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PCI to revamp BPharm curriculum after 11 years, make it industry relevant

Set for 2026-2027 academic session, the updated syllabus which aligns with NEP 2020, will offer flexibility to students to choose elective subjects

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Priyadarshini Gupta | Posted April 14, 2025 09:00 AM



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Montukumar Patel, president, PCI, says, “Syllabi of BPharm and MPharm programmes are being revised, with BPharm going to be specialisation-oriented, and MPharm to become more research-based. The updated structure will also include provisions for multiple entry and exit points and academic credit banks. Students who study for two years will be provided with a diploma. Several subjects will be offered at the graduation level, with institutions getting over 20% syllabus flexibility while choosing courses. If new programmes are to be offered by institutions, they would have to take PCI approval first.”

Distinct specialisations

In the coming months, the draft will be open to public stakeholders and institutions for feedback, following which the final version will be released. Speaking to *Education Times*, Deependra Singh, chairman, Education Regulation Committee, PCI, says, “Earlier, the BPharm syllabus was a generic one, offering no specialisations. For the first time, PCI will introduce two distinct specialisations under the BPharm programme: industrial pharmacy and clinical pharmacy. For the first four semesters, all students will follow a common syllabus covering core subjects such as Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutics and Pharmacognosy. After the initial two years, students will have a choice between these two specialisations, allowing them to focus on their preferred area of interest.”

The industrial pharmacy specialisation is oriented towards industry-focused subjects, while the clinical pharmacy will be more community-oriented, with an emphasis on hospital and clinical settings. Singh says, “This shift is in response to the increasing demand for pharmacists in healthcare settings, especially following the Covid-19 pandemic when healthcare professionals, including pharmacists, played a crucial role.”

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up courses from other fields in addition to pharmacy, making them more adaptable and well-rounded. This will be particularly beneficial for students interested in combining pharmacy with fields such as biotechnology, AI in healthcare, or business management. This flexibility will help in enhancing their employability and equipping them with specialised knowledge and skills. Inclusion of value-added courses will also improve the skill set of students and their research capabilities.”

Training faculty

With the new curriculum to be implemented from the next academic session, training sessions will be held for teachers across the country in the coming months. Workshops will be aimed at familiarising them with the new syllabus, emerging technologies, and latest trends. “The sessions will be held in batches across various states, and the goal is to train at least 500 educators per month. The strategy includes a ‘train-the-trainers’ approach, where senior teachers will be trained, who will go and educate faculty members in their respective institutions,” adds Singh.

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