026	619	AEBAS implementation for institutions
26 May 2026	620	E-learning course on Rational Use of Medicines
04 June 2026	621	One Fourth Share under Section 44
12 June 2026	622	Skill Development Programme on Pharmacovigilance

PCI Launches LMCES to Modernise Pharmacy Laboratories Across India

To ensure every pharmacy student has access to world-class training facilities, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has officially launched the Laboratory Modernisation and Capacity Enhancement Scheme (LMCES). This landmark initiative is designed to bridge the gap between academic theory and industry reality by funding the large-scale upgrade of laboratory infrastructure in PCI-approved institutions across the country.

For many institutions, the challenge has been outdated equipment that hinders student skill development. The LMCES is a direct, structural solution, providing the necessary support to move past obsolete tools and into a new era of high-tech, outcome-based pharmaceutical education.



Is Your Institution Eligible?

The scheme is open to institutions offering D.Pharm, B.Pharm, M.Pharm, and Pharm.D programs. To qualify for this modernisation support, your institution must meet the following core requirements:

- **Operational History:** Must have been in operation for at least 10 years.
- **Regulatory Standing:** Must possess valid university affiliation and approved examining authority status.
- **Operational Integrity:** Must implement AEBAS (Aadhaar Enabled Biometric Attendance System) and maintain full compliance with all current PCI regulations.

What the Scheme Supports

The LMCES provides funding to transform standard laboratories into advanced centers for learning and research. Supported focus areas include:

- **Advanced Research & Pilot-Scale Facilities:** Acquiring high-end instruments and pilot-scale pharmaceutical equipment to bridge the gap between bench-top experiments and industrial manufacturing.
- **Industry & Skill-Centric Labs:** Building specialised laboratories that mirror contemporary industrial setups to ensure students are "industry-ready" from day one.
- **Digital & Simulation Tools:** Integrating modern simulation software and digital teaching tools to create an interactive, future-proof learning environment.

Building a Future-Ready Pharmacy Ecosystem

The ultimate goal of the LMCES is to foster a robust laboratory environment that elevates the entire pharmacy education ecosystem. By investing in modern facilities, the PCI is not only enhancing research capabilities but is fundamentally strengthening the employability of pharmacy graduates.

For students and faculty alike, this means moving beyond basic practicals and engaging with the same technologies and rigorous standards used by top-tier pharmaceutical companies. Through LMCES, the PCI is ensuring that India's pharmacy institutions produce graduates who are not just degree-holders, but highly skilled professionals prepared to lead in a competitive, innovation-driven global market.

RAISE-2026: Over 350 Pharmacy Graduates Land Spots in Massive Gujarat Placement Drive

In a major breakthrough for early-career pharmacy professionals, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI), in close partnership with the Gujarat State Pharmacy Council (GSPC), successfully concluded RAISE-2026. Hosted at the cutting-edge National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) campus in Gandhinagar, this high-octane mega placement drive was designed with a singular, vital objective: closing the gap between classroom pharmacy education and real-world employment.

The flagship event drew immense praise from top government officials. The drive was officially inaugurated by Shri Praful Panseriya, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Government of Gujarat, and was closely supported by key national healthcare leaders, including Shri Jashubhai H. Chaudhari (Vice President, PCI), Shri Bharatbhai Patel (President, GSPC), Dr. Ajay Sachan from CDSCO, and Shri Sanchit Chaturvedi representing IDMA Gujarat.



Industry Giants Open Diverse Portfolios

A roster of 55 leading industry giants set up dedicated recruitment booths, eager to tap into Gujarat's top academic talent. Among the heavy hitters driving the hiring wave were Intas Pharmaceuticals, Zydus, Alkem Laboratories, Corona Remedies, Meril Life Sciences, Cliantha Research, Lincoln Pharmaceuticals, Apollo Pharmacy, and Medkart. Rather than limiting roles to traditional bench-work, recruiters aggressively sought out fresh talent to fill diverse, multi-disciplinary positions across the modern pharmaceutical landscape:

The Drive by the Numbers

RAISE-2026 saw massive engagement from ambitious job seekers and top-tier pharmaceutical employers alike. The sheer volume of applications highlights a fiercely competitive yet highly rewarding environment for modern graduates:

Performance Metric	Total Count
Registered Candidates	1,300
Screened & Shortlisted Candidates	850
Total Dynamic Interviews Conducted	2,700
Immediate Job Placements Secured	350+
Participating Corporate Companies	55

A Proven Template for Employability

The massive scale and successful turnout of RAISE-2026 underscore the PCI's unwavering commitment to boosting graduate employability. By providing a direct line to elite corporate recruiters, the council is moving beyond abstract academic oversight and actively fostering dynamic industry-academia collaborations.

