



# Pharmacy periodicals in India – a review by research - by Prof. Anant Hardas

The first issue of Pharmacy Journal in India – The Indian Journal of Pharmacy was published in Dec 1894, however it was defunct after 3 years. The Modern Pharmaceutical Journalism in India was Pioneered by Mr. Premnath Bazaz, who started the Eastern Pharmacist in 1958 and equal contribution was by Dr. A.K. Patni, who edited Indian Drug since its inception published by IDMA. Today there are nearly 175 Pharmacy Journal published in mostly English (and also in Marathi, Hindi & Bengali) by 5 different categories of publishers in India. The PCI has set out official Journals – seven - for D. Pharm Course and 20 for B. Pharm Degree Course, and minimum 2 international Journals for each discipline of specialization at M. Pharm, Ph.D and Pharm. D Courses structure in India. This article brings out short History and progress of Indian Pharmacy Periodical as on today.

In India the modern pharmacy education is taught at 5 different levels after 12 std. pass, as follows

- 2 year's Diploma in Pharmacy
- 4 years Degree – B.Pharm
- 6 years Post Graduate – M.Pharm Course (With Various Specialisations)
- 6 years Pharm.D Course
- Further 2 - 3 years research study for PhD Degree with submission of thesis, University wise

There are three Govt. agencies which control and approves pharmacy educational activity in India – PCI (Pharmacy Council of India – for D.Pharm B.Pharm and Pharm.D ), then AICTE (All India Council of Technical Education for D.Pharm and B.Pharm), and respective State Universities to control M. Pharm and PhD Studies.

The PCI has recommended various Indian Journals for the Course wise studies in India. Table

1,2,3 indicates the Journals prescribed for various courses, as per SIF for Diploma and Degree Studies courses. However there is no mention of any Journal for the subjects like- Anatomy and Physiology, Biochemistry and Clinical Pathology, Drug Store and Business Management, Pharma Chemistry 1 and 2, Pharmacognoc and Pharma. Jurisprudence (Forensic Pharmacy), all for D.Pharm Course Subjects.

PCI has recommended a total of 20 Journals for Conduct of D.Pharm & B.Pharm Course singly or combined (Letter ref. No. 14-143/2009-pci/70723-7392 Dt. 15 Mar 2017 – Table 2)

For M.Pharm Courses - at least two International Journals for each specialization (Table-3)

For Pharm.D Course – PCI Directs – two International Journals in Pharmacy Practice, Containing Data Drug Information. (Table – 3)

The various publishers at National level, nearly 70 have come out, now with newer Journals and they can

be contacted for their Journal. Table 3 include details of publishers and their journals names with frequency. However, the readers are advised to check the quality of respective journal, periodical (and publishers as well) as many new journals has been marked to be probably *predatory* in nature.

## HISTORY

The 1<sup>st</sup> Pharmacy periodical named as “Indian Journal of Pharmacy” (Monthly) was published by Bristowe and Bennett Company, Volume 1 No. 1, on 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 1894, from Calcutta and it contend monthly record of the chemical, drug and allied News from India Burma, China and Japan. It was edited by Mr. Roger S. Cheu, M.D. MSC. (Figure 1). The 2<sup>nd</sup> Periodical – “Drug News” was published from Bombay in 1936 under the editorship of J.T. Martin. This monthly Journal dealt with retail business, manufacturing techniques and standard marketed products. The other Journal letter on the

“Pharmaceutics Journal” was started by Dr. E. Leiser from Calcutta in 1938 however all the above Journals are now defunct. Under the leadership of Prof. M.L. Schroff and under the banner of UP state Pharmacy Association, “The Indian Pharmacist” monthly was started from 1936 however this journal is also defunct.

### IPA'S CONTRIBUTION

In the modern period, the first scientific Pharmacy Journal – the Indian Journal of Pharmacy, was published in 1939 by Indian Pharmaceutical Association and is still continuing on regular basis. In Hindi the ‘Bheshhaj Patrika’ was started by Prof. GP Srivastava which later on became – ‘Beshajam’, but it became soon defunct because of limited patronage.

**Associations Journals** - Today almost every national Pharmacy Association has started bringing out both scientific and Journal Periodicals such as news bulletin or newsletters, however the credit goes to IPA who started IJPS as scientific Journal since 1936.

