

'One Health' consortium

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In news— Recently, the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology has launched the country's first 'One Health' consortium.

About One Health' consortium

- This programme **envisages carrying out surveillance of important bacterial, viral and parasitic infections of zoonotic** and transboundary pathogens in India.
- **Use of existing diagnostic tests** and the development of additional methodologies when required are mandated for the surveillance and for understanding the spread of emerging diseases.
- This Consortium, **consisting of 27 organisations led by DBT-National Institute of Animal Biotechnology**, Hyderabad, is one of the biggest one health programs launched by Govt of India in post-COVID times.
- **The One health consortium consists of AIIMS, Delhi, AIIMS Jodhpur**, IVRI, Bareilly, GADVASU, Ludhiana, TANUVAS, Chennai, MAFSU, Nagpur, Assam agricultural and veterinary university and many more ICAR, ICMR centres and wildlife agencies.
- **COVID-19 pandemic showed the relevance of 'One Health' principles** in the governance of infectious diseases, especially efforts to prevent and contain zoonotic diseases throughout the world.
- Sensing this urgent need, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has supported a mega consortium on 'One Health'.

National Institute of Animal Biotechnology(NIAB), Hyderabad-

- It is an Indian **autonomous research establishment of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and**

Technology.

- **NIAB is aimed to harness novel and emerging biotechnologies and take up research** in the cutting edge areas for improving animal health and productivity.
- The Institute's **focus of research is on Animal Genetics and Genomics, Transgenic Technology,** Reproductive Biotechnology, Infectious Diseases, Bioinformatics and Nutrition Enrichment.
- It aims at translational research leading to the development of novel vaccines, diagnostics and improved therapeutic molecules for farm animals.

It **promotes bio entrepreneurship** by providing a support environment for commercial tenants involved in the development of farm animal based products.