



# Werewolf Syndrome

## Why in News?

A teenager suffering from "**werewolf syndrome**" from **Madhya Pradesh** has created a [Guinness World Record](#) for the **hairiest face**.

## Key Points

### ▪ Werewolf Syndrome:

- Werewolf syndrome, also known as **hypertrichosis**, is an **extremely rare genetic condition**, with only 50 cases reported worldwide so far.
- The condition **causes excessive hair growth on certain parts of the body**, especially the face.
- **Types:**
  - **Congenital Hypertrichosis:**
    - It is **present from birth** and is usually due to **genetic causes**.
    - Scientists believe this is **due to the reactivation of ancient dormant genes** that were responsible for excessive body hair in early human ancestors.
    - In this condition, a person **may have excessive hair all over the body or on some specific parts**.
  - **Acquired Hypertrichosis**
    - It **develops after birth** and is **associated with external or internal causes**.
    - Possible reasons for this include:
      - Certain medications, such as **hair growth stimulants, androgenic steroids, and immunosuppressant drugs**, can aggravate hypertrichosis.
      - Certain cancer types and genetic variations may be linked to this condition.
      - Certain skin infections and autoimmune diseases are also known to cause this condition.
    - **Nutritional deficiencies**
    - **Eating Disorders**