**Pharmaceutical Journalism - Modern Developments** – After independence, the establishment of Pharmacy Council of India in 1948, under Pharmacy Act 1948, in real led to starting of modern pharmacy education in India. And along that, therefore, the publications of Pharmacy periodicals took momentum. As on today there are 5 types of publishers, publishing over 170 periodicals per year –

1. Various Pharmacy Associations' publications such as IPA, APP (Association of Pharmacy Professionals), APPI, APTI, IPGA, IPS, IHPA, AICDO and others.

2. Govt. Publications from NISCAIR, CIMAP,

3. Pvt. Publications such as Akinik, Bazaz, Kongposh, Inveny, Pharma Inteligence Etc.

4. Govt. Research organizations such as Halffkine Institute, CDRI, NIPER

5. Institutions publications – Conducting B.Pharm, M.Pharm and PhD courses (also from students contribution)

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*“The credit of starting the modern Pharmaceutical Journalism in India goes to Mr. Prem Nath Bazaz, who started the Eastern Pharmacist in 1958 and later joined by his sons which was closed down in the year 2001. Equal contribution was by Dr. A.K. Patni Who edited Indian Drug on regular Monthly basis – from Jan 1960 onwards , and which is the official publication of India's oldest and largest association named – Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Associations, Head Quarter – Mumbai.”*

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**Directories & Bibliographies** – Apart from regular monthly Journals the first annual directory ‘Trade Directory – All India Chemist and Druggist and stores trade directory’ was published in 1933 by Dr. Reshmia and company, Bombay. Another directory mentioning the products of all manufacturing concerns – price list of all pharma concern's, was released in 1945 by Kimber and company. Both the directories enjoyed good Patronage and seeing this success, after Independence, different directories were published.

New Mysore medical and pharmaceutical directory was published in 1958 similarly the Pharmaceutical directory on India, which dealt with all aspects of professional activities in India, was published. The IPA's well documented – All India Pharmaceutical Guide in 1962 was published. M/s. Kongposh Publications, New Delhi is regularly publishing annually, the Indian Pharma Reference Guide which is commonly known as the Bible of Indian Pharmacy Profession and is accepted by all the branches of Pharmacy Profession.

**Education Field** – The APTI (Association of Pharmacy Teacher of India), established and started by Prof. M.L. Schroff, and has started publishing quality Pharmacy Books specially written by noted Pharmaceutical Historian, Prof. Harkishan Singh, who received Padmashree Award in 2016 by Govt. in India.

Similarly the author has compiled on behalf of APTI – 'Directory of Pharmacy Teachers of India', in 1980 and which is under revision now. The author has also compiled and published in 1981 – The Bibliography of Doctoral Theses in Pharmaceutical Sciences – Indian Universities – 1951 – 1979'. Now there is a regular column – PhDs awarded by most of the Pharmacy periodicals and it is a regular feature of the weekly – University News, which publishes the Ph.D awarded under different categories in various national and state Universities list.

**Multilingual**

**Journals** - While all the Journals in pharmacy are in English, some Journals were published and still going on in Hindi and Marathi languages in combination with English. for example Garg Publications – Journal of Biomedical and Therapeutic Sciences

Pharma News, Pharma Darpan, Medical Darpan Health Today, Medicare News (In English and Hindi), and in Marathi plus English – Drug Information Bulletin, a quarterly published by Maharashtra

State Pharmacy Council, Mumbai. The earlier "Bheshaj Patrika, in Bengali and Hindi was published from Calcutta but it soon became defunct.

