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Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, 26th May, 2017

To,
The Principal Secretary,
Animal Husbandry Department of
All State Governments/UTs

Subject: Combating the spread of zoonotic diseases through animals.

Sir,

As you may be aware that the 60% of the human diseases are zoonotic in nature i.e infection is spread from animal to human being. Notwithstanding the facts, the animal husbandry is a source of livelihood for the rural people. Further, due to urbanization and increase in per capita income the people are keeping pets in their home. These animals, including bird time to time, suffers from various diseases like Anthrax, Rabies, Avian Influenza(Bird Flu), Tuberculosis and Glanders which are of zoonotic in nature and can infect the human being. The children may also suffer from various helminth infection/infestations due to handling of pets. Therefore, there is need to control the spread of zoonotic diseases.

2. To achieve the goal of prevention of zoonotic diseases, there is a requirement of close coordination between the state Human Health and Animal Husbandry Departments and further strengthen the intersectoral coordination. Further, it is advisable to take the following measures to combat the zoonotic diseases to safeguard the human and animal health in the State.

- a) Create awareness/seriousness among our countrymen on veterinary public health.
- b) Rising stray animal populations is also one of the major reasons for transforming zoonotic disease from animal and human and hence the matter needs to be considered.
- c) Establishment of Zoonotic Diagnostic Laboratory with latest technology in the State may also be considered.
- d) A separate post of 'Public Health Veterinarian' (PHV) in State Health Department should be created. The PHV will guide State Health Department on issues related to zoonotic disease and veterinary public health, as zoonotic diseases are transmitting very speedily from animal to human.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr. R.G. Bambal)

Deputy Commissioner (Livestock Health)

Copy to: Director of Animal Husbandry of all States and UTs.

