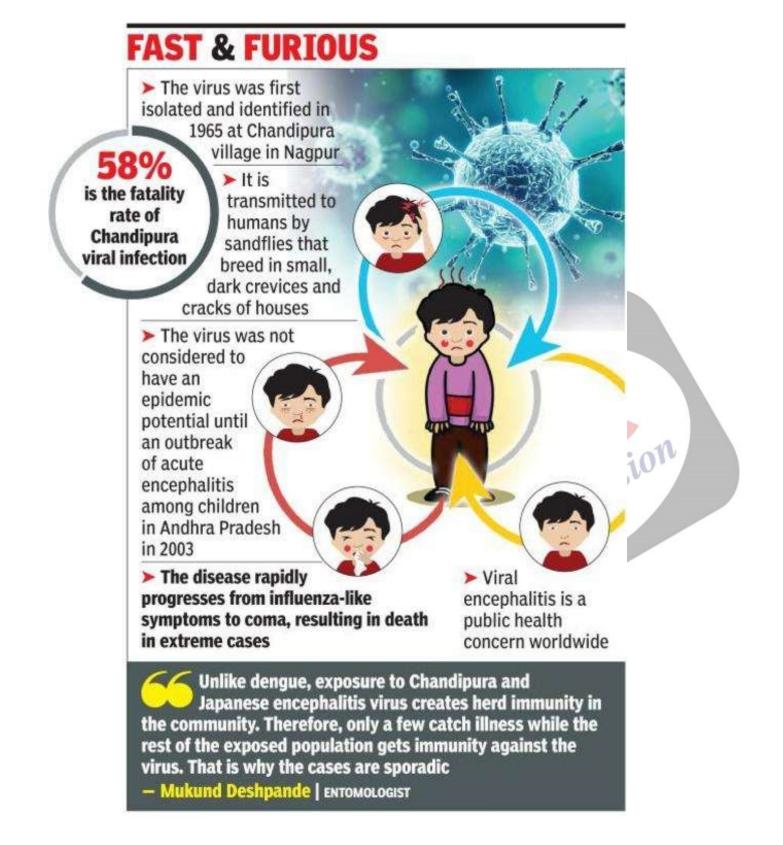
Chandipura Virus Infection

Source: IE

Recently, many children have died of suspected **Chandipura virus (CHPV) infection** in Gujarat.

- CHPV Infection:
 - The CHPV is an **arbovirus** that belongs to the **Vesiculovirus genus** in the **Rhabdoviridae family**.
 - CHPV is transmitted by various species of sandflies, such
 - as *Phlebotomine* sandflies, *Phlebotomus papatasi* and mosquitoes such as *Aedes aegypti* (vector for dengue).
 - It primarily affects children under 15 years old.
- Complications and Symptoms :
 - The virus resides in the **salivary glands** of these insects and is transmitted through their bites. CHPV can infect the **central nervous system**, potentially leading to **encephalitis**, an inflammation of the brain's active tissues.
 - Symptoms resemble flu, including fever, body aches, and headache. It can cause altered mental state, seizures, encephalitis, respiratory distress, bleeding tendencies, and anaemia in advanced stages.
- Treatment:
 - Currently, there is no specific antiviral treatment or vaccine for CHPV, so care is supportive and symptomatic.
- Epidemiology:
 - CHPV was **first identified in Chandipura village of Maharashtra in 1965** during a dengue outbreak.
 - The infection remains **endemic in central India**, especially in **rural and tribal areas** with higher sandfly populations.
 - Outbreaks are more frequent during the monsoon season due to increased breeding of sandflies.



Read More: Nipah Virus

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