PCI and USP Forge Strategic Partnership to Elevate Pharmacy Education Standards

In a major move to elevate the global competitiveness of Indian pharmacy graduates, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has established a landmark strategic partnership with the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). This high-impact collaboration is designed to embed a deeply rooted culture of quality within pharmacy institutions across the nation, equipping students and faculty with the international best practices required by today's heavily regulated global pharmaceutical sector. As India continues to solidify its role as the "pharmacy of the world," the demand for professionals who understand international regulatory landscapes has never been higher. The PCI-USP alliance directly caters to this need by combining academic foundations with world-class standardisations, focusing heavily on robust quality assurance frameworks, strict Good Laboratory Practices (GLP), advanced pharmaceutical standards, and continuous digital learning.

Harnessing Digital Learning & Global Expertise

At the heart of this collaborative ecosystem is a suite of advanced educational resources and digital learning modules developed by USP. These specialised courses are designed to supplement traditional university curricula, providing students and faculty members with direct access to training in critical industry vectors like Regulatory Compliance & Quality Systems and Patient Safety & Standards.



Capacity Building for Faculty and Students

To ensure these high standards translate effectively into classrooms and research labs, the partnership outlines an aggressive capacity-building roadmap. Moving beyond theory, the initiative actively supports structured workshops, immersive training programs, and comprehensive faculty development activities.

These joint initiatives ensure that academic mentors are thoroughly aligned with evolving global benchmarks, allowing them to better prepare students for the rigorous expectations of international pharmaceutical employers.



Raising the Bar: Inside India's First Comprehensive Pharmacy Ranking Exercise

In a massive push towards institutional excellence, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI), in collaboration with the Quality Council of India (QCI) through the National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET), recently wrapped up a historic ranking and rating exercise for the 2025–2026 academic year. Aimed at injecting transparency and healthy competition into the system, the rigorous assessment evaluated both D.Pharm and B.Pharm institutions across the country.

The evaluation left no stone unturned, deploying 292 empanelled assessors to conduct exhaustive desktop and on-site reviews. Institutions were measured on stringent, outcome-based parameters ranging from teaching-learning systems and research output to infrastructure and stakeholder perception.

While Grade A and B institutions set the benchmark for excellence, the distribution also highlights clear areas where other campuses must step up infrastructure and academic delivery.

This joint QCI-PCI initiative is a major milestone for pharmacy education in India. By providing clear, data-driven benchmarks, it challenges colleges to upgrade their governance, adopt best practices, and actively innovate. For students and parents, it introduces a welcome era of absolute transparency, ensuring that the next generation of pharmacists is trained only in high-quality ecosystems.

D.Pharm Assessment Framework

- 7 major criteria.
- 69 assessment parameters.
- 43 parameters considered for evaluation.
- Total score of 500 marks.
- The evaluation covered academic processes, teaching-learning systems, infrastructure, research, student outcomes, quality assurance, and stakeholder perception.

B.Pharm Participation Statistics	
Particulars	Number
Colleges Registered	1,347
Fee Payment Completed	767
Refund Applications	229
Active Applications	538
On-site Assessments	398

B.Pharm Grade Distribution		
Grade	Percentile	Colleges
Grade A	≥75	64
Grade B	60–75	104
Grade C	50–60	71
Grade D	<50	159

D.Pharm Participation Statistics	
Particulars	Number
Colleges Registered	975
Fee Payment Completed	401
Refund Applications	154
Active Applications	247
On-site Assessments	159

D.Pharm Grade Distribution		
Grade	Percentile	Colleges
Grade A	≥75	26
Grade B	60–75	46
Grade C	50–60	30
Grade D	<50	57

Key Highlights

- 292 assessors empanelled.
- Separate assessment of D.Pharm and UG institutions.
- Desktop and on-site assessments.
- Institutional benchmarking.
- Outcome-based evaluation.
- Continuous quality improvement.
- Transparency and accountability.
- Evidence-based decision making.

