

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 08-07-2025

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1. Alluri Sitaram Raju

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2. National Commission for Minorities (NCM)

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- 4. Australian Bat Lyssavirus
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<u>Alluri Sitaram Raju</u>

Syllabus: GS-1; Important Personalities- Modern Indian History

Context

> Defence Minister pays tribute to Alluri Sitaram Raju on his birth anniversary

About



Early Life & Background

- > Belonged to a **Telugu-speaking Kshatriya family**.
- Initially worked as a sanyasi (ascetic) and gained influence among tribal communities.
- Inspired by Indian nationalist movements and angered by the oppressive British forest laws that affected tribal livelihoods.

Role in the Rampa Rebellion (1922-24)

> Cause of Rebellion:

- British **Forest Laws (1882)** restricted tribal access to forests for grazing and shifting cultivation (*Podu* agriculture).
- Exploitation by **British officials and contractors** under the **Madras Forest Act, 1882**.
- > Leadership:
 - Mobilized **tribal communities (Koya, Konda Dora, etc.)** and local peasants.
 - Used **guerilla warfare tactics** against British forces.
 - Attacked police stations, destroyed government property, and disrupted communication lines.
- > Notable Attacks:
 - Chintapalli Police Station Raid (August 1922) Stole firearms.
 - **Krishnadevipeta Police Station Attack (October 1922)** Killed a British officer.

Capture & Death

- **Betrayed by a tribal informant**, Raju was captured by British forces in **May 1924**.
- Executed without trial in Koyyuru village (Visakhapatnam district) on 7 May 1924.

Legacy & Recognition

- > Remembered as "Manyam Veerudu" (Hero of the Jungle) in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statue in Andhra Pradesh's Bhimavaram** and a memorial in **Pandrangi**.
- **Government of India issued a commemorative stamp (1986)** in his honor.
- Featured in the 1974 Telugu film "Alluri Seetharama Raju" and the 2022 Hindi film "RRR" (fictionalized version).

National Commission for Minorities (NCM)

Syllabus: GS-2; Statutory Bodies

Context

> National Commission for Minorities awaiting appointment of Chairperson, members

1. Constitutional & Legal Basis

- > Established under the **National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992**.
- Initially, five religious communities were notified as minorities: Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Parsis.
- > Later, **Jains** were added in **2014** under Section 2(c) of the NCM Act.

2. Functions of NCM

The Commission has the following key roles:

- > Evaluate progress of minority development under the Union and States.
- > Monitor safeguards for minorities in the Constitution (Articles 29-30) and laws.
- > Address complaints regarding deprivation of minority rights.
- > **Conduct studies** on socio-economic and educational status of minorities.
- > **Recommend measures** for the welfare of minorities.
- > Act as a civil court (summoning witnesses, demanding records, etc.).

3. Composition

- > **Chairperson**: Must belong to a minority community.
- Members: Five members, including a Vice-Chairperson (all from minority communities).
- Ex-officio Members: A nominee each from the National Commission for SCs, STs, and Backward Classes.

4. Constitutional Safeguards for Minorities

- > Article 29: Protects the cultural & educational rights of minorities.
- > Article 30: Grants minorities the right to establish & administer educational institutions.
- > Article 350(B): Provides for a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

5. Recent Developments & Schemes

- Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme for minorities (focusing on education, employment, and infrastructure).
- > **Nai Roshni Scheme**: Leadership development for minority women.
- > Seekho aur Kamao: Skill development for minorities.
- > Haj Subsidy Abolished in 2018 (as per Supreme Court directives).

6. Challenges & Criticisms

> Limited enforcement powers (recommendatory role).

- > Delays in resolving grievances.
- > **Demand for inclusion of other communities** (e.g., Lingayats, Jews).

Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

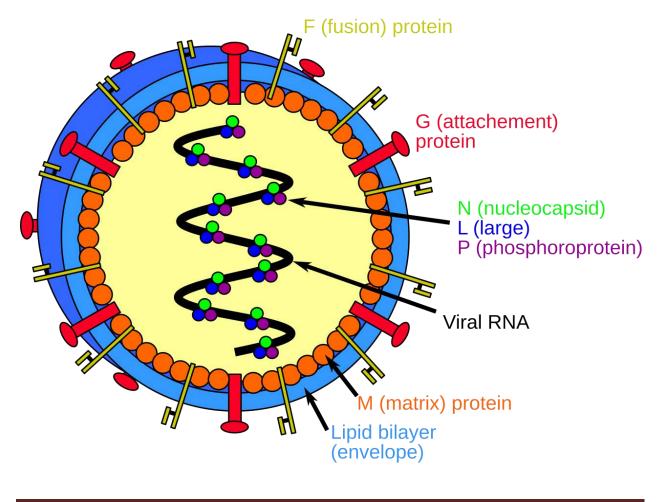
- UPSC 2019: "Discuss the role of the National Commission for Minorities in protecting the rights of religious minorities in India."
- > KPSC 2020: "Explain the constitutional safeguards for minorities in India."

