

Holographic Imaging Based Method

Why in News

Scientists from New York University have developed a **method using holographic imaging to detect both viruses and antibodies**.

 Holography is a process that creates three-dimensional images called holograms using laser beams, the properties of interference and diffraction, light intensity recording, and illumination of the recording.

Key Points

- About the Method:
 - It uses laser beams to record holograms of the specially prepared test beads.
 - The **surfaces of the beads are activated with biochemical binding sites** that attract either antibodies or virus particles, depending on the intended test.
 - Binding antibodies or viruses causes the beads to grow by a few billionth parts of a metre.
 - Researchers detect this growth through changes in the beads' holograms. The test can analyse a dozen beads per second.
- Significance:
 - The method can test either for the virus (current infection) or antibodies (immunity).
 - The breakthrough has the potential to **aid in medical diagnoses**, and specifically, those related to the <u>Covid-19</u> **pandemic**.
 - If fully realised, this proposed test could be done in under **30 minutes**, is highly accurate, and can be performed by minimally trained personnel.

Source: IE

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