UG (B.Pharm) Assessment Framework

For undergraduate pharmacy institutions, the assessment framework was further expanded.

Assessment Parameters

- 11 major criteria.
- 73 assessment parameters.
- Total score of 1,000 marks.

The framework covered:

- Academic processes.
- Teaching-learning systems.
- Research and innovation.
- Infrastructure and facilities.
- Student outcomes.
- Financial resources.
- Quality assurance.
- Community outreach.
- Stakeholder perception.

B.Pharm Categories Evaluated

- Institutions offering B.Pharm and other programmes (398).
- Stand-alone B.Pharm/D.Pharm institutions (55).
- Institutions offering UG, PG and other programmes (343).

PCI Drives Academic Reforms Through Direct Stakeholder Engagement



The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has initiated a series of high-level interactive meetings with institutional managements and academic heads nationwide. This proactive approach underscores the Council's commitment to participative governance, ensuring that regulatory decisions are made collaboratively with those on the ground.

Led by PCI President Dr. Montukumar M. Patel and Vice-President Shri Jashubhai H. Chaudhari, the initial phase of these interactions successfully brought together institutional leaders across Gujarat and Maharashtra. The forums provided a direct channel to align regulatory expectations with institutional realities, creating a unified roadmap for the future of pharmacy education.

By establishing this ongoing dialogue, the PCI is bridging communication gaps and fostering a cohesive academic ecosystem. These structural and pedagogical reforms ensure that regulatory policies are seamlessly executed, ultimately advancing professional standards and institutional excellence across India's pharmaceutical landscape.

Key Agenda of the Meeting:

Professional Growth & Placement: Expanding the foundational CAPSULE program, introducing comprehensive Faculty Development Programmes, and driving student career trajectories through the RAISE-2026 placement initiative.

Structural Transitions: Exploring the alignment of pharmacy education directly under Health and Medical Education departments, alongside the potential establishment of dedicated Pharmacy Universities.

Technological & Curriculum Updates: Implementing the Aadhaar Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBAS) to boost institutional accountability, and rolling out the newly revised B.Pharm syllabus.

PCI Announces Major Nationwide Expansion and Infrastructure Upgrades

The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is driving a comprehensive modernisation of the nation's pharmacy education sector. For the academic session, the Council is implementing strategic policies designed to expand student access, elevate institutional quality, and bridge the gap between classroom theory and clinical

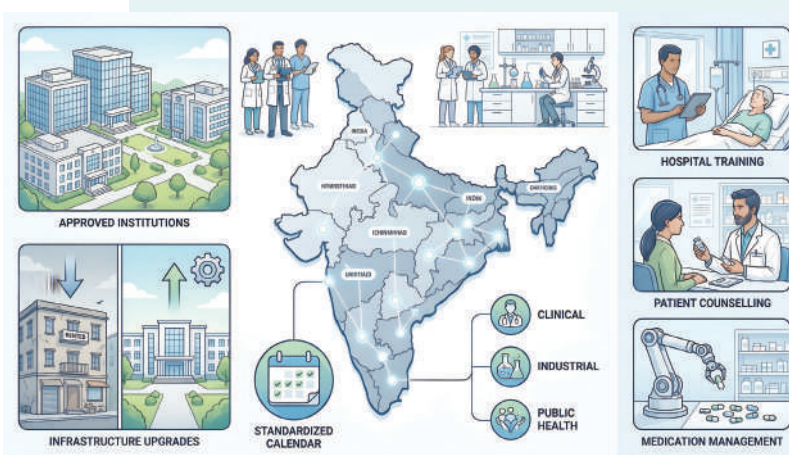
campuses and the introduction of specialised courses in existing colleges.

Beyond these programs, institutions are introducing further specialisations, including Pharmaceutical Analysis, Industrial Pharmacy, and Pharmacy Practice. Additionally, the Council is evaluating 36 applications for supernumerary admissions to create further opportunities for eligible students while maintaining strict regulatory compliance.

