Mosquito Tornado' Swirls Over Pune's Mutha River

Why In News

- Residents of Keshavnagar and Kharadi in Pune were taken by surprise after they witnessed an unusual phenomenon – **a "mosquito tornado"** — swirling over the Mutha river. The videos, captured in the Mundhwa, Keshavnagar, and Kharadi areas of the city, showcase a towering mass of mosquitoes taking over the skies.

All You Need To Know

- In a video shared on Instagram, one can see a **dense cloud of mosquitoes** forming a swirling vortex near the riverbanks, creating a surreal sight.
- The terrifying situation has sparked **panic amongst residents**, who complain that they have been facing a lot of problems due to the mosquito menace.

- People living in luxurious high-rise buildings in these posh areas have been confined to their homes, and are unable to open their balcony doors. Even gardens and parks are off-limits for children.
- Several residents took to social media to **voice their concerns**, urging authorities to take action and clean up the affected area.
- Many pointed out that the **breeding of mosquitoes** is a potential spot for numerous health hazards and other diseases like malaria, dengue, and even chikungunya.

- Notably, the **menace is attributed** to an increased water level in the Mula-Mutha River in Kharadi.
- Though **Pune Municipal Corporation** started the task of removing excess water two days ago, the situation is still not under control.
- The situation is particularly dire along the **riverbed, impacting various establishments,** including skyscrapers, IT park premises, schools, sports stadiums, old age homes, crematoriums, and the local villages.

- In addition, **the riverbed also has a small dam** as well as a water treatment plant. The water flow has slowed down due to these projects, leading to water accumulation, which in turn provides an ideal environment for mosquitoes to breed.
- **Tornadoes like this have previously** been reported from Central America and Russia usually during the rainy season.