

**PRELIMS EDGE 2025****24-07-2025****TERMS IN NEWS****Lumpy Skin Disease**

- It is a highly **infectious viral disease that affects all breeds of cattle and water buffalo.**
- **Causative Agent:** It is caused by the lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV), a member of the genus Capripoxvirus (CaPV) within the family Poxviridae (smallpox and monkeypox viruses are also a part of the same family).
- LSDV is not zoonotic, so humans cannot get infected by the virus.
- The disease is endemic in Africa and the Middle East and has been spreading increasingly in Europe and Southeast Asia over recent years.
- The disease is most common in the wet summer and fall months, especially in low-lying areas near water bodies, but it can also occur in the dry season.
- LSD is a highly host-specific disease. It primarily affects cows and to a lesser extent, buffalo.
- The disease is more severe in cattle compared to buffaloes in terms of morbidity and mortality.
- The disease is of economic importance as it can cause a temporary reduction in milk production, temporary or permanent

sterility in bulls, damage to hides and, occasionally, death.

**Transmission**

- It is transmitted by blood-feeding insects, such as certain species of flies, mosquitoes, or ticks.
- Infected animals shed the virus through oral and nasal secretions, which may contaminate common feeding and water troughs.
- Thus, the disease can either spread through direct contact with the vectors or through contaminated fodder and water.

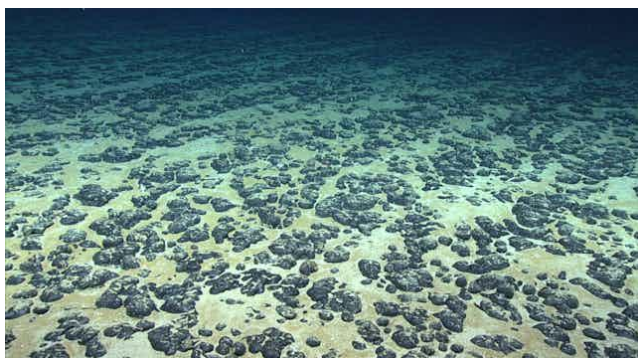
**Symptoms**

- The disease is characterized by high fever and enlarged superficial lymph nodes on the skin and peculiar multiple nodules or lumps on the skin.
- It can also lead to death, especially in animals that have not previously been exposed to the virus or have low immunity.

**Treatment**

- There is no treatment for the virus, so prevention by vaccination is the most effective means of control.
- The infected animals receive supportive care, which involves the use of antibiotics, painkillers, and wound care sprays to treat symptoms.

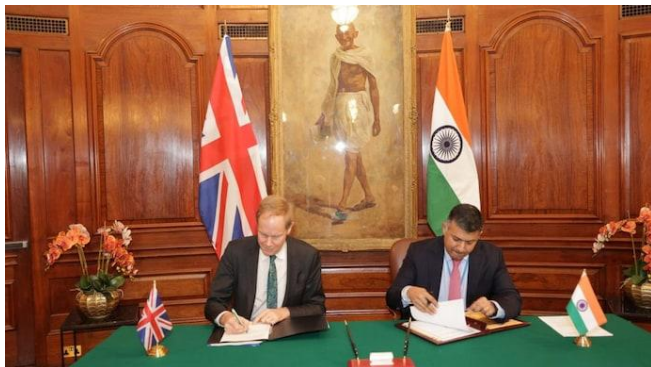
### International seabed Authority



- It is an autonomous international organization established under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the 1994 Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- It is the organization through which States Parties to UNCLOS organize and control all mineral-resources-related activities in the *Area* for the benefit of humankind as a whole.
- **The international seabed area :** the part which is under ISA jurisdiction – is the seabed and ocean floor and the subsoil, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.
  - The international seabed area represents around 50 % of the total area of the world's oceans.
- **Mandate:** ISA has the mandate to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from deep-seabed-related activities.
  - It works to promote and encourage the conduct of marine scientific research in the seabed area and coordinate and disseminate the results of such research and analysis.
- **Governance:** Two principal organs of ISA are –
- **Assembly**– Where all the members are represented and establishes the policies and govern the work of ISA.
- **Council**– A 37-member Council elected by the Assembly. It has two advisory bodies –
  - Legal and Technical Commission (30 members), which advises the Council on all matters relating to the exploration and exploitation of non-living marine resources, such as polymetallic nodules, polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts,
  - Finance Committee (15 members) that deals with budgetary and related matters.
- **Headquarters:** It has its headquarters in Kingston, Jamaica.
- **Members:** All the States Parties to UNCLOS are *ipso facto* members of ISA.
  - As of 2 September 2024, ISA has 170 Members, including 169 Member States and the European Union.
  - India is a founding and active member of ISA.

## SCHEMES IN NEWS

### UK-India Young Professionals Scheme



- It was conceived as part of an India-U.K. Migration and Mobility MoU signed in May 2021 and was announced in November at the G20 summit in Bali.
- It was formally launched in February 2023.

#### Features:

- It allows Indian citizens between 18 and 30 years old to live and work in the UK for up to 2 years.
- It will enable candidates to enter the UK at any time while their visa is valid and leave and return anytime during their stay.

#### Eligibility to get Visa:

- You have to be an Indian national aged between 18 and 30 years.
- You must have a bachelor's degree or above.
- You must have 2,530 pounds in savings.
- You must not have any children under the age of 18 who live with you or whom you are financially supporting.
- A person must be selected in the India Young Professionals Scheme ballot before they can apply for a Young Professionals Scheme visa.

- You cannot apply if you've already been in the UK under this scheme or the Youth Mobility Scheme visa.
- In case the applicant is issued a visa, they must enter the UK within six months of the date on which the visa was issued.

#### Once in the UK, the applicant can

- Study –for certain degree programs, such as post-graduation or research in sensitive subjects in the UK, an additional certificate under the Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) needs to be applied before starting the course or research.
- Be self-employed and set up a company – as long as your premises are rented, your equipment is not worth more than £5,000, and you do not have any employees.

#### Visa Limitations:

- The visa cannot be extended, and applicants are not eligible for most public benefits.
- Family members cannot be included in the application and must apply separately if they wish to come.
- Working in the sports category, including coaching, is not permitted



## SPECIES IN NEWS

### Red Panda



- Scientific Name: *Ailurus fulgens*
- It is also known as the lesser panda which is primarily a herbivorous, shy, solitary and arboreal animal.
- It uses its long, bushy tails for balance and to cover them in winter, presumably for warmth.
- It is considered an indicator species for ecological change.
- **Appearance:** It is the size of a house cat, the red panda is famous for its cute face and adorable defense stance.
- **Distribution:** It is mainly found in the mountainous forests of Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, and Nepal.

### Conservation status

- IUCN Red list: Endangered
- CITES: Appendix I
- Wildlife Protection Act 1972: Schedule I
- **Threats:** The loss of nesting trees and bamboo in the Eastern Himalayas which is causing a decline in red panda populations across much of their range.
- **Key facts about the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park**

- It is located in the state of West Bengal which was established in 1958.
- It hosts the country's most successful conservative breeding programme for red pandas.
- The planned conservation breeding programme began in 1986 as a part of the Global Captive Breeding Masterplan

### Black Buck



- It is a species of antelope native to India and Nepal.
- **Scientific Name:** *Antelope cervicapra*
- It is widespread in the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, and other areas throughout peninsular India.
- It has been declared as the state animal by the governments of Punjab, Haryana, and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Habitat:** The blackbuck mostly lives in open grasslands, dry scrub areas, and thinly forested areas.

### Features

- They are covered with dark brown or black, sleek fur. The chest, belly, muzzle, and chin of the males are covered in white fur.
- The eyes of the males are covered in white rings.
- The males have ringed horns that grow up to about 28 inches in length.
- They weigh about 70 to 95 pounds and grow up to a height of about 32 inches.
- The females are much smaller than their male counterparts. The females also have horns but they are not ringed or spiraled.
- They have very good eyesight and are also very fast runners, which comprise its main defense against predators.

#### Conservation status

- IUCN Red List: Least concerned
- Wildlife Protection Act of 1972: Schedule I
- CITES: Appendix III

### PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1 : Consider the following statements regarding Lumpy Skin Disease

1. It is a highly infectious viral disease that affects all breeds of cattle and water buffalo.
2. It is transmitted by blood-feeding insects, such as certain species of flies, mosquitoes, or ticks.
3. There is no treatment for the virus, so prevention by vaccination is the most effective means of control.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All of the Above

D. None of the Above

Q2 : Consider the following statements regarding International Seabed Authority

1. It is an autonomous international organization established under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
2. It has its headquarters in New York.
3. The international seabed area represents around 50 % of the total area of the world's oceans.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All of the Above
- D. None of the Above

Q3: Consider the following statements regarding India UK Young Professional Scheme

1. It allows Indian citizens between 18 and 30 years old to live and work in the UK for up to 2 years.
2. It will enable candidates to enter the UK at any time while their visa is valid and leave and return anytime during their stay.
3. You have to be an Indian national aged between 18 and 30 years with a valid degree to avail this

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All of the Above
- D. None of the Above

Q4 : It is primarily a herbivorous, shy, solitary and arboreal animal. It is the size of a house

cat, and is famous for its cute face and adorable defense stance. It is mainly found in the mountainous forests of Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, and Nepal. It is the super star species of Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park

Identify the species from the given description

- A. Nilgiri Marten
- B. Malabar Giant Squirrel
- C. Red Panda
- D. Slender Loris

Q5: It is a species of antelope native to India and Nepal. It mostly lives in open grasslands, dry scrub areas, and thinly forested areas. The eyes of the males are covered in white rings. The males have ringed horns that grow up to about 28 inches in length. It has been declared as the state animal by the governments of Punjab, Haryana, and Andhra Pradesh.

Identify the species from the given description

- A. Swamp Deer
- B. Musk Deer
- C. Black Buck
- D. Elks

#### Answers

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. C
- 4. C
- 5. C