To ensure long-term institutional stability, the PCI is introducing a landmark infrastructure policy. Institutional bodies will be encouraged to transition from rented or leased premises to self-owned buildings.

Simultaneously, the Council is mandating strict adherence to standardised academic calendars across all state authorities to bring uniformity and transparency to the admission process. Finally, a renewed emphasis is being placed on robust, hospital-based practical training for D.Pharm students. By intensifying real-world exposure to patient counselling and medication management, the PCI aims to significantly enhance graduate employability and elevate community healthcare delivery nationwide.

Approved Institutions:



practice.

A primary pillar of this expansion is the approval of new institutions and advanced academic programs across India. To cater to growing healthcare demands, the PCI has authorised both the establishment of fresh

Course	Number of Newly Approved Institutions
D.Pharm	75
B.Pharm	56
M.Pharm	1

Programme / Specialisation	New Introductions in Existing Institutions
M.Pharm Pharmaceutics	54
M.Pharm Pharmacology	27
B.Pharm	23
Pharm.D	22
M.Pharm Pharmaceutical Chemistry	21
M.Pharm Regulatory Affairs	13
M.Pharm Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance	12
Pharm.D (PB)	5



PCI and IMA Unite Against Antimicrobial Resistance

A significant milestone in inter-professional healthcare collaboration was achieved at the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) headquarters in New Delhi during the inaugural function of CAPSULE-3. The PCI signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Medical Association (IMA), uniting pharmacists and medical practitioners in a coordinated effort against the escalating global threat of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). The historic agreement was executed by Dr. Montukumar M. Patel, President of the PCI, and Dr. Anil Kumar J. Nayak, National President of the IMA. By breaking down professional silos, the PCI and IMA are establishing a unified defensive front against drug-resistant pathogens. This interdisciplinary framework underscores a mutual commitment to responsible healthcare delivery, promising to substantially strengthen India's public health infrastructure and patient safety standards. The two apex bodies have launched the National Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness & Behaviour Change (NAMR-ABC) Programme, a joint initiative designed to drive community outreach, capacity building, and evidence-based clinical interventions. This landmark program directly aligns with India's National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance.



Inter-Professional Education: Launching joint continuing professional education initiatives, specialised training programs, workshops, and conferences designed for both doctors and pharmacists.

Public Health Literacy: Deploying nationwide awareness campaigns and co-developing educational materials to inform the public about the dangers of self-medication and antibiotic misuse.

Shared Strategic Objectives

The core mandate of this partnership centres on optimising patient outcomes while preserving the efficacy of existing life-saving medications. The joint initiative will prioritise several critical healthcare tracks:

Antimicrobial Stewardship: Cultivating a clinical environment dedicated to the rational and precise prescribing and dispensing of antimicrobials.



NAMR-ABC National Joint Committee

PCI & Pharmacy Network

- State Pharmacy Councils enforce prescription-only regulations.
- Advisory notices sent to retail pharmacies against OTC abuse.
- Embed stewardship parameters into institutional training programs.

IMA & Medical Network

- Mobilize 3.5+ lakh physicians via local and state chapters.
- Standardize prescription formats to enforce rational prescribing.
- Host clinical seminars and public health awareness camps.

PCI Enhances Transparency for Grievance Redressal with Physical Hearing Committee

The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has strengthened its institutional grievance redressal mechanism through the active deployment of its Physical Hearing Committee (PHC). This initiative provides pharmacy institutions with a dedicated platform for direct, in-person interaction with the Council to resolve pressing academic, administrative, and regulatory challenges.

Rather than navigating lengthy bureaucratic loops, management representatives, principals, and institutional authorities can personally present their cases before the Committee. This forum allows institutions to clarify deficiencies, explain compliance strategies, and submit supporting documentation directly to decision-makers.

This personal hearing process has significantly bridged historical communication gaps, helping colleges align with regulatory expectations more effectively. By replacing rigid paperwork exchanges with participatory dialogue, the Council is actively fostering stakeholder confidence and faster problem-solving.

Targeted Resolution Areas

The PHC framework is specifically structured to bring speed, clarity, and fairness to several critical operational domains:

Institutional Approvals & Compliance: Accelerating the resolution of pending approval processes and addressing regulatory observations or statutory requirements.

Operational Standards: Clarifying infrastructure requirements, verifying faculty appointments, and resolving admission bottlenecks.



How a Dedicated Pharmacy University Can Pave the Way for India's Pharmaceutical Future

India has proudly earned the distinction of being the “Pharmacy of the World”, supplying affordable and high-quality medicines to countries across the globe. To sustain this leadership and transition from a manufacturing powerhouse to a global innovation hub, the establishment of a dedicated pharmacy university has become a strategic necessity. At present, pharmacy education is spread across technical universities, health sciences universities, and multidisciplinary institutions, resulting in fragmented governance, varied academic standards, and dispersed research efforts. While these institutions have contributed significantly to pharmaceutical education, the rapidly evolving healthcare landscape demands greater focus on emerging areas such as biologics, gene therapy, artificial intelligence in drug discovery, regulatory sciences, and precision medicine. A dedicated pharmacy university would create a unified ecosystem for education, research, and innovation. By bringing together disciplines such as medicinal chemistry, pharmaceuticals, pharmacology, biotechnology, clinical pharmacy, and regulatory science under one umbrella, it would foster interdisciplinary collaboration and accelerate the development of new therapies and technologies. Centralised world-class research infrastructure would also attract national and international

collaborations, funding opportunities, and industry partnerships. Equally important, such a university would produce industry-ready professionals through updated curricula, hands-on laboratory training, structured internships, and innovation and incubation centres that encourage entrepreneurship. It could also emerge as a centre of excellence in regulatory science, intellectual property, pharmacovigilance, and global compliance, supporting India’s expanding pharmaceutical footprint. A dedicated pharmacy university would not merely strengthen higher education—it would strengthen India’s healthcare ecosystem. By promoting indigenous research, reducing dependence on imported Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), encouraging pharmaceutical innovation, and enhancing preparedness for future health emergencies, it would help position India as a global leader in pharmaceutical research, development, and healthcare innovation for decades to come.

