

## S.H.I.N.E. (Science, Health and Innovation for Nextgen Explorers) Initiative

**Prelims** - Current events of national and international importance.

### Why in News?

*Recently, S.H.I.N.E initiative was organised by the Department of Health Research (DHR) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), in line with PM call for students to 'spend one day as a scientist'.*

- **Aim** - To introduce students to the field of health and biomedical research.
- To ignite **scientific curiosity, foster innovation** and inspire the next generation of health researchers.
- It highlights ICMR's contributions to improving the nation's health.
- **Launched in** - 2024.
- **Organized by** - The Department of Health Research (DHR) and The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- **Eligibility** - School students from **9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade**.

*A total of 13,150 students from over 300 schools across 39 districts in 16 states and union territories participated.*

- **Interactive activities** - Guided laboratory tours, research exhibitions, poster walks, video presentations, and live demonstrations of ongoing scientific work.
- The students also had the opportunity to interact with ICMR scientists, gaining insights into their research journeys, areas of expertise, and everyday work in public health.
- **Curated shortfilms** - Students were shown specially curated short films highlighting key ICMR initiatives such as Covaxin, iDRONE, TB elimination, and pandemic preparedness.
- **Mascot for engagement** - To make the experience more engaging, a mascot named Dr. Curio was introduced as a friendly and relatable guide for the students throughout the day.
- **Outreach** - The initiative extends its reach to rural and urban areas, via DHR-Model Rural Health Research Units, ensuring inclusive participation from diverse student backgrounds.

*August 8 marked the 104<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Dr. Vulimiri Ramalingaswami, a distinguished Indian medical scientist, pathologist, medical writer, and Director General of ICMR.*

- **Significance** - Promoting scientific temper and youth engagement in public research.
- Encouraging students to view science as a career path and understand its societal relevance.

## Reference

[PIB| SHINE Initiative](#)

