

Deputy Commissioner Holds Meeting to Address Stray Dog Menace in Drass District



Drass, October 09: Deputy Commissioner Drass, Imteeaz Kacho (JKAS), chaired a meeting in the Conference Hall of Tourist Dak Bungalow, Drass, to discuss the growing menace of stray dogs across the district and to review measures being taken to ensure public safety, effective dog population management, vaccination and the establishment of necessary infrastructure.

The meeting was attended by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Drass; Chief Medical Officer, Drass; Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Drass; District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Drass; Station House Officer (SHO), Drass; Forest Range Officer, Drass; Wildlife Forester, Panchayat Inspector, Drass Block Block Development Officer, Drass; Wildlife Forester, Drass and Nambardars representing different villages of the district, besides other concerned officials.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed, department-wise review of the prevailing stray dog situation, measures undertaken by the concerned departments, incidents of dog attacks and additional steps required to address the issue effectively.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate briefed the gathering about administrative coordination and preventive measures. The Chief Medical Officer, Drass, was asked to review the availability of medical facilities and necessary treatment for dog-bite cases. On the other hand, the Chief Animal Husbandry Officer informed about the ongoing dog-catching and vaccination activities while also highlighting the requirements. Further, he highlighted the operational aspects of dog-catching activities and informed the meeting that early morning and evening hours were comparatively more suitable for catching stray dogs. He also explained that controlled food-based methods could help trained dog-catching teams capture stray dogs more effectively.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of strengthening hospital facilities in Drass district to ensure timely medical assistance and treatment for affected persons. Emphasis was laid on discouraging the act of feeding of stray dogs in public places, particularly in areas where their congregation could pose risks to residents.

Further, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need to strengthen the dog-catching teams and ensure that all activities are carried out safely and systematically.

The District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Drass, was also consulted regarding the impact of stray dogs on livestock and the measures required to protect domestic animals. The representative of Block Development Officer, Drass, participated in the discussions concerning local-level arrangements, sanitation and infrastructure support, while the

Forest Range Officer and Wildlife Forester were involved in reviewing issues requiring coordination with their respective departments. Feedback was also sought from the SHO regarding public safety concerns and coordination required to manage the stray dog menace.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of establishing a dog shelter in Drass District for the proper management, care and monitoring of captured stray dogs. He stressed that a dedicated shelter would help facilitate vaccination, veterinary supervision and systematic management of stray dogs. He directed the concerned officials to give priority to vaccination, strengthen the dog-catching mechanism and ensure better coordination among departments.

In a significant part of the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with the Nambardars of different villages and sought individual feedback regarding the stray dog situation in their respective areas. He enquired about whether any incident of dog attacks, injuries, livestock losses or other damages had been reported in their villages.

The Deputy Commissioner also asked the Nambardars to identify vulnerable locations and suggest practical measures that could help the administration address the problem more effectively. He encouraged the involvement of local volunteers, experienced individuals and expert groups who could assist the administration in awareness activities and coordinated stray dog management efforts.

The Deputy Commissioner further directed the concerned officials to explore additional measures, strengthen interdepartmental coordination and maintain regular monitoring of the situation. He also urged the public to remain cautious, avoid unsafe interaction with stray dogs and immediately report any dog-bite incidents to the nearest health facility.