



**Figure 1.** A two-dimensional map of revenue in the 4-year period/Group IV scientists versus the number of Group IV scientists in CSIR.

crores (budget estimate) for the financial year 2018–19, compared to Rs 4582.12 crores (revised estimate) for the financial year 2017–18 (from an answer on 19 March 2018 to another unstarred question #2683 by A. K. Selvaraj (MP)). That is, the outlay per Group IV scientist

works out to roughly 136 lakhs per year in 2017–18.

1. Prathap, G., *Curr. Sci.*, 2014, **107**, 1121–1122.
2. Prathap, G., *Curr. Sci.*, 2016, **110**, 288–289.
3. Prathap, G., *Curr. Sci.*, 2016, **111**, 962–964.

4. Prathap, G., *Curr. Sci.*, 2018, **114**, 9–11.

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## NEWS

### R. A. Mashelkar wins the TWAS-Lenovo Science Prize

R. A. Mashelkar, a noted Indian scientist in the field of polymer chemistry and engineering was awarded the 2018 TWAS-Lenovo Science Prize for ‘his seminal contributions in mechanistic analysis, synthesis, and applications of novel stimuli responsive polymers’. The Prize was announced at the 28th TWAS General Meeting in Trieste, Italy.

The TWAS President, Bai Chunli lauded Mashelkar’s work with the following statements: ‘His work has had an impact on a broad range of applications from agriculture to medicine, and it reflects a deeply ingrained spirit of science: that investment in fundamental research can give rise to discoveries in

applied science that have a real and powerful impact on people’s lives.’

Mashelkar, during his address at the awards ceremony, delved deep into smart hydrogels and breakthrough applications owing to the properties of these smart gels. Examples of such applications are novel synthetic bone grafts and therapeutic interventions to assist bone regeneration and healing, developing devices to plug tissue damage in the gastrointestinal tract and plugging porosity of underwater geological strata to enable enhanced oil recovery.

Mashelkar, an alumnus of the University Department of Chemical Technology (now the Institute of Chemical Techno-

logy), Mumbai, has served as President of the Indian National Science Academy and the UK Institution of Chemical Engineers. He was also Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. Mashelkar has several awards to his credit; the noted ones being the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize and Padma Vibhushan. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) of London and International Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering. He is also the first Indian to be selected as Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, USA.

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