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5 DECEMBER 2025

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Daily News Analysis

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1. Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)

- **Prelims** - Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations (Agreements & Conventions)

Why in the news?

- At the 50th anniversary occasion of Biological Weapons Convention, India calls for increased biosecurity. (Entered into force: 26 March 1975)

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)

- **Aim:**
 - Effectively prohibits the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of biological and toxin weapons.
 - Supplements the **1925 Geneva Protocol**, which had prohibited only the use of biological weapons.
- **Nature:** The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) is a **legally binding multilateral treaty**. It is the first multilateral disarmament treaty banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction (WMD).
- **Membership:**
 - 188 State parties, including India (Signed in 1974)
 - **Israel, Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea and Kiribati have neither signed nor acceded to the Convention.**
 - States Parties meet approximately every 5 years to review its operation.

Biological Weapons:

- They are biological agents or their products used to disseminate **disease-causing organisms or toxins** to harm or kill **humans, animals, or plants** and thereby derail the economy of a nation.



2. Sri Aurobindo Ghosh

- **Prelims** - Sri Aurobindo Ghosh
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Modern Indian History (Significant Personalities)

Why in the news?

- December 5 marks the death anniversary of Sri Aurobindo Ghosh

Sri Aurobindo Ghosh

- **Birth Place:** Sri Aurobindo was born on 15th August 1872 in **Kolkata**
- **Academics and Career:**
 - Aurobindo received Western Education (from England) and cleared the **open competition to join Indian Civil services** in 1890, but refused to join.
- **Contribution in National Movement:**
 - He was a **revolutionary** in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
 - Aurobindo relocated to Kolkata after the Bengal Partition in 1906 and there they **inspired revolutionaries like Bagha Jatin**.
 - He co-founded youth clubs, including the **Anushilan Samiti**, promoting physical fitness and martial training.
 - Aurobindo was charged in the **Alipore Bomb Case of 1908** and got sentenced. **Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das** appeared for him & got released.
 - **Journals: Bande Mataram, Karmayogin.**
 - Aurobindo was called the “**Prophet of Indian Nationalism**”.
- **Sri Aurobindo and Philosophy:**
 - Sri Aurobindo **left active politics in 1910** and settled in the French Colony of Pondicherry (Now Puducherry)
 - He established the **Sri Aurobindo Ashram (Auroville)** in Pondicherry.
 - Aurobindo developed **Integral Yoga philosophy**
- **Literary Contribution:** **Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol, The Life Divine, The Synthesis of Yoga, Essays on the Geeta, On the Veda, The Ideal of Human Unity**



3. Stubble Burning

- **Prelims** - Stubble Burning
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment (Air Pollution)

Why in the news?

- According to a study by ISRO the incidence of stubble burning in the Punjab region declined.

Stubble Burning

- **What is it?:** Stubble burning, also known as **parali burning**, is the practice of setting fire to leftover crop residue in fields after harvest. It is prevalent in North-West India, particularly in states like Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.
- **Reasons for Stubble Burning:**
 - **Quick and inexpensive method:** Farmers find it to be a quick and cheap way to clear their fields for sowing the next crop.
 - **Lack of alternatives:** Limited access to or awareness of alternative methods for crop residue management.
- **Impacts of Stubble Burning:**
 - **Air pollution:** Stubble burning is a major contributor to air pollution, particularly PM2.5 particles, leading to respiratory problems and health issues.
 - **Soil degradation:** Burning destroys essential nutrients and microbes in the soil, reducing fertility and long-term productivity.
 - **Climate change:** Releases greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, contributing to climate change.
- **Government Initiatives:**
 - **National Policy on Sustainable Agriculture (2015):** Promotes crop residue management practices.
 - **Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM):** Provides subsidies for machinery like Happy Seeder that can sow seeds directly into the stubble.
 - **Financial incentives:** Schemes to encourage farmers to adopt alternative practices like composting or baling.
 - **National Green Tribunal (NGT) bans:** Imposed bans on stubble burning with penalties for violations.



4. Malaria

- **Prelims** - Malaria
- **Mains** - GS 3 - S&T (Biotechnology) & GS 2 - Social Justice (Health)

Why in the news?

- Recent study revealed that Malaria sporozoites move through human skin in a corkscrew path.

Malaria

- **What is it?**: Malaria is a life-threatening mosquito-borne blood disease caused by Plasmodium parasites.
- **Transmission**: The parasites spread through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.
- **Treatment**: Malaria is preventable as well as curable.
- **Symptoms** of Malaria: Headache, Fever, Fatigue, Pain, Back Pain, Chills, Sweating, Dry cough, Nausea, Vomiting
- **Prevalent in**: Africa, South America, Asia



5. Alakananda Galaxy

- **Prelims** - Alakananda Galaxy
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology (Awareness in Space)

Why in the news?

- Researchers of National Centre for Radio Astrophysics - Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Pune discovered the Alakananda Galaxy.

Alakananda Galaxy

- **What is it?:** It is a **spiral galaxy**, located about **12 billion light-years** away
- **Features:**
 - **Two well-defined spiral arms** wrapped around a bright central bulge.
 - Has an approximate **diameter of 30,000 light-years**.
 - A **high star-forming galaxy**, producing stars at a rate of **~60 solar masses per year**.
 - Appears **strikingly similar to the Milky Way** and was formed when the Milky Way was **only 10% of its current age**.
 - Discovered using NASA's **James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)**.

Spiral Galaxies

- Spiral galaxies are twisted collections of stars and gas, known for their visually appealing shapes.
- They are composed largely of hot, young stars.
- In such galaxies, stars, gas, and dust arrange themselves into spiral arms radiating outward from the center.

6. Ebola Virus

- Prelims - Ebola Virus
- Mains - GS 3 - S&T (Biotechnology) & GS 2 - Social Justice (Health)

Ebola Virus



Why in the news?

- Democratic Republic of Congo authorities declared the end of Ebola cases in the country.

Ebola Virus

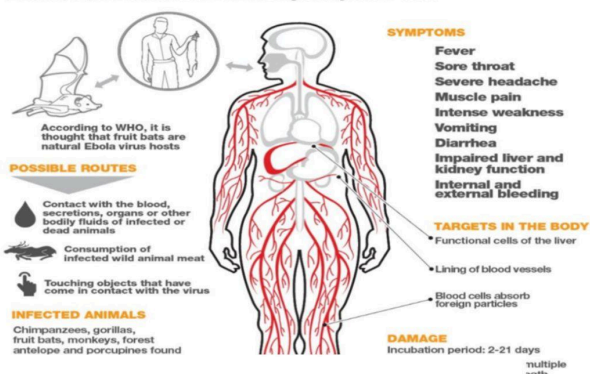
- **Origin of Name:** The virus is named after the Ebola river (Republic of Congo) — as a village situated on its bank witnessed the first instance of the viral outbreak in 1976.
- **Cause:** Ebola virus, a member of the Filoviridae family.
- **Symptoms:**
 - **Early:** Fever, headache, muscle pain, sore throat.
 - **Advanced:** Vomiting, diarrhea, rash, organ failure, and internal/external bleeding.
 - Incubation period: 2-21 days.
- **Diagnosis:** Blood tests (PCR, ELISA) and differential diagnosis to rule out similar diseases.
- **Treatment:**
 - Supportive care (rehydration, symptom management).
 - Monoclonal antibodies (e.g., Inmazeb, Ebanga) and experimental antivirals.
- **Prevention:**
 - Vaccination with Ervebo.
 - Use of PPE, safe burial practices, and public health awareness.

Ebola Virus Disease

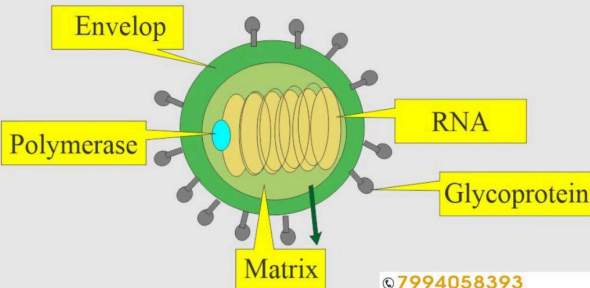
Ebola is most feared for the internal and external bleeding it can cause in victims owing to damage done to blood vessels.

It was discovered in 1976, and since then the majority of the outbreaks have appeared in parts of Africa.

At least 12,800 deaths have occurred globally since 1976.



Ebola virus structure



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