# Mass Dog Vaccination under National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination from India by 2030

Commissioner, JMC, Sh. Rahul Yadav, IAS today chaired a meeting regarding Mass Dog vaccination under National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination from India by 2030 (NAP-RE) Thematic Area 3- PREVENTION AND CONTROL where Joint Director, ARV (AHD) Jammu, Dr. Syed Altaf Ali, Health Officer, JMC, Dr. Vinod Sharma, Municipal Veterinary Officer, JMC, Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma, VAS, JMC, Dr. Divya Sharma, VAS, MACC, Roop Nagar, Dr. Sandeep Kotwal, Miss Namrata Hakoo, Chairperson Hakoo Street Animal Foundation & various Animal welfare volunteers viz. Sh. Muneesh Sharma, Advocate Vineet Kour, Sh. Anmol Mahajan, Dr. Isham Kohli etc. from different wards of JMC were present.

The meeting was aimed to conduct mass dog vaccination program in Jammu city as per the action plan prepared by Health & Medical Education Department, J&K. In the meeting, threadbare discussions were held to cover all the issues related to management & control of street dog population within JMC limits as well as to chalk out the plan/ strategy for implementation of action plan regarding Mass Dog vaccination under National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination from India by 2030.

MVO, JMC, Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma briefed about the initiatives taken by JMC for effective management of street dog population within JMC limits. Jammu Municipal Corporation is already running its ABC/ ARV programme in collaboration with Friendicoes-SECA at MACC, Roop Nagar, Jammu for all the 75 wards of JMC. Further, he appraised that till date more than 33,000 street dog population within JMC limits has been sterilized/ vaccinated under the said programme in an estimated stray dog population of approximately 43,540 (+/- 5 to 10% margin).



Further, VAS, JMC, Dr. Divya Sharma conveyed that Rabies is a vaccine prevented zoonotic viral disease effecting the CNS. According to WHO, dogs are the main source of human rabies contributing upto 99% of all rabies transmissions to humans. India is endemic for rabies and accounts for about 36% of world's rabies death. Rabies can be prevented by vaccinating dogs seeking medical care after potential exposures before symptoms start.

Joint Director, ARV (AHD) Jammu, Dr. Syed Altaf Ali assured that for smooth conduct of this program, Anti-rabies vaccinations will be provided by Animal Husbandry Department at subsidized rates. Further, he informed that Animal Husbandry Department will also provide the necessary technical assistance to JMC for the effective implementation of this program.

Commissioner, JMC advised for coordinated & strategic approach for successful conduct of mass vaccination program in street dog population in collaboration with Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu & it should be conducted on a ward wise basis with the help of local animal volunteers/ Animal Activists & local Animal welfare organizations working for the cause of animals. He also directed the Veterinary section of JMC to design a comprehensive action plan on ward wise basis for successful implementation of this mass vaccination program to create Rabies free dog population in Jammu city.





22<sup>nd</sup> July 2023



#### "Dustbin distribution program" at Ambphalla Chowk, Jammu.

In order to maintain better sanitation and hygiene in Meat/ chicken business markets and for the proper disposal of meat/ chicken waste generated, the Veterinary services wing of JMC organized a "Dustbin distribution program" at Ambphalla Chowk, Jammu. The dustbins were distributed by the Hon'ble Chairman, Swachh Bharat Standing Committee, JMC, Sh. Gopal Dass Gupta in presence of Ex-Chairman Swachh Bharat Standing Committee, Sh. Hardeep Singh Mankotia, Sh. Yash Paul Sharma, Hon'ble Councilor Ward No. 9 Sh. Suneet Raina, MVO, JMC, Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma, VAS JMC, Dr. Divya Sharma.

In the program, 50 no. of dustbins were distributed to the Meat/ chicken business operators of Ward No. 9, 16 & 35. The chairman Swachh Bharat Standing Committee sensitized the Meat/ chicken business operators about the importance of proper collection & scientific disposal of meat/ chicken waste generated in the shops through the designated JMC vehicles only, so that no unhygienic conditions from meat/ chicken waste are created in Jammu city. He further emphasized for the cooperation from all the business operators with JMC so that the aim of Swachh Bharat can be achieved.

Hon'ble councilor, W.No.9, Sh. Suneet Raina in his address, requested the Hon'ble Chairman, Swachh Bharat Standing Committee to start the evening Auto services for the collection & disposal of meat/chicken shop waste generated in the Jammu city.

MVO, JMC appealed to meat/ chicken shopkeepers to adhere with the Food Safety Rules and time to time advisories issued by the Jammu Municipal Corporation so that hygienic & wholesome meat shall reach to the consumers as well as the scientific disposal of waste from these shops will be ensured.







28th August 2023



#### JMC Cattle Pound, Seri Khurd, Nagrota, a team of experts

In order to ensure better health care services to the animals housed at JMC Cattle Pound, Seri Khurd, Nagrota, a team of experts/ scientists comprising of Dr. Rajinder Bhardwaj, Associate Professor Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Rehman, Assistant Professor Veterinary Pathology, Dr. Rajesh Godara, Asstt. Professor Veterinary Parasitology, along with internship students from SKAUST, Jammu conducted a visit in the Cattle Pound, Nagrota for the examination of animals maintained there.

The team of experts/ scientists along with MVO, JMC Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma & VAS, JMC Dr. Divya Sharma conducted thorough examination of all the animals maintained in the Cattle Pound and also collected blood/ faecal samples from some animals. The expert team was appraised by the MVO, JMC that the animals which are being maintained in the Cattle Pound, mostly include abandoned/ destitute & rescued animals by Police authorities in bovine smuggling. In an effort for the better care & welfare of animals, JMC has outsourced the operation & maintenance of Cattle Pound, Nagrota to a local agency namely J&K Gau Raksha Samiti, Ambphalla, Jammu which is also running a Gaushala at Ambphalla.

In order to ensure better operation & maintenance practices in the Cattle Pound, history about the feeding practices, management practices and husbandry practices being followed in the Cattle pound, Nagrota was collected by the expert team so that best of the husbandry practices can be advised to the agency for efficient management of Cattle Pound.

The Commissioner, JMC extended his gratitude to the Dean, <u>F.V.Sc</u> & AH, SKAUST Jammu for sending a team of experts/ scientists for health examination of animals housed at JMC Cattle Pound, Nagrota and hope that such visits of Veterinary experts shall be conducted on regular basis in future also.









30th August 2023

