



भारतीय जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
(पशुपालन और डेयरी विभाग)

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)

No.9-21/2021-2022/PCA

Date: 21.05.2021

To,

All the Chief Secretaries of States/UT's

Subject: Allocation of funds for feeding community animals and recognition of veterinary service providers, animal activities and animal feeders as frontline workers-reg.

Sir,

With reference to the above cited subject, it has come to the notice of the Board that there has been a sharp increase in the number of community animals in dire need of food, because of current pandemic situation and due to curfew restrictions in several states, have resulted in hindrance for most people to feed animals which may lead to starvation and decreased immunity among animals and they may become susceptible to infectious diseases in animals. Also, the animal welfare workers and organization working in the field of animal welfare, which are involved in the rescuing of animals, feeding and treatment of animals and they are exposed directly or indirectly to the threat of getting infected to the coronavirus during this pandemic period.

2. In this regard, it is stated that the animal welfare activist, lover and veterinarians are risking their lives while rescuing and taking care of the animals. They are also required to travel to nearby areas or veterinary clinic for treatment of the injured or sick animals to prevent unnecessary pain or suffering to animals but have not been designated as the frontline worker.

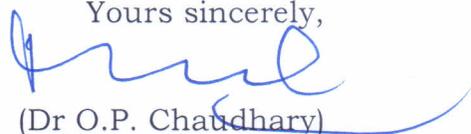
3. It is pertinent to mention that most of the States and UTs in compliance to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MFAHD) letter dated 23rd March, 2020 and 25th April 2021, have already included veterinary services under "essential services". However, there is also a need to designate veterinarians, para-veterinarians, animal welfare workers, organization in the field of animal welfare and community animal feeders as frontline worker for receiving priority vaccinations, treatment, health insurance, and other benefits so as to ensure the uninterrupted supply of essential veterinary care and other animal welfare services to the animals.

4. Further, it is stated that the Veterinary Council of India, through a letter dated 28th April 2021(copy enclosed) has already requested that MFAHD include veterinarians as frontline worker. Also, the Government of Odisha has allotted Rs. 54.00 Lakh last year and Rs. 60.00 lakh this year from the Chief Minister's relief fund for feeding community animals.

5. Therefore, in view of the above, it is requested to kindly allocate sufficient funds for the feeding of community animals and ensure the effective distribution of food to community animals, including dogs, cats, and birds. Also, it is requested to include the veterinarians, para-veterinarians, animal activities and animal feeders as frontline workers to ensure the uninterrupted supply of veterinary care and animal welfare service to all the animals. A copy of the action taken report be forwarded to the Board for information and record.

“Please treat this as most urgent”.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr O.P. Chaudhary)
Chairman

CC for information and necessary action:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi -110001; Email: hshso@nic.in
2. The Director, National Centre of Disease Control, New Delhi-110054; Email: dirnicd@nic.in
3. The Chairman, AWBI