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MAGAZINE NOTES

African Swine Fever (ASF) & Nipah Virus

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SCIENCE & TECH

ENVIRONMENT

GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[in linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

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African Swine Fever (ASF) & Nipah Virus

 **Down to Earth** Chapter 5 · 1 min read ·

African Swine Fever (ASF)

- Highly contagious viral disease causing severe economic losses
- Affects **only domestic pigs and wild suids (boars)** — does NOT infect humans
- **Current event:** 20 wild boars recently died in Serchhip district, Mizoram
- **No commercial vaccine available** — control relies entirely on biosecurity and rapid response

Nipah Virus

- Zoonotic disease (animal to human transmission)
- **Diagnosis:** RT-PCR, serology (ELISA), and virus isolation in **Biosafety Level-4 (BSL-4)** laboratories

UPSC Angle

- **GS3:** Science & technology, disease surveillance, biosecurity

FACTS CORNER — KNOWLEDGE PEDIA

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER:

Host: domestic pigs and wild suids only (not humans)

Vaccine: none commercially available

Control: biosecurity + rapid response

Recent outbreak: Serchhip, Mizoram (20 wild boars)

NIPAH VIRUS:

Type: zoonotic (bat-borne)

Diagnosis: RT-PCR, ELISA, BSL-4 virus isolation



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 [linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat) [Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/magazines/2026/down-to-earth-february-2026/african-swine-fever-nipah/>

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