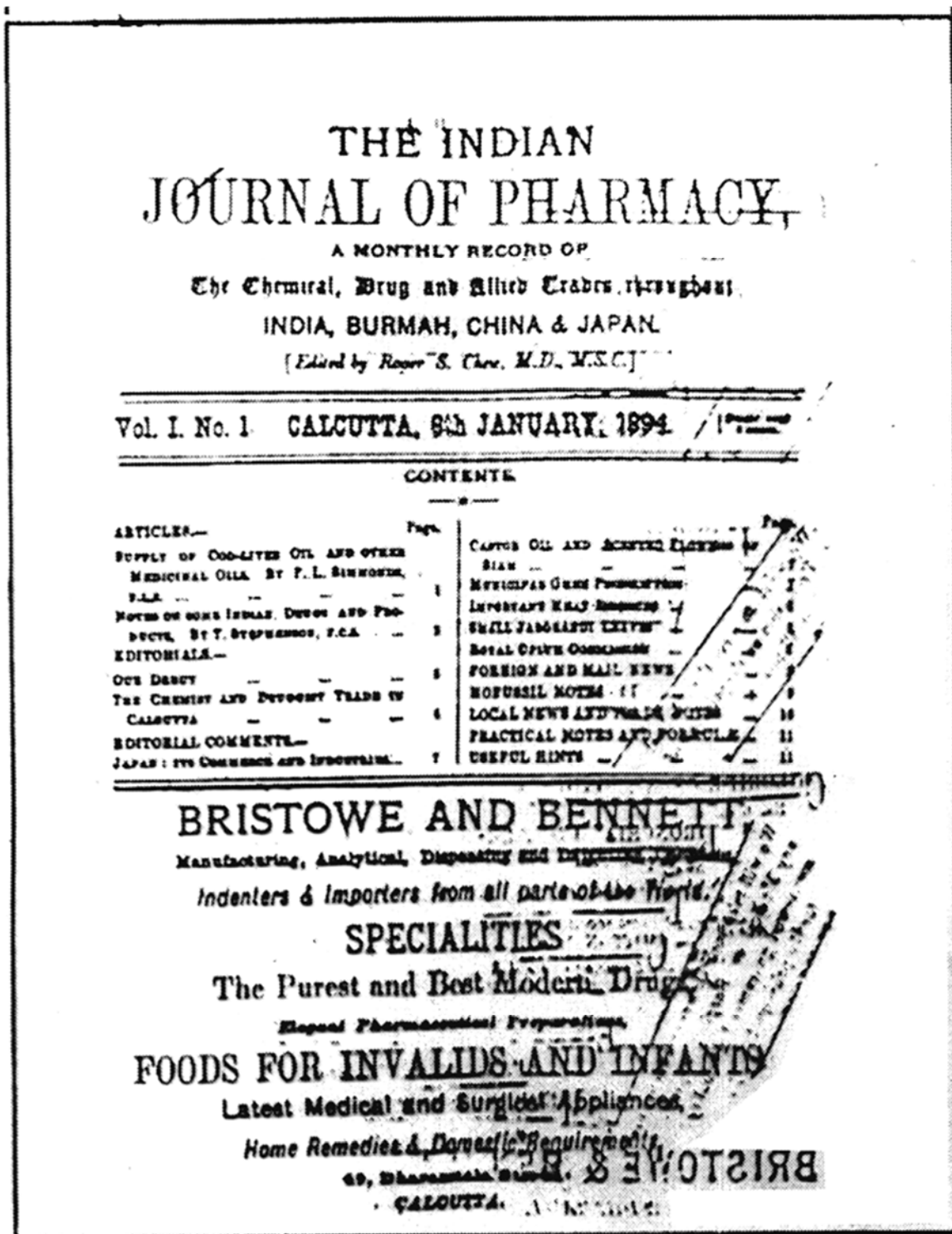


Figure 1 Front Cover page of 1st issue of Indian Journal of Pharmacy, 1894. Courtesy- Prof. Harkishan Singh – History of Pharmacy in India, Volume -1 APTI Publication.

**Table 1** Periodicals for D. Pharmacy Course as per PCI – SIF

Journal /Frequency	Publisher
CIMS (Qtly.)	UBM Medica India Ltd., Mumbai
MIMS (M)	MIMS India New Delhi
IJPER (Ind. J. Pharm. Edn. & Res. Qtly.)	APTI, Banglore
IJPS (Ind Journal of Pharma Sciences (BM))	IPA, Mumbai
IJEB (Ind. J. Exptl. Biology (M))	NISCAIR, New Delhi
IJHP (Ind. J. Hospital Pharmacy) (BM)	MCOPS, Manipal
IJP (IND. J. Pharmacology) (Qtly.)	BJ Medical College, Ahamdabad

