



Cholera Outbreak

Why in News?

Recently, **panic struck the town of Phoop in Bhind district after a sudden cholera outbreak**, which reportedly resulted in three deaths and at least 70 people falling ill from drinking contaminated water.

Key Points

- Cholera, a **water-borne disease primarily caused by the bacteria Vibrio cholerae strains O1 and O139**, poses a significant public health challenge worldwide.
 - Strain O1 is the predominant cause of outbreaks, with O139 occurrences being rare and mostly confined to Asia.
- It is **an acute diarrheal illness caused by infection of the intestine**.
- The **infection is often mild or without symptoms**, but sometimes can be severe.
 - Symptoms include Profuse watery diarrhoea, Vomiting, Leg cramps.
- A person **may get cholera by drinking water or eating food contaminated** with the cholera bacterium.
 - The **disease can spread rapidly in areas with inadequate treatment of sewage** and drinking water.
- Currently, **there are three WHO pre-qualified oral cholera vaccines (OCV)**: Dukoral, Shanchol, and Euvichol-Plus. All three vaccines require two doses for full protection.
- A global roadmap to 2030, with a **target to reduce cholera deaths by 90% was launched in 2017**.