

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2794  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2021**

**Genome Testing Project**

**2794. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:**

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Department of Biotechnology is proposing to launch world's biggest genome testing project in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the strategy in place to successfully implement the genome testing programme across the country; and
- (c) whether establishments/institutions of private sector are also proposed to be included for genome testing and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) & (b) No Sir, no genome testing project is proposed in the country. The Department of Biotechnology however has launched the 'GenomeIndia: Cataloguing the Genetic Variation in Indians' project on 16.01.2020 for a period of 3 years involving 20 institutions from varied disciplines across the country, for whole genome sequencing and subsequent data analysis of targeted 10,000 individuals representing the country's diverse population. The proposed target of Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) is to do it for total 10000 individuals in 3 years.
- (c) The project is being implemented through public institutions.

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