**Table 2** Periodicals for B. Pharmacy Course as per PCI (Letter No. 14-143/2009-PCI/70773- 73292  
Dated 15-03-2017

Publisher	Journal/Freq.
IPA, Mumbai	Ind. J. Pharma Science(BM)
IPA	Pharma times (M)
IDMA, Mumbai	Indian Drugs (M)
NISCAIR, New Delhi	Ind. J. Exptl. Biology (M)
NISCAIR, New Delhi	Med & Aromatic Plant Abstract (BM)
NISCAIR, New Delhi	Ind. J. Natural Product Resources (Qtly)
NISCAIR, New Delhi	Ind. J. Traditional Knowledge (Qtly)
NISCAIR, New Delhi	Ind. J. Chemistry – Section – A (Inorganic) (M)
NISCAIR, New Delhi	Ind. J. Chemistry – Section – B (Organic) (M)
IPS, Ahmadabad	Ind. J. of Pharmacology (Qtly)
APTI, Banglore	Ind. J. Pharma. Edn. Research (Qtly)
APTI, Banglore	Ind. J. of Pharmacy Practice (Qtly)
APTI, Banglore	APTI News Bulletin (BM)

IHPA, New Delhi	Ind. J. Hospital Pharmacy (BM)
HEB, Jaipur	J. of Hospital Pharmacy (Qtly)
Kongposh, New Delhi	Pharma Review (BM)
Connect Journals, Ghaziabad	Ind. J. Heterocyclic Chemistry (Qtly)
IASC, Banglore	Current Science (FN)
IASC,	J. of Bioscience (Qtly)
IASC,	J. of Genetics (Qtly)
ICMR, New Delhi	Ind. J. Medical Research (M)

**Table 3.** Periodicals Publishers

Publishers name/Place	No of Jnls
AE Morgan Pubs, New Delhi	1(MIMS)
Akinik Pubs, New Delhi	10
Assoc. Pharmacy Professionals	2 (Bull Pharma. Res. + APP Sci. Updates)
A & V Pubs, Raipur	12
APTI-Bangalore	3
APPI, New Delhi	1(IJPP)
BDMA, Mumbai	1(GBD)
BRNSS Publ.Hub, Mandour	2(IJGP+AJ Pharm)
BAZAZ Pubs, New Delhi	2(IP+GUIDE)
CIMS Medica India Pvt Ltd	1(CIMS)
CIMAP, Lukhnow	1(JMAPS)
Chemist Voice H.G. Town-RAJ	1(CV=E+H)
Connect Journals-Gaziabad	1(IJHC)
CDRI, Lukhnow	2
GARG Pubs, Buland Shahr	3(PN+PD+MD)
Drug Today, New Delhi	2(DT+DTMT)
Drug Update, New Delhi	2(DU+GUIDE)
Health Edn. Bureau, Jaipur	2(JOHP+PEN)
Inventi Journals	21
Info Media 18 Mumbai	6
Indian Ac. of Sciences	3(CS+JB+ JG)
IDMA, Mumbai	2(ID+IDMAB)
Ind. Herbal Centre,	1 (Phytopharm)

New Delhi	
Indian Express, Mumbai	1 (Express Pharma)
Ind. Pharma Assn, Mumbai	2(PT+IJPS)
Ind. Pharmacology Soc.	1(IJP)
iScienceIn Pubs, Delhi	2 (JBTS + CBL)
Jasubhai Media LTD., Mumbai	2-PBW+CPF
KONGPOSH Pubs, New Delhi	2(PR+IPRG)
Krupanidhi COP, Bangalore	1 (J. Ph. Res)
Lords Res. Lab, Aurangabad	1(JGMP & IP)
MCOPS – Manipal	3(IJHP+IJCP)
MSPC, Mumbai	1(DIB=E+M)
McMed Intl., Chennai	7
Medknow Pubs+Walters Kluwer	11
Modern Pharma-Mumbai	1
NISCAIR, New Delhi	11
NIPER, Mohali	1(CRIPS)
Pharma BK. Synd, Hyderabad	2(IJDDD+IJPSN)
Passi Helathcom, New Delhi	1(DI)
PGIMER, Chandigarh	2(IDB+IJP)
Prachar Pubs, Wadodara	1(PG)
Pharma Prammarsh, Rohtak	1(PP=E+H)
Pharma Intelligence, Chennai	28
Ram Prakash, Jalgaon	2(APT+IJPBS)
RR Pubs, Bangalore	5
Saffron Media Pubs., Mumbai	2(CPB+ISA)
WJPPS (+EJPPS)	1(WJPPS+EJPPS)
Unicorn Pubs., Satara/Pune	3(JCPR+IJCPS+JCSH)
TOTAL	177

Note: Readers are advised to check the quality of journals before publishing their research and subscription of any journal, to be cautious of predatory journals marked by international agencies. Author takes no responsibility of such practices, the list (Table 3) is for reference only.

