# Directorate of Extension
# SKUAST-Kashmir

*Healthy Animals Prosperous Farmers Vibrant Kashmir*

*Knowledge | Innovation | Farmer Welfare*

# ADVISORY | REGARDING OUTBREAK OF LSD IN COWS IN KASHMIR VALLEY

***An appeal for vigilance, early detection and prompt action***

## Introduction

**Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)** is **re-emerging** in the Kashmir Valley, causing significant concern among livestock owners. It is a viral disease of cattle, caused by the Lumpy Skin Disease Virus (LSDV), a member of the Poxviridae family. The virus is transmitted mainly by blood-sucking insects (flies, mosquitoes, midges) and through direct contact with infected animals and contaminated fomites (equipment, vehicles, hands, etc.).

LSD is **not a zoonotic disease**, i.e., it does not infect humans, but it leads to considerable economic losses due to reduced milk yield, weight loss, poor body condition and hide damage. The disease spreads rapidly, especially during warm and humid conditions, and can affect both small and large farms.




## Key Signs to Look For

- Fever (often 40–41°C)
- Multiple firm nodules (2–5 cm) on skin, especially head, neck, back, perineum and udder
- Swelling of lymph nodes
- Nasal and ocular discharge
- Loss of appetite, depression
- Decreased milk production
- **Swelling can develop in the udder, on the chest and on the legs**

## Prevention and Control Measures

- **Vaccination:** Get your animals vaccinated as per veterinary advice. It is the most effective preventive measure.
- **Control vectors:** Use insect repellents, insecticide sprays and maintain cleanliness in and around the shed.
- **Quarantine:** Keep new or unknown animals separate for at least 21 days.
- **Avoid direct contact:** Do not allow sick animals to mix with healthy ones.
- **Disinfection:** Regularly disinfect sheds, equipment, vehicles and hands with recommended disinfectants.
- **Proper nutrition and care:** Maintain good feeding, watering and stress-free environment.

## What to Do If You Suspect LSD

- Immediately inform your nearest veterinary officer or veterinary dispensary.
- Do not move or sell affected animals.
- Isolate sick animals from the herd.
- Follow the advice of the concerned veterinary authorities.
- Do not use unapproved traditional or self-medicated treatments.

***Early reporting and strict biosecurity measures can prevent further spread and save your livestock.***


*Dr. Riyaz Ahmed Bhat*
*SMS/Scientist, DoE*

*Prof. Masood Saleem Mir*
*Assoct. Director Extension*

*Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth*
*Director of Extension*



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