

Phase VI of FMD Vaccination Campaign Begins in Kargil

Kargil, January 05, 2026: The Animal Husbandry Department, Kargil today launched Phase VI of the Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) Vaccination Campaign at the Stock Assistant Training Institute, Kargil. The programme was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kargil, Imteeaz Kacho, who attended the event as the Chief Guest. Also present on the occasion were Chief Animal Husbandry Officer (CAHO) Kargil, Dr. Gulzar Hussain; District Sheep Husbandry Officer Kargil, Dr. Niyazul Hassanain; Assistant Director, Karakul Sheep Farm Khumbathang, Dr. Niyaz Ahmad Lone, Dr. Mohd Ibrahim, Nodal Officer, FMD, besides veterinarians, para-vets, field staff and other officials of the Department.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Mohd. Anwar who highlighted the importance of the FMD vaccination drive in safeguarding livestock health and farmers' livelihoods. Addressing the gathering, ADC Imteeaz Kacho appreciated the efforts of the Animal Husbandry Department in working towards eradication of FMD from the District. He urged the field staff to mobilize farmers at the grassroots level and create awareness about livestock diseases and preventive measures. He advised that vaccination of pregnant animals should be avoided and reiterated that the UT Administration and District Administration are fully committed to supporting farmers and strengthening their livelihoods. The ADC also encouraged people to prefer organic food products over chemically treated foods.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Kargil, Dr. Gulzar Hussain informed that the FMD vaccination programme was initiated in 2019 and aims at complete eradication of the disease by 2030. He said FMD directly affects milk production and overall livestock productivity. He appealed to the field staff to work closely with farmers, spread awareness about FMD and highlight the benefits of timely vaccination with the ultimate goal of boosting farmers' income and livestock production.

District Sheep Husbandry Officer Kargil, Dr. Niyazul Hassanain briefed participants on the One- Health concept, the zoonotic importance of animal diseases, and emphasized in detail the need to promote a strong vaccination culture among livestock rearers. He outlined a variety of related issues during his address.

On the other hand, Dr. Mansoor gave a detailed briefing on Foot & Mouth Disease and other prevalent livestock diseases, focusing on prevention and control measures. Later, ADC Imteeaz Kacho formally flagged off the FMD vaccination vans to various blocks of Kargil District to start the Phase VI of the campaign.



