India's First Diabetes Biobank

Why in News?

Recently, India sets up its first diabetes biobank.

- **Diabetes Biobank** – It is a ***repository of population-based biological samples.***
- **Aim** – To facilitate advanced research on diabetes, variations of the Indian type and related disorders.
- **Set up by** – It is a joint collaboration of
  - Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
  - Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF)
- **Operated at** – ***Madras Diabetes Research Foundation*** (MDRF), Chennai.
- **Role** – It is designed to *collect, process, store, and distribute* biological samples to advance diabetes research.
- **Storage** – A plethora of blood samples of different types of diabetes in the young, such as ***Type 1, Type 2 and gestational diabetes***, have been stored for future studies and research.

> ***Biobanks*** *is a collection of biological samples (such as blood) and health information. It is critical in biomedical research, collecting, processing, storing and distributing biospecimens.*

Diabetes

- **Diabetes** – A *chronic metabolic disease* that occurs when the blood glucose, also called Blood Sugar, is too high.
- **Symptoms** – Feeling very thirsty
  - Need to urinate more often than usual
  - Blurred vision
  - Feeling tired
  - Losing weight unintentionally.
- **Types of diabetes**

Type 1 diabetes (Juvenile diabetes)	Type 2 diabetes	Gestational diabetes
It occurs in in *children* and young adults. (Insulin-dependent diabetes)	It occurs at *any age*, even during childhood.	It occurs *during pregnancy*.

The immune system attacks and *destroys the pancreas cells* that make insulin.	The pancreas *isn't making enough insulin* to keep the blood glucose level in the normal range.	It is hyperglycaemia with blood glucose values above normal but below those diagnostic of diabetes.

Reference

The Hindu| India's First Diabetes Biobank

