

# One Day One Genome Unlocking India's Microbial Potential for Better Healthcare



Image by Freepik

**I**NDIA'S vast microbial diversity holds untapped potential for advancements in health, agriculture, and the environment. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) have launched the 'One Day One Genome' initiative. This aims to release a fully annotated bacterial genome daily. This ground-breaking project, announced by Shri Amitabh Kant, India's G-20 Sherpa, was introduced on the first foundation day of BRIC at the National Institute of Immunology (NII) in New Delhi.

### The Importance of the Initiative

Microorganisms play crucial roles in our ecosystem, which impact biogeochemical cycles, soil formation, human health, and agriculture. Despite their significance, less than 1% of the estimated 2-3 billion microbial species have been identified.

The 'One Day One Genome' initiative seeks to make genomic data more accessible to researchers, students, and the public. Thereby highlighting India's unique bacterial species and their critical roles in various sectors.

### Key Objectives and Methodology

The initiative has several key objectives:

1. **Showcasing Microbial Diversity:** highlighting unique bacterial species found in India and their roles in environment, agriculture, and health.
2. **Demystifying Genomic Data:** making complex microbial genomic data accessible to a wider audience.
3. **Promoting Research and Innovation:** driving breakthroughs in health, agriculture, and the environment.
4. **Empowering Young Minds:** inspiring school-going children to explore microbial genomics.