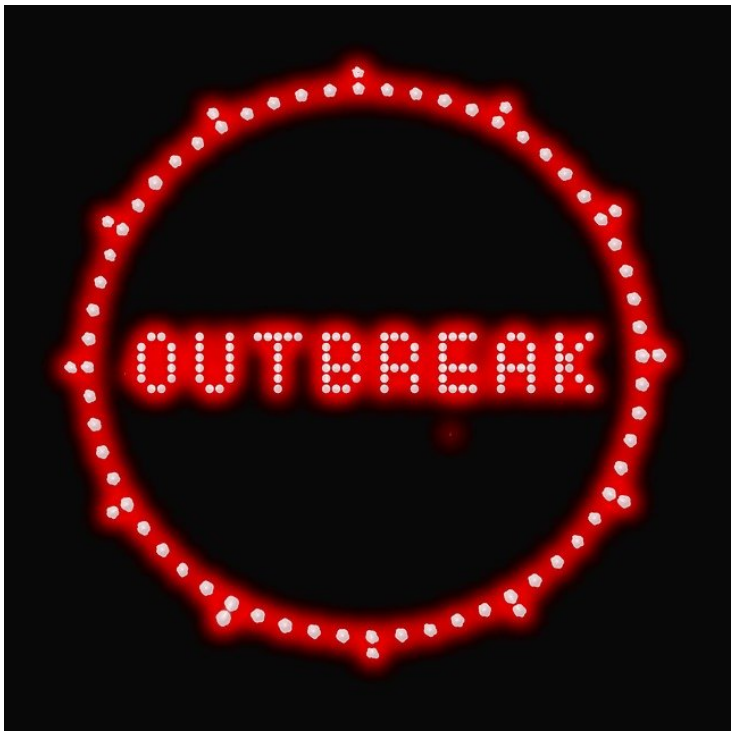
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7 dead; 2500 quarantined in South Korean MERS outbreak

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Singapore: South Korea is currently grappling with one of the largest outbreak of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Virus (MERS) outside Saudi Arabia. With the number of reported cases growing every day, the country has so far confirmed 95 cases and 7 deaths.

The virus mainly affects the elderly population and people with underlying illness are more at risk. The latest outbreak prompted Hong Kong to issue a travel advice to its residents, asking members of the public to avoid traveling to South Korea unless it is necessary.

MERS, which surfaced three years ago, has no known vaccine or cure. Fear among people has led to increase in panic, keeping crowds low at public places and an entire village has been kept under quarantine.