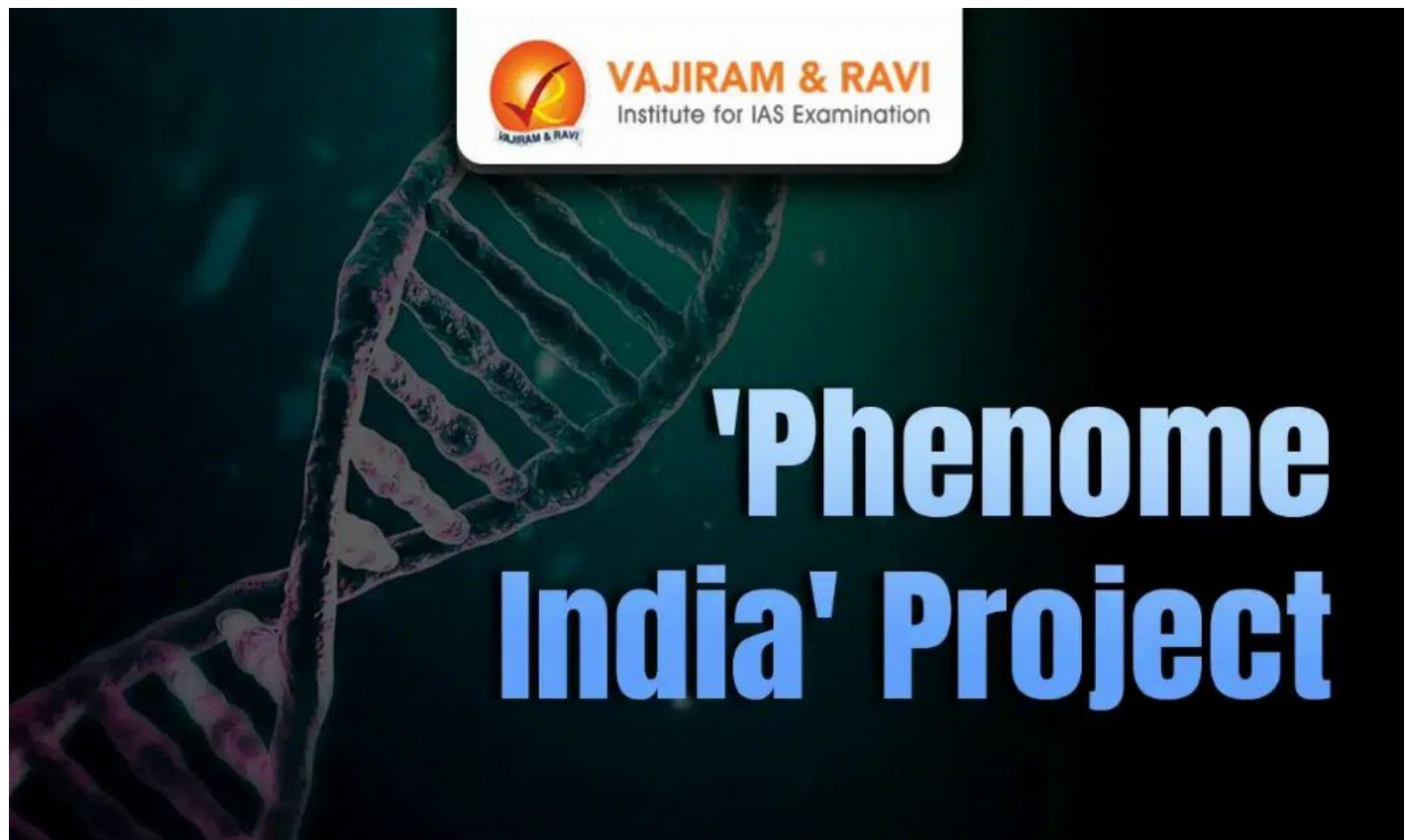


'Phenome India' Project

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'Phenome India' Project Latest News

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) had initiated a proposal call for 'Translational Research using GenomeIndia data' without disclosing crucial information about the available phenotype data, causing concerns among researchers across India.

Background

- The project successfully collected **blood samples** and **associated phenotype data** from over **20,000 individuals** belonging to **83 population groups**, comprising **30 tribal** and **53 non-tribal** populations spread across India.
- Preliminary findings based on the genetic data of **9,772 individuals** were published in the journal **Nature Genetics** on **April 8, 2025**.

Types of Phenotype Data Collected

- The collected phenotype data included **anthropometric measurements** such as **height, weight, hip circumference, waist circumference, and blood pressure**.
- From the blood samples, **complete blood counts** and **biochemical data** such as **glucose levels, lipid profiles, liver function, and kidney function tests** were measured.

About 'Phenome India' Project

- The "Phenome India" project, officially named **Phenome India-CSIR Health Cohort Knowledgebase (PI-CheCK)** is an initiative launched by the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** on **December 7, 2023**.
- **The main objective** of the project is to develop **India-specific risk prediction models** for **cardio-metabolic diseases** including **diabetes, liver diseases, and cardiac diseases**.
- It is **India's first-ever pan-India longitudinal health monitoring study** focused specifically on cardio-metabolic health.
- **Participants** include around **10,000 individuals**—primarily **CSIR employees, pensioners, and their spouses**—from across **17 states and 24 cities**.
- **Collected data** includes **clinical questionnaires, lifestyle and dietary habits, anthropometric measurements, imaging and scanning data, and extensive biochemical and molecular data**.
- This study is **crucial** for understanding how **ethnic diversity** and **lifestyle patterns** unique to India influence the **risk** and **incidence** of cardio-metabolic disorders.
- Through this project, **CSIR** is promoting a **Predictive, Personalised, Participatory, and Preventive (P4) healthcare model** suited to **Indian genetic and phenotypic profiles**.

'Phenome India' Project FAQs

Q1: What is the GenomeIndia Project?

Ans: The GenomeIndia Project is a national initiative to sequence the whole genomes of 10,000 Indian citizens to create a reference genome for the Indian population.

Q2: Which institutions are leading the GenomeIndia Project?

Ans: The project is coordinated by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, along with 20 other institutions across India.

Q3: Under which ministry is the GenomeIndia Project initiated?

Ans: The project is supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Source: TH

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/phenome-india-project/>

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