



Industry Dialogue on PRIP Scheme | Maharashtra | 18 Mar 2025

Why in News?

The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India, hosted an Industry Dialogue in Mumbai to promote research and innovation under the [Pharma-MedTech Sector \(PRIP\) Scheme](#).

Key Points

- **Key Discussions & Participation:**
 - The event provided a platform for industry leaders, associations, and research institutes from [Indian Council of Medical Research \(ICMR\)](#), [Council of Scientific & Industrial Research \(CSIR\)](#), and [National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research \(NIPERs\)](#).
 - Discussions focused on **strengthening industry-academia linkages, fostering collaboration**, and leveraging government initiatives to accelerate R&D and **commercialization of innovative solutions in pharmaceuticals and medical technology**.
- **Government Initiatives:**
 - **PRIP Scheme:** Detailed insights on its role in supporting research and innovation.
 - **ICMR Initiatives:**
 - PATENT MITRA – Support for patent filing.
 - MEDTECH MITRA – Assistance in the innovation journey and clinical trials.
 - INTENT – Facilitation of research and development efforts.
- **Government's Vision for Pharma-MedTech:**
 - Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals emphasized:
 - The importance of **futuristic products and affordable healthcare** solutions.
 - The transformative role of data-driven markets in shaping **Pharma-MedTech R&D**.
 - India's unique advantage in **precision and personalized medicine due to its diverse gene pool** and large population.
 - The PRIP Scheme's role in supporting cost-effective and innovative healthcare solutions for global impact.

Indian Council of Medical Research

- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is the **apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research**.
- Its mandate is to conduct, coordinate and implement medical research for the benefit of the Society; translating medical innovations into products/processes and introducing them into the public health system.
- It is **funded by** the Government of India through the Department of Health Research, **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**.

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

- **About:** CSIR is the **largest research and development (R&D)** organisation in India. **CSIR has a pan-India presence** and has a dynamic network of 37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centres, 3 Innovation Complexes and 5 units.

- **Established:** September 1942
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
 - It is funded by the **Ministry of Science and Technology** and it operates as an **autonomous body** through the **Societies Registration Act, 1860**.
 - CSIR covers a wide spectrum of streams – from radio and space physics, oceanography, geophysics, chemicals, drugs, genomics, biotechnology and nanotechnology to mining, aeronautics, instrumentation, environmental engineering and information technology.
 - It provides significant **technological intervention** in many areas with regard to **societal efforts** which include the **environment, health, drinking water, food, housing, energy, and farm and non-farm sectors**.
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First Temple of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj | Maharashtra | 18 Mar 2025

Why in News?

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra inaugurated [Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's first temple](#) in **Bhiwandi, Thane district**, to mark the Maratha warrior king's **birth anniversary** according to the **Hindu lunar calendar**.



Key Points

- **National Temple:**
 - The CM referred to the **temple as a “national temple”, emphasizing its inspirational value**.
 - He highlighted that the **temple honours Shivaji Maharaj’s legacy**, allowing devotees to witness the **glory of the Maratha king**.
 - Shivaji Maharaj fought battles for God, country, and faith, ensuring the right to worship Ishta Devas (personal Gods).
- **Structure & Design:**
 - The first grand temple of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in Maharashtra spans four acres in the Marade Pada region, Thane district.

- **Architect Vijaykumar Patil** designed the temple's structure.
- **Sculptor Arun Yogiraj**, who also created the Ram temple idol in Ayodhya, carved the 6.5-feet idol of Shivaji Maharaj for this temple.
- **Efforts for UNESCO Recognition & Memorial in Agra:**
 - The Maharashtra government has **approached UNESCO to recognize 12 forts associated with Shivaji Maharaj** under the Maratha Military Landscape of India.
 - These 12 forts are:
 - **Maharashtra:** Lohagad, Salher, Raigad, Pratapgad, Shivneri, Suvarnadurg, Vijaydurg, Sindhudurg, Panhala, Khanderi Fort.
 - **Tamil Nadu:** Gingee Fort.
 - The **State has also sought permission from Uttar Pradesh to build a memorial in Agra**, marking **Shivaji Maharaj's escape from Aurangzeb's captivity in 1666**.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

- **Birth:**
 - He was **born on 19th February, 1630 at Shivneri Fort in District Pune** in the present-day state of Maharashtra.
 - He was **born to Shahaji Bhonsle**, a Maratha general who held the jagirs of Pune and Supe under the Bijapur Sultanate and Jijabai, a pious woman whose religious qualities had a profound influence on him.
- **Early Life:**
 - He displayed his military zeal for the first time in 1645 when as a teenager, he successfully got control of the Torna Fort which was under Bijapur.
 - He also acquired the Kondana Fort. Both these forts were under Adil Shah of Bijapur.
- **Granted Title:**
 - He was crowned as the **king of the Marathas** on 6th June, 1674, at Raigad.
 - He took on the titles of **Chhatrapati, Shakakarta, Kshatriya Kulavantas and Haindava Dharmodhhaarak**.
 - The **Maratha Kingdom** founded by Shivaji grew larger over time and became the dominant Indian power in the early 18th century.
- **Death:**
 - He **died on 3rd April 1680**.