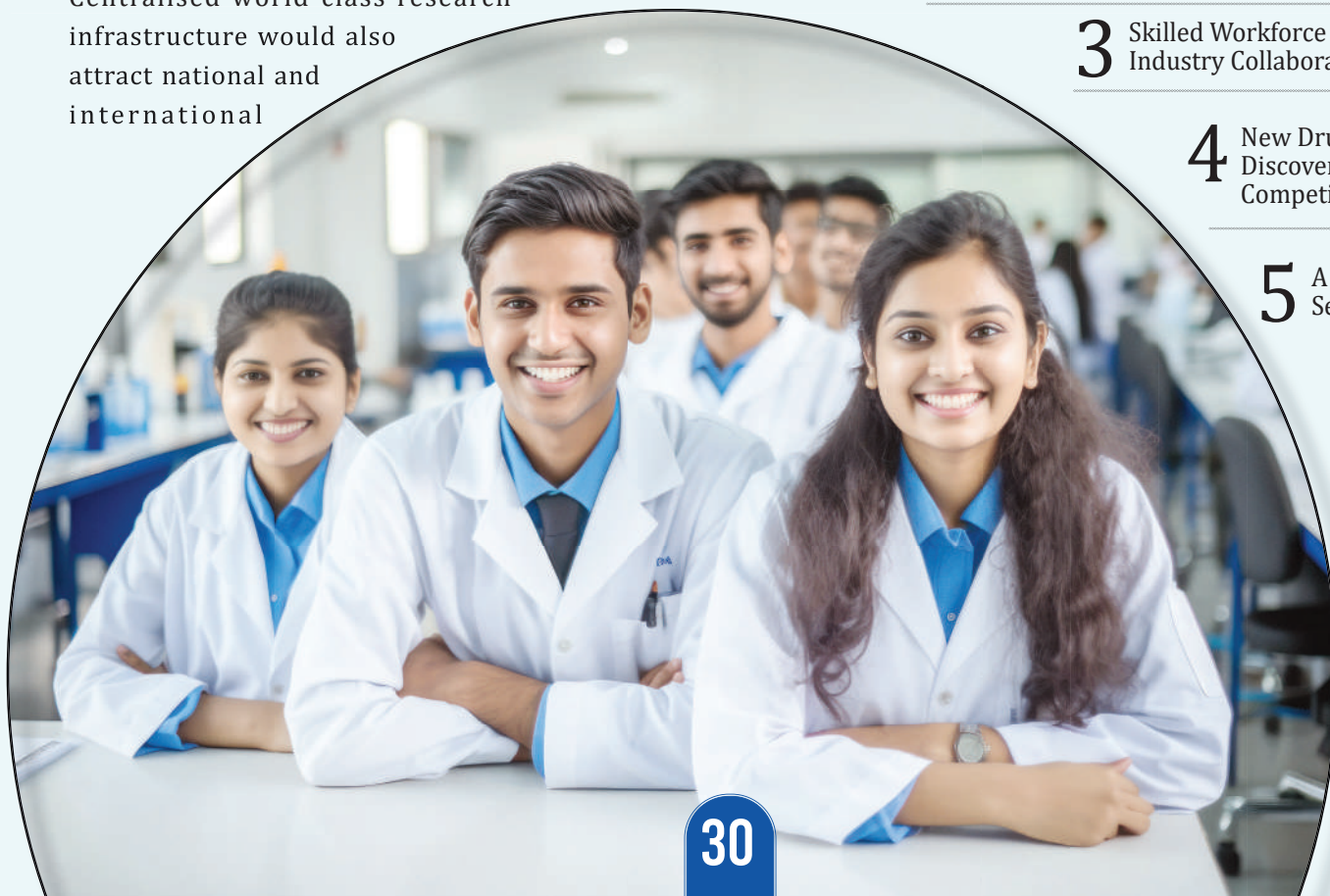
1 Dedicated Pharmacy University

2 Advanced Research & Innovation

3 Skilled Workforce & Strong Industry Collaboration

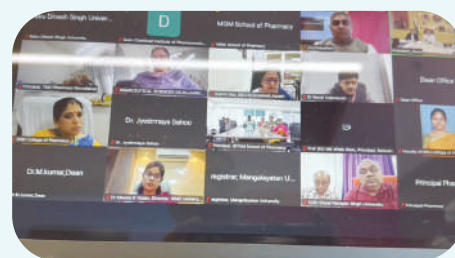
4 New Drug Discovery & Global Competitiveness

5 A Healthier, Self-Reliant India



PCI Conducts Sub-Committee Meetings to Strengthen Academic Reforms and Professional Initiatives

The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has been actively conducting a series of sub-committee meetings as part of its continued efforts to strengthen pharmacy education, promote professional excellence, and enhance stakeholder engagement across the country. These meetings have served as important platforms for deliberation, planning, and collaborative decision-making on key initiatives aimed at advancing the pharmacy profession. A significant sub-committee meeting was convened at the PCI Office to deliberate on the preparations for the celebration of World Pharmacists Day and National Pharmacy Week. The committee discussed various activities and outreach programmes to be organized across the nation with the objective of highlighting the vital role of pharmacists in healthcare, encouraging professional development, and increasing public awareness regarding the contributions of the pharmacy profession. In addition, the Pharmacy Council of India organized a series of online interactive meetings with Vice-Chancellors, Registrars, Deans, Principals, and senior academic administrators from universities and pharmacy institutions across the country. These meetings focused on the effective implementation of the new Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.) syllabus, addressing institutional preparedness, curriculum adoption, academic regulations, faculty



orientation, and strategies for ensuring a smooth transition to the revised competency-based curriculum. Through these continuous consultative meetings, PCI has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering collaboration with academic institutions and professional stakeholders. The valuable

suggestions received from experts and institutional representatives are expected to facilitate the successful implementation of various initiatives, further strengthening the quality of pharmacy education and supporting the development of competent, practice-ready pharmacy professionals in India



PCI VISION

“To promote quality pharmacy education, strengthen professional practice, encourage innovation and research, and develop competent, ethical, and future-ready pharmacy professionals for the healthcare needs of the nation”

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Pharmacy Council of India acknowledges the contributions of:

Central Council Members.
State Pharmacy Councils.
Pharmacy Institutions.
Faculty Members.
Students.
Industry Partners.
Healthcare Professionals.
Regulatory Organizations.
Collaborating Institutions.

Their support and participation continue to contribute significantly toward the advancement of pharmacy education and the profession in India.



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