Nipah virus (NiV)

Syllabus: GS-3; Science & Technology

Context

> 425 Under Surveillance As Kerala Battles Fresh Nipah Virus Outbreak.



1. Overview

- > **Virus Type**: Zoonotic virus (transmitted from animals to humans).
- > **Family**: *Paramyxoviridae*
- > **Genus**: *Henipavirus* (related to Hendra virus).
- > **Natural Host**: Fruit bats (Pteropus spp., also known as flying foxes).
- First Identified: 1998-1999 outbreak in Malaysia (Sungai Nipah village) among pig farmers.
- High-Risk Regions: South and Southeast Asia (India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore).

2. Transmission

- > **Primary Route**: Direct contact with infected bats or their secretions (urine, saliva).
- Intermediate Hosts: Pigs (in Malaysia outbreak), contaminated fruits (date palm sap in Bangladesh).
- Human-to-Human: Through close contact with bodily fluids (saliva, respiratory droplets).

3. Symptoms

- > **Incubation Period**: 4–14 days (can extend up to 45 days).
- > **Initial Symptoms**: Fever, headache, muscle pain, vomiting, sore throat.
- Severe Symptoms: Encephalitis (brain inflammation), seizures, coma, respiratory distress.
- **Fatality Rate**: 40%–75% (varies by outbreak).

4. Diagnosis & Treatment

- **Diagnosis**: RT-PCR (from throat/nasal swabs, CSF), ELISA (antibody detection).
- > **Treatment**: No specific antiviral drug; supportive care (ventilation, hydration).
- > **Vaccine**: None available (research ongoing).

5. Prevention & Control

> **Avoid Exposure**: Do not consume raw date palm sap, wash fruits thoroughly.

- > **Protective Measures**: Gloves/masks while handling sick animals/humans.
- > **Public Health Measures**: Isolation of patients, contact tracing, quarantine.

Australian Bat Lyssavirus

Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity, Science & Technology

Context

A man from northern New South Wales, Australia, has died after contracting the Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV), a rare and deadly virus similar to rabies.



1. About

- Australian Bat Lyssavirus (ABLV) is a zoonotic virus (transmitted from animals to humans) belonging to the Lyssavirus genus (same family as Rabies virus).
- First identified in **1996** in a **Black Flying Fox** (a type of fruit bat) in Australia.
- **Fatal if untreated**: Causes severe neurological disease in humans, similar to rabies.

2. Host & Transmission

- > **Primary Host**: **Fruit bats (Flying Foxes)** and **insect-eating bats** in Australia.
- > Transmission to Humans:
 - Through **bites or scratches** from infected bats.
 - Contact with bat **saliva** (through eyes, nose, or open wounds).
- > No known human-to-human transmission.

3. Symptoms in Humans

- > **Incubation Period**: Ranges from **days to years** (similar to rabies).
- **Early Symptoms**:
 - Fever, headache, fatigue.
 - Weakness, muscle pain.
- > Advanced Symptoms (Neurological Phase):
 - Paralysis, delirium, seizures.
 - Difficulty swallowing (**hydrophobia** fear of water, like rabies).
 - Almost always fatal once symptoms appear.

4. Prevention & Treatment

- > **No cure** after symptoms appear (like rabies).
- > Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP):
 - Immediate **wound cleaning** with soap and water.
 - Rabies vaccine + Immunoglobulin (if exposed).
- > Preventive Measures:
 - Avoid handling bats.
 - Vaccination for high-risk groups (veterinarians, wildlife workers).

Green Climate Fund

Syllabus: GS-3; Environmental Concern- International Institutions

Context

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has approved what it says is a 'record volume' of climate finance for developing countries.

About

> The **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** is a critical international financial mechanism under the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**.

Establishment & Purpose

- > Launched in: 2010 (at COP16 in Cancún, Mexico)
- > Operationalized in: 2014 (Headquarters: Incheon, South Korea)
- > **Objective:** To assist **developing countries** in **adaptation and mitigation** to counter climate change.
- Governance: Governed by a 24-member Board representing developed and developing countries equally.

Funding & Contributions

- > Initial Target: Mobilize **\$100 billion per year by 2020** (from developed nations).
- **Key Contributors:** US, EU, Japan, UK, Germany, France, etc.
- India's Contribution: India has pledged a modest amount despite being a developing nation, showcasing climate leadership.

Functions & Focus Areas

- > **Mitigation Projects:** Renewable energy, sustainable transport, afforestation.
- Adaptation Projects: Climate-resilient agriculture, water management, disaster risk reduction.
- > **50:50 Balance:** GCF aims for **equal allocation** between mitigation and adaptation.

India & GCF

- > **Major Recipient:** India has received GCF funding for projects like:
 - **Solar Power Expansion** (under International Solar Alliance).
 - **Climate-Resilient Agriculture** in vulnerable regions.
- National Implementing Agency (NIA): National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is India's accredited entity for GCF projects.