



Policy Initiatives for Pharma Med Tech Sector

For Prelims: [Pharmaceutical sectors](#), National Policy on Research and Development and Innovation in Pharma-MedTech Sector in India, Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector (PRIP)

For Mains: Policies and Initiatives of Medical and Pharmaceutical sectors

[Source: PIB](#)

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has launched initiatives to nurture Innovation, research, and development in the Medical and [Pharmaceutical sectors](#).

- These Initiatives are **National Policy on Research and Development and Innovation in Pharma-MedTech Sector** in India and Scheme for Promotion of **Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector (PRIP)**.

Note

Indian pharmaceutical industry is the **3rd largest pharmaceutical industry in the world** by volume with current market size of around USD 50 Billions.

What are the Initiatives Launched?

- **National Policy on Research and Development and Innovation in Pharma-MedTech Sector:**
 - The policy aims to encourage **R&D in pharmaceuticals**, including traditional medicines & phytopharmaceuticals and medical devices.
 - It can potentially help in growing the **sector to USD 120-130 Billion** over the next decade, increasing its contribution to the [GDP](#) by about 100 basis points.
 - **Objectives:**
 - To create a regulatory environment that facilitates innovation and research in product development, expanding the traditional regulatory objectives of safety and quality.
 - To **incentivize private and public investment in Innovation** through a mix of fiscal and non-fiscal measures.
 - To build an enabling ecosystem designed to support innovation and cross-sectoral research as a strong institutional foundation for sustainable growth in the sector.
- **Scheme for Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma-MedTech Sector (PRIP):**
 - The PRIP scheme focuses on **fostering innovation and transforming the MedTech sector** into an innovation-driven powerhouse.

- It emphasizes high-quality research and innovation, aiming to shift the sector towards value and innovation-based approaches.
- **Components:**
 - **Component A:** Strengthening the research infrastructure by establishment of 7 **Centres of Excellence** at National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER).
 - **Component B:** Promoting research in pharmaceutical sector by encouraging research in six priority areas like New Chemical Entities, Complex generics including **biosimilars, medical devices, stem cell therapy**, orphan drugs, **Anti-microbial resistance** etc., wherein financial assistance will be provided for the Industries, **MSME, SME, Startups working with government institutes** and for both in-house and academic research.

What are the Initiatives Related to the Pharmaceutical Sector?

- [Production Linked Incentive \(PLI\) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals](#)
- [Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks Scheme](#)
- [Strengthening Pharmaceuticals Industry Scheme](#)

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ):

Mains:

Q. How is the Government of India protecting traditional knowledge of medicine from patenting by pharmaceutical companies? **(2019)**

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