**AICTE APPROVED PHARMACY INSTITUTES NATIONAL LEVEL 2017-18(AS PER WEBSITE)**

Region	State/Union Territory	Degree		Diploma	
		NOI	Intake	NOI	Intake
Central	1. Madhya Pradesh	48	2730	27	1520
	2. Chhattisgarh	4	240	01	30
	3. Gujarat, Ahmedabad	25	1455	09	570
	<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>4425</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2120</b>
Eastern	1. Mizoram	1	30	01	150
	2. Sikkim	1	60	01	60
	3. West Bengal, Kolkata	6	270	03	160
	4. Tripura	1	30	01	60
	5. Meghalaya	-	-	-	-
	6. Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-
	7. Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	-	-
	8. Assam	1	20	02	150
	9. Manipur	-	-	-	-
	10. Nagaland	-	-	-	-
	11. Orissa	12	630	14	740
	12. Jharkhand	1	60	02	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1100</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1470</b>	
North	1. Bihar	4	105	-	-
	2. Uttar Pradesh	30	1770	09	430
	3. Uttaranchal	6	330	13	570
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2205</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>740</b>
North-West	1. Chandigarh	2	110	02	100
	2. Haryana	13	790	16	955
	3. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	02	80
	4. Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	01	40
	5. New Delhi	5	310	04	220
	6. Punjab	17	900	17	1020
	7. Rajasthan	22	1100	17	909
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>3210</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>3384</b>	
South	1. Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad	52	2962	49	2720
	2. Pondicherry	1	30	01	20
	3. TamilNadu	39	2220	15	1170
	<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>5212</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>3910</b>
South-West	1. Karnataka, Bangalore	58	3310	88	5100
	2. Kerala	21	1190	17	1015
	<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>4500</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>6115</b>
West	1. Maharashtra, Pune, Mumbai	74	3960	105	6280
	2. Goa	1	60	01	10
	3. Daman & D. Dadar, N.H.	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>4020</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>6290</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>445</b>	<b>24672</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>24029</b>

**Figure 2** AICTE Approved Pharmacy Institutes National Level. Copyright AICTE.

There are more than 448 colleges in India that impart degree and diploma courses in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences. The state wise list of number of colleges in provided in Figure 2 (as per list by AICTE).

Note - The Following States do not have any Pharmacy educational system - Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Anadaman and Nicobar, Manipur, Nagaland, Daman & D, Dadar, N.H.

**REFERENCES**

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  2. Indian Pharma reference guide (annual) – Kongposh publications, New Delhi
  3. Various issues of Pharma times, Pharma review and PCI news bulletin
- Appendix – A – 1<sup>st</sup> Issue of Indian Journal of Pharmacy, Volume 1, No. 1, 8<sup>th</sup> Jan.1894, Kalkatta (Publisher – Bristowe and Bennett, 49, Dharmshala road, Calcutta

**Abbreviations** – W=weekly, FN= Fortnightly, M= Monthly, BM- Bimonthly, QTLY= Quarterly (4 issues per year, 3/year= 3 issues per year, SA-HY= Semi annual/half yearly=2issues per year, A=Annual  
AICDO = All India Chemist & Druggist organisation

APTI = Association of Pharmacy Teachers of India

APPI = Association of Physiologists and Pharmacologists of India

IASc = Indian Academy of Science

ICMR = Indian Council of Medical Research

IDMA = Indian Drugs Manufacturers Associations

HEB = Health Education Bureau

IHPA = Indian Hospital Pharmacist Association

IPA = Indian Pharmaceutical association

IPS = Indian Pharmacology Society

MCOPS = Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences

NISCAIR = National Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research

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