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S&T Minister announces GenomeIndia flagship programme of 10,000 genome sequencing

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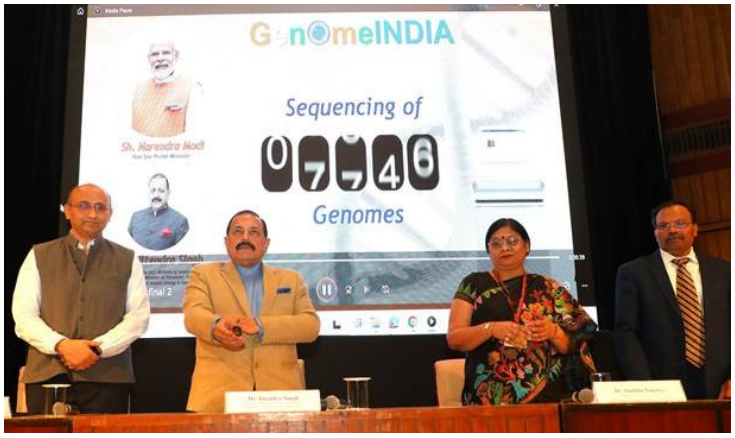
Dr Jitendra Singh described 10,000 genome sequencing as a watershed moment for India



Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology (S&T), Dr Jitendra Singh said that Bio-Economy and Space Economy are going to spearhead India’s future growth story, with India's economic growth already being highest in the world today at more than 6%.

Announcing the GenomeIndia Flagship Programme of 10,000 Genome Sequencing, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Biotechnology Sector has seen a rapid growth in the last 10 years and India is now being rated among top 12 bio-manufacturers in the world.

In her address, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology (DB)T, Dr Suchita Ninawe said, the “Reference Genome for Indian Population” created under the project will lead to a better understanding of the nature of diseases and specific interventions essential for various ethnic groups. The GenomeIndia will place India on the world map of genome research and will collectively facilitate future large-scale human genetic studies for researchers across the globe.

Joint Coordinators of the GenomeIndia, Prof Y Narahari and Dr K Thangaraj said in their presentations that beyond the sheer scale of sequencing and establishing a Reference Genome, the creation of a biobank housing 20,000 blood samples at the Centre for Brain Research, coupled with data archiving at the Indian Biological Data Centre exemplify the project's commitment to transparency, collaboration, and future research endeavours. The data is being storedat the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC) set up by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India at the Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad.