

Lumpy Skin Disease Dulloo sets deadline for inoculation; reviews vaccine availability

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed status of vaccination for lumpy skin disease in all districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

In this regard, ACS had a meeting with Directors of Animal Husbandry Kashmir and Jammu, Chief Animal Husbandry Officers and District Animal Husbandry Officers of J&K besides other senior officers including experts from SKUAST.

Atal Dulloo set deadline of November 5 for completing carpet vaccination of eligible cattle population in all districts of the UT. He directed the departmental staff to take part in the vaccination procedure on top priority.

Reviewing district wise data, ACS underlined that the rate of infection and mortality is higher in Kashmir division and needs immediate measures to be

taken up for its containment. It was also observed that no LSD case has been reported in several districts of Jammu since the past week.

ACS directed the Directors to ensure availability of vaccines in both the divisions in sufficient quantity to meet the requirement. He asked them to ensure that stocks of antibiotics, Methylene Blue and other necessary medicines are maintained. He also took stock of fogging in the districts.

He issued instructions to Director Kashmir to constitute teams comprising veterinarians, para-veterinarians and experts from SKUAST to undertake block level visits every day to assess local requirements and administrative issues to check the spread of this animal skin disease.

He also suggested that experts from the Centre be invited to share expertise and help contain the disease in the UT.

OBC leaders protest against J&K, Union Govts

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: The different organizations of OBC castes and communities under the banner of 'OBC Adhikar Tiranga Yatra' held a protest against the J&K Government, Central Government and G D Sharma, Chairman of Socially & Educationally Backward Classes Commission.

The protesting OBC people raised fingers on the intention of the present Governments, in the Center as well as UT, while stating that to dilute the reservation of Mandal Commission identified J&K OBC castes, the Commission sent its recommendations to Central Government and in a recent order of Social Welfare Department, some castes were inducted in OBC list of J&K.

While raising slogans against the Central as well as J&K Government, the protesting OBC people demanded

implementation of 27% reservation for OBCs in J&K Government services as per Supreme Court judgment dated 16.11.1992 on Mandal Commission.

They also demanded implementation of 27% reservation in Panchayati Raj System and in Urban Local Bodies as per Article 243 D-6 and 243T-6 of Indian Constitution. They also emphasized on doing caste based census by making a separate column in the census for OBCs.

Prominent among the OBC leaders who participated in the protest include Kasturi Lal Basotra (chairman, OBC Mahasabha), Bansi Lal Choudhary, Faquir Chand Satia (president, All India Backward Classes Federation), Rehamdeen Malik (president, Teeli Welfare Association), Mohd Shabir (president, Dhoobi Welfare Birdari), Mohan Lal Pawar (general secretary, OBC Mahasabha), Raj Kumar Chalotra (vice president AIBCF), Manohar Lal Tidyil (chief advisor), Anil Kumar Verma and Arjit Kumar.

CRPF commandant held for sexually harassing woman officer in Udhampur, gets bail

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR/JAMMU, Oct 25: A commandant of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) was arrested on the charge of sexually harassing a woman officer of the force in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said.

A complaint was registered on Sunday in which an Assistant Commandant of a CRPF unit at Batal Ballian alleged that commandant Surinder Singh Rana was sexually and mentally harassing her, they said.

Based on the complaint, an

FIR Number was lodged against the commandant under Indian Penal Code (IPC) Sections 354-A (making sexually coloured remarks - guilty of the offence of sexual harassment), 354-D (sexual favour shall mean and include any kind of unwanted sexual activity), 509 (intentional insult) at the Udhampur police station.

Udhampur Senior Superintendent Police (SSP) Vinod Kumar said that the accused CRPF commandant was arrested by police and later court released him on bail.

The matter is being investigated, the SSP added. (PTI)

Dr Sandeep Bhat performs 'major laparoscopic' partial gastrectomy of cancer patient

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: In a major advanced laparoscopic cancer surgery, well known laparoscopic and gastro intestinal cancer surgeon, Dr Sandeep Bhat performed major and complicated 'laparoscopic' partial gastrectomy of 74 year old cancer patient here.

The major advanced laparoscopic cancer surgery, which is probably new such initiative here, was performed at Ankur Maitrika hospital in Jammu.

The 73-year-old patient, known case of hypertension,

emphysema, hypothyroidism and with a negative blood group was found to have tumor in the distal part of the stomach, Dr Bhat said.

"The patient was investigated and evaluated. CT scan didn't show any evidence of locally advanced and metastatic disease", he said adding the patient was planned for laparoscopic Partial Gastrectomy (removal of half of stomach with nodal dissection), an advanced and a complicated Laparoscopic cancer surgery which was further accentuated by the associated comorbidities.

Dr Bhat said that the surgery was performed successfully and patient was discharged on 6th post operative day. The surgical team comprised of Dr Sandeep Bhat, Devinder, Ranjeet and other OT staff. The anaesthesia team was headed by Dr Rohit Gupta, a senior anaesthetist and intensivist at the Ankur Maitrika Super Speciality Hospital.

Dr Bhat has been trained in advanced laparoscopic gastro intestinal cancer procedures from Medanta Gurgaon and Galaxy Care Hospital, has been a faculty to many conferences and workshops and has various national and international publications to his credit.

Dr Bhat performed major and complicated 'laparoscopic' partial gastrectomy of 74 year old cancer patient here.

Farmers protest, torch effigy of Agriculture Deptt

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Oct 25: Protests were held by farmers and activists of various political parties in different places in Hiranagar tehsil of Kathua district demanding immediate assessment of losses of paddy crop suffered by farmers in the border belt due to incessant rains recently.

One protest was held by irate farmers led by Sarpanch Rakesh Choudhary at village Chak Disa in border belt of Hiranagar district who torched the effigy of Agriculture Department and warned to intensify the agitation in case the losses suffered by farmers due to recent incessant rains were not assessed by the department and compensation sanctioned for farmers.

The protestors raised slogans and accused the Agriculture Department of using delaying tactics in settling their issue.

He said entire paddy crop of farmers in border belt got destroyed in the rain water and farmers are totally perturbed over the issue as their hopes have been dashed to ground due to heavy loss of crops.

Another protest was led by former MLC, Subash Gupta at Hiranagar in which Government was asked to assess the losses immediately and on the basis of the same release the compensation in favour of affected farmers.

Gupta said that the Government has not taken any initiative in this regard till date with the result the farmers worries have increased.



Officers of RBI, SEBI, J&K Bank as well as Ladakh Police posing together during an awareness camp.

RBI, SEBI, J&K Bank organize awareness progs for Police

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, Oct 25: To educate Ladakh police officials about increasing incidences of cyber-frauds and other financially illegal practices, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Jammu organized an awareness programme jointly with SEBI and J&K Bank in the District Police Lines Leh and Kargil, respectively.

The purpose of the program was to provide training to police officials dealing with the cases of illegal money mobilization by the Unregulated and Unincorporated bodies besides educating them on Cyber Frauds.

DIG Ladakh Sheikh Junaid Mehmood and General Manager (Department of Supervision, RBI Jammu) Neeraj Kumar inaugurated the awareness program at District Police Line Leh. SSP Leh P D Nitya, Regional Director (SEBI, New Delhi) Rajesh Kumar Dangeti and J&K Bank CISO Muncer Hassan Konga Wani were also present during the program. The same program was again organized in the Police Line Kargil.

Around 50 police officials of various ranks from districts of Leh and Kargil participated in the programme. The programme covered sessions on various subjects ranging from illegal money mobilization, banning of Unregulated Deposits Schemes Act (2019), modus operandi of Ponzi Schemes and growing incidences of cyber fraud etc.?

Sikh delegation calls on Meghwal, submits memorandum

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: A delegation of All Jammu and Kashmir Sikh Coordination Committee an amalgam of all religious and political Sikh organizations of J&K UT under the leadership of Ajit Singh its chairman called on Arjun Ram Meghwal, Union Minister of Culture and Parliamentary Affairs here, today and demanded resolution of burning demands of the Sikh community.

The delegation which also included Surat Singh Toofani, Balwinder Singh Khalsa, member DGPC, Jammu, Ranjit Singh, president Tanker Union, Har Singh and others also submitted charter of demands to the Union Minister.

The memorandum demanded declaration of Punjabi as the official language in J&K UT by including it in the list of official languages, Implementation of Anand Marriage Act in J&K, appointment of Sikh member in the PSC and other recruitment agencies of UT, Implementation

of recommendations of Joint Parliamentary Committee for one time settlement of 1947 and 1971 PoJK refugees and making political reservations of eight Assembly seats for PoJK refugees.

The memorandum among other things also demanded implementation of recommendations of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) for the installation of statue of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur to fulfill the long pending demand of Sikh masses, demanded special employment package for Sikh youth in the UT Government, extension of benefits of SRO 425 to the youth of Sikh community in Kashmir valley on the pattern of KP community, grant of minority status to Sikh community members on the pattern of Central Government to do justice with the most aggrieved and ignored community.

The Union Minister assured the delegation that the demands will be settled and the members of the minority community will be provided with the justice.

Jan Abhiyan programme organized at Chowki Choura

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: A Jan Abhiyan programme was organized today by Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Chowki Choura Virender Gupta at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Chowki Choura.

The camp was inaugurated by SDM Chowki Choura, following which Block Development Officer Rashu Sharma made the public as well as PRI members aware about the purpose of Jan Abhiyan under B2V4.

Tehsildar Chowki Choura Dr Raman Jandyal sensitized

the public as well as PRI members about various online revenue services as well as distributed Land Passbooks vis a vis inheritance Mutations attested on spot.

Besides this, officials of other line-departments viz Medical, Agriculture, Social Welfare, PDD, PHE, PWD and CSC Khidmat Centre also enlightened the public about their schemes and also provided on-spot services.

This was an initiative taken by SDM Chowki choura under Jan Abhiyan to provide transparent and effective delivery of various Government services to the people at their door steps.

In addition to this, the Sub Divisional Magistrate along with the Tehsildar listened to the grievances of the people and assured them for redressal in a time bound manner.



SDM Chowki Choura Virender Gupta along with concerned Tehsildar presenting land pass-books to a villager during a programme at GHSS Chowki Choura.

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Union MoS for Education reaches Ganderbal on two day visit

Excelsior Correspondent

GANDERBAL, Oct 25: Union Minister of State for Education and External Affairs Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh today reached district Ganderbal on his two-day visit under Central Government's Public Outreach Programme.

On day one, the Minister visited Sainik School Manasbal and Boys Higher Secondary School Safapora.

He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal Shyambir, CEO Ganderbal, Dy. CEO and other officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that the Sainik School system of education is focused to develop the young cadets with the conceptualization of thinking who can drive the concepts instead of following the readymade formula so that they can compete at all India level examinations.

While complementing the faculty members of the school for nourishing the students, he suggested them to build the young minds with the concept of real life so that they can serve the country with full patriotism. He said that India wants to be Master of the World after 100 years of our independence and asked the students to set their goals in this regard.

While interacting with the students of the school during the



Vijeshwar Panchang being released at Ghari Ashram, Udhampur.

339th edition of Vijeshwar Panchang hits stands

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Oct 25: The 339th edition of Vijeshwar Panchang for the year 2023-24 -a dharmic grant and Almanac of Kashmiri Pandits hit stands here on the occasion of Diwali yesterday.

The Panchang was released by BJP senior leader and party vice president, Pawan Khajuria, Sant of Ghari Ashram, Udhampur, Swami Kumar Ji, Chairman Pandit Prem Nath Shastri Sanskritik Shodh Sansthan and Chief Editor of Vijeshwar Panchang, Pt Omkar Nath Shastri, Rajinder Kilm and Jyotshi Bushan Lal Shastri.

The function was attended by the devotees of the Ashram and some prominent citizens of Udhampur.

Speaking on the occasion, Pawan Khajuria said that Vijeshwar Panchang is like a dharmic granth for Kashmiri Pandits which has a history of over 300 years. He said every Kashmiri Pandit keeps this Panchang in its house to keep themselves abreast with the yearly religious functions, fasts etc. Besides, it also acts as

a religious guide for their as it links them to their ancient culture and traditions.

Speaking on the occasion, Swami Kumar Ji also highlighted the role of Vijeshwar Panchang and service of the Jyotshi family of Bijbehara to the Kashmiri Pandit community. He said Bijbehara from times immemorial has represented a great civilization on the banks of river Vitasta and it used to be a great educational centre in the past and every KP is feeling proud of it even today.

Jyotshi Omkar Nath Shastri while highlighting the role of Vijeshwar Panchang said though the Panchang has a history of over 300 years, its significance and need became more important after the mass exodus of the Kashmiri Pandits in 1989 as the community was scattered all over the world. He said it was this dharmic granth which continued to link the community though sitting in any corner of the world to their roots. He also recalled the role of Pt Prem Nath Shastri and Pt Kant Ram Shastri the former editor in chiefs of the Panchang to the society and termed them great reformers as well.

Different organizations celebrate Vishwakarma Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: Different organizations here today celebrated Vishwakarma Day with enthusiasm.

Extending wishes to the technical workers on Vishwakarma Day, JKPC working president, Raman Bhalla said that technical workers are playing a vital role in redesigning the profile of J&K through their planning. He further said that the technical workers are main architects in completing the ongoing projects within stipulated time frame. Bhalla remembered Bhagwan Vishwakarma and paid tribute to the founder of craft, art, architecture and engineering.

Government ITI Udhampur celebrated Vishwakarma Day also known as Vishwakarma Jayanti under the supervision of Naresh Singh, Superintendent ITI Udhampur. Staff and students of the Institute worshiped Bhagwan Vishwakarma and cleaned-worshiped the tools, equipments and machines used in training programme in all the trades.

On Vishwakarma Day-2022, Shree Vishwakarma Library and Research Centre at New Plots in Jammu released community magazine 'Vishwakarma Reporter' (annual). Kuldeep Kalgotra of JK Timbers, Gangyal was chief guest while Dr. Chanchal Bhasin, renowned Dogri writer;

Police seizes 4 dumpers for illegal mining

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Oct 25: In continuation to its drive against illegal mining and transportation of construction material, Samba police today seized four dumpers in the jurisdiction of Police Station (PS), Samba which were being used for illegal transportation of the construction material.

A police party of PS Supwal seized four dumpers having Registration Numbers JK08K/8024, JK21B/8892, JK08F/5113, JK08G/9913 for illegal transportation of construction material from Basantar river-bed, near Supwal without any valid permission.

All the vehicles seized by Samba police for illegal mining have been handed over to Geology & Mining Department, Samba for further action.

Two wheeler showroom, wooden shop damaged in fire

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Oct 25: A two-wheeler showroom and a wooden shop were damaged in fire in Shiv Nagar and Ramnagar chowk area respectively here.

As per police sources, fire broke out in a two-wheeler showroom at Shiv Nagar area late last night. The fire also broke out in a wooden shop at Ramnagar Chowk.

On getting information, teams from concerned Police Stations rushed to the spot and informed the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

Fire fighters along with tenders rushed to the spots and started operation to douse the flames. After hectic efforts, the fire in the showroom and wooden shop were brought under control.

No injury or casualty has been reported in the incident, while the exact loss could not be ascertained yet.

Udhampur and Ramnagar Police have taken cognizance in this regard.



Former Deputy CM, Kavinder Gupta at a function organised by Vishwakarma Sabha at Industrial Estate Digiana on Tuesday.

Will Mehbooba accept next CM from minority in J&K: Kavinder

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: Kavinder Gupta, senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Deputy Chief Minister lambasted the PDP president Mehbooba Mufti over her tweet alleging discriminatory laws in India after UK Conservative Party cleared decks for Rishi Sunak to become first non-White British, Prime Minister.

He was speaking at a function organized by the Vishwakarma Sabha Industrial Estate Digiana on the occasion of Vishwakarma Day here, today.

The former Deputy Chief Minister hit back at the PDP chief asking if she will accept a minority community member as Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that Valley based leaders always adopted dual stands. He asserted that on one hand Mehbooba Mufti has welcomed the step of UK Government for allowing Rishi Sunak to become first non-white British Prime Minister but on the other hand she will never accept that a minority from J&K will become the Chief Minister, in her own State.

Kavinder asked Mehbooba Mufti that she will accept a next Chief Minister from minority in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. He asked people of J&K to be vigilant from such persons who adopted dual standards, leaving no stone unturned in misleading the people of the Union Territory for their personal motives.

The Vishwakarma Sabha Industrial Estate Digiana has also felicitated Kavinder Gupta, who was the chief guest, enthusiastically participated in the function and performed the traditional Pooja of Bhagwan Vishwakarma. Vinay Gupta district president, Joginder Singh, Harbans Singh and Kuldeep Singh accompanied the former Deputy Chief Minister.

He emphasized upon the workers to follow the path shown by Lord Vishwakarma, who is revered not only by members of Hindu Community but by all the skilled and unskilled work force irrespective of their caste, creed or colour. He said that it was a moment of great pleasure for him to be part of the celebration during which he fully enjoyed festivities with them.

met Dr Bhatia and expressed their hope that with his vast experience in the medical field, he will prove his worth in improving the existing medical services in Rajouri.

Among many demands, they stressed Dr Bhatia to start BSc Nursing college in Rajouri, to upgrade the existing emergency services, and to implement Kaya kalap yozana of Govt of India. They further stressed that the benefit of Auyansandra Barat yozana of PM Narendra modi be implemented in letter and spirit.

Dr Bhatia assured them that the best possible in the interest of people of Rajouri will be done.



GMC Principal Rajouri Dr A S Bhatia meeting people on Tuesday.

GM Rajouri to start providing platelets due to rise in Dengue

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 25: Dr Amarjeet S Bhatia, Principal GMC Rajouri today visited emergency of the hospital and issued on spot instructions for improvement of emergency services. He initiated the process to start providing different components of blood including platelets in view of increasing cases of Dengue fever.

Also instructions were issued to improve diagnostics services in G M C Rajouri.

Earlier, today various members of civil society from Rajouri comprising of various religious and political parties

of age and from physically challenged people.

Gupta further said that even if there is a medical emergency, the patient will not be charged any fare from elders above 80 years of age and from physically challenged people.

He assured e-rickshaw drivers that he would take all their problems to the concerned departments and get them resolved and thanked all e-rickshaw drivers for showing faith in him.

Amit is EADA president

Excelsior Correspondent

AKHNOOR, Oct 25: E-rickshaw Auto Drivers Association (EADA) here today organized a meeting which was attended by all the e-rickshaw drivers from nearby areas.

During meeting, problems



Members of E-rickshaw Auto Drivers Association posing for a group photograph at Akhnoor on Tuesday.

of age and from physically challenged people. Gupta further said that even if there is a medical emergency, the patient will not be charged any fare from elders above 80 years of age and from physically challenged people.

He assured e-rickshaw drivers that he would take all their problems to the concerned departments and get them resolved and thanked all e-rickshaw drivers for showing faith in him.