

Advancing Healthcare through Science, Technology and Innovation: ICMR-NIV, Pune Hosts ESTIC 2026 Curtain Raiser A collaborative effort by DHR-ICMR and the Ministry of AYUSH

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ICMR-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV), Pune, hosted a curtain raiser programme for the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026, focusing on the thematic area "Preventive Medicine and Advanced Healthcare Solutions." The programme brought together scientific experts and media representatives to highlight the role of emerging technologies and scientific innovation in advancing healthcare and addressing public health challenges.



ESTIC 2026, India's flagship science, technology and innovation conclave is scheduled to be held from October 27 to 29, 2026, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Under the theme "Creative Minds, Catalyzing Science, Empowering Technologies," the conclave aims to unite creative minds, foster collaboration and accelerate scientific and technological advancements, contributing to India's vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Delivering the welcome address on behalf of the Director, ICMR-NIV, Dr. Pragya Yadav, Scientist F, ICMR-NIV, Pune, and Director-in-Charge, NIOH, Nagpur, stated, "Our focus at DHR-ICMR is on advancing the translation of biomedical research, strengthening modern

diagnostic networks and transforming scientific innovations into actionable public health policies. ICMR-NIV continues to play a key role in virological research, outbreak investigations and the development of diagnostics and vaccines.”



The address was followed by a short video highlighting ESTIC 2026 and its objectives, and a presentation by Dr. Krushna Ch. Sahoo, Scientist D, ICMR-DHR, and Member Secretary, Thematic session, providing an overview of the upcoming conclave.

Sharing a vision on thematic integration, Dr. Ruchi Singh, Scientist G and Head of Discovery Research, ICMR, Member, Thematic session stated, “ESTIC 2026 represents the integrated effort of 13 ministries to promote innovation and technological development, with the broader aim of uniting the country’s scientific community on a common platform to exchange ideas, share progress and showcase their achievements.”

Dr. A. Raghu, Advisor, Ministry of AYUSH, emphasized the integration of traditional and modern medicine to strengthen healthcare research and innovation. An interactive session with media representatives provided an opportunity for discussion on the upcoming conclave and its relevance to scientific and technological advancement. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Anshika Bhatnagar, Joint Statistical Advisor, Ministry of Ayush, and Co-Chair, Thematic session.

The curtain raiser reinforced the message that scientific progress is strengthened when science, technology and innovation work together to support India's vision of a scientifically advanced, self-reliant and healthier Viksit Bharat 2047.

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