

SERB-FIRE initiative

June 30, 2021

In news- A first-of-its-kind research initiative called '**Fund for Industrial Research Engagement (FIRE)**' has been launched by the **Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)**, in collaboration with Intel India.

About FIRE initiative-

- It is a **joint government and industry initiative** with a co-funding mechanism to promote innovative technology solutions and strengthen academic research through collaboration with key R&D organizations in India.
- It will increase research opportunities in the space of Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning (ML), platform systems, circuits & architecture, Internet of Things (IoT), materials & devices, security etc...
- The program **intends to select highly impactful research projects in every cycle** (typically once or twice a year), which have breakthrough potential at a national or global level.
- It will support the best researchers in academia with **funding, mentoring, and industry connect.**
- As the next step, the FIRE program will share a **Request for Proposal (RFP)** and invite the Indian research community to submit research proposals.

Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)-

- SERB is a **statutory body** of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.
- It was created in 2011.
- It is **chaired by Secretary, DST**, SERB comprises 17 members that includes seven Secretaries to the Government of India.
- SERB has a **vision to** position science and technology as the fulcrum for social and economic change by supporting

competitive, relevant and quality scientific research and development.

It has a **mission to** raise the quality and footprint of Indian science and engineering to the highest global levels in an accelerated mode