

ANNEXURE-I

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT**Scheme for Birth Control and Immunization of Stray Dogs****Introduction**

The prevailing system of indiscriminate destruction of stray dogs to control their population and to minimize the incidence of rabies has not succeeded as per expectations. The municipal bodies have been killing stray dogs under the pretext of controlling rabies by Health Department. Though the Animal Welfare Board of India has been trying to control the dog population by encouraging the voluntary organisations to conduct sterilization programmes but the same have not had much impact owing to limited funding. A shift in policy to an alternative and more humane system of sterilization-cum-immunization is required for proper dog control and management.

Programme objective :

The basic objective of the scheme is to control the population of stray dogs by sterilization and reduce the incidence of rabies by immunization. The sterilization-cum-immunization of stray dogs will be conducted zone/colony-wise and proper records will be maintained. □ Immunization of stray dogs will be conducted in the locality itself to assure the community about the safety from stray dogs.

Items for which assistance will be given:

Under the scheme, financial assistance will be given to the Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs) Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) working under municipalities for:

(1) Animal birth control of stray dogs through sterilization. @ Rs.300 per dog; and

(2) immunization of the stray dogs to reduce the incidence of rabies @ Rs.40 per dog

Eligibility for assistance:

Under the scheme, the funds will be provided to the AWOs/SPCAs working under municipalities/rural areas by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on receipt of the application in the prescribed performa and subject to the terms and conditions laid down for the purpose.

The agencies eligible for assistance shall be the AWOs/SPCAs working under municipalities and registered under the Indian Societies' Registration Act, 1860(XXI of 1860). In addition to this, the AWOs/SPCAs should meet the *following* requirements:

(a) The organisation should have experience of working towards the cause of animal welfare or should show evidence of competence to take up the proposed scheme,

(b) It should have an appropriate administrative structure and a duly constituted managing/executive committee.

The organisation shall not run for profit to any individual or a body of individuals and shall take an undertaking to submit reports' and returns periodically and punctually as prescribed by the Government of India (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) from time to time.

(d) The organisation should have sufficient space to carry out the animal birth control programme and other facilities such as 'operation' theatre, shelter for post surgery care, vehicle to transport the dogs from and to the concerned locality from where the animal was picked up and qualified veterinary doctor(s) who are registered veterinary practitioner with Indian Veterinary Council/State/UT Veterinary Council.and to carry out the sterilization and immunization of the dogs.

Funding Pattern :

The cost incurred towards the following will be met by the Government of India (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment):

1. Cost incurred to wards sterilization @ Rs.300 per stray dog; and

2. Cost incurred towards immunization @ Rs.40 per stray dog.

Extent of support to the project :

At the project formulation stage, implementing agency shall submit a detailed proposal clearly indicating the number of animals which are likely to be sterilized and immunized in the current year and total expenditure to be incurred for the purpose. Total amount with a ceiling of Rs.340/- per animal for carrying out sterilization and immunization will be made available by the Central Government. If the actual expenditure is below the grants sanctioned for the purpose, the unutilized amount shall be refunded to the Central Government.

Vaccination certificate has to be prepared by the concerned AWO/SPCA.

Identification of sterilized dogs will be, made by ear tailoring.

Application and sanction :

An AWO/SPCA willing to apply for grants-in-aid under the scheme will send their application in the prescribed performa to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. On receipt of an application for grants-in-aid, □ inspection will be undertaken by the prescribed agency. On the basis of inspection report of the prescribed agency, the proposal will duly be processed.

Inspection

The Ministry from time to time will specify the nature, type and periodicity of the inspection and audit and the agency will be designated to carry out the inspection and audit.

Release of grants-in-aid

The grants-in-aid for a particular year will be released to the selected AWOs/SPCAs working under the municipalities/rural areas in two equal instalments. The first instalment will be released as soon as the application submitted by the organisation is agreed to by the Ministry. The organisation shall, before it receives assistance from the Government of India, execute a continuity bond valid for five years in the prescribed form, to the effect that in the event of its failure to comply by any or all the conditions of the grants-in-aid shall be liable to refund the whole or such part of the grant as the Government may decide with interest thereon.

Should the actual expenditure on the items for which the assistance was sanctioned fall below the level at which the grants were sanctioned, the organisation shall be liable to refund unutilised portion of the grant to the Ministry. The organisation must exercise reasonable economy of expenditure on approved items and shall maintain separate accounts of the grants received under this scheme. They shall always be open to check by an officer deputed by the Government of India and they shall also be open to check by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India at his discretion.

Termination of grants-in-aid

If the Ministry is not satisfied with the progress of the project or it finds that the **scheme is not being implemented** properly, it reserves the right to terminate the grants-in-aid.