Vaccination programs against Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Health*

Why in News?

During 2025, Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) has been reported in ten Indian states highlighting the need for the increased vaccination programs.

- **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying.
- **Aim**
  - Reducing risk to animal health by prophylactic vaccination against diseases of animals,
  - Capacity building of Veterinary services,
  - Disease surveillance and strengthening veterinary infrastructure.
- **Umbrella Scheme –** Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD) of *Livestock Health and Disease Control Program (LHDCP) scheme*.
- **Technical support** – Through the visits of Central Expert Teams including physical and virtual meetings.
- **Initiatives** – Formulation of disease specific National Action Plans (NAPs) to prevent and control animal diseases.
- This includes identification and notification of the affected area, isolation of affected animals, implementation of biosecurity measures.
- **Crisis Management Plan (CMP)** – Developed for mitigating livestock diseases in managing animal disease outbreaks.
- **Standard Veterinary Treatment Guidelines (SVTGs)** – Formulated for veterinary care to enhance livestock health and disease control.
- Early warning and alerts on 15 diseases in local languages to farmers, veterinarians and field officials through *National Animal Disease Referral Expert System (NADRES) platform.*
- **Top 3 vaccinated states (in lakhs)**
  - Uttar Pradesh (469.87)
  - Maharashtra (413.41)
  - Madhya Pradesh (300.94)

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)

• **Lumpy skin disease (LSD)** – It is a ***viral disease of cattle and water buffalo.***
• **Caused by -** The Lumpy Skin Disease Virus (LSDV), a member of the Capripoxvirus genus within the Poxviridae family.
• **Spread by** – Mosquitoes, flies, lice, wasps, by direct contact among the cattle, and through contaminated food and water.
• **Symptoms**
- Fever and depression in animals,
- Characteristic skin nodules all over the body,
- Marked reduction in milk production,
- Difficulty in eating, which sometimes lead to the animal's death.
• **Prevention** – Four tactics to control LSD are quarantine, vaccination, slaughter campaigns and management strategies.
• **Treatment** – There is *no treatment* for the virus, vaccination is the most effective means of control.

Reference

PIB| Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering