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 རྫོང་ཁག་བདག་སྐྱོང་། དངོས་གྲུབ་ཅེ་རྫོང་། ལུ་ཁ།



Royal Government of Bhutan

DZONGKHAG ADMINISTRATION

Ngoedruptse-Dzong: Chhukha

"An economically leading Dzongkhag with cohesive society, vibrant culture, sound environment and balance development"

CDA/DLS-14/2022-2023/ 2039

Date: 18/10/2022

EXECUTIVE ORDER

(Livestock and Pet Management Measures)

In Pursuant to the Executive Order no C-4/2022/1400, dated October 3, 2022 of the Hon'ble Lyonchhen, the Dzongkhag Administration Chhukha hereby notifies the general public to take note and provide support and cooperation in securing healthy dog population, as well as building safe communities for the people due to free roaming dog population. The Additional livestock and pet management measures as prescribed under *Annexure 1* is enclosed for ready reference and kind compliance.


 (Minjur Dorji)
 D Z O N G D A G

Copy to:

1. The Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Thimphu for kind information.
2. Venerable Lam Neten, Chhukha Rabdey.
3. The PS to Hon'ble Prime Minister, Gyalyong Tshokhang, Thimphu.
4. The Director, Department of Livestock, MoAF Thimphu.
5. Dasho Drangpoen, District Court Chhukha.
6. Dasho Drungpa, Drungkhag Administration Phuntsholing.
7. Dasho Thrompoen, Phuntsholing Thromdey.
8. Dasho SP, RBP Phuntsholing.
9. Dasho OCs, RBP, Gedu and Tsimasham.
10. All the Regional heads Chhukha
11. All the Sector heads Chhukha Dzongkhag.
12. All Gups under Chhukha Dzongkhag.
13. Thromdey Ngotsap, Tsimasham, Gedu
14. ICTO Chhukha Dzongkhag to post in Dzongkhag website.
15. Incharge(s), DVH/RNRECs Chhukha Dzongkhag.



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Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

C-4/2022/1400

October 3, 2022

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Ours is a nation founded on the Buddhist values of love, compassion and spirituality. Emanating from the Throne itself, these values transcend humans and pervade among all beings in the country.

Therefore, it is only to be expected that His Majesty ensured care and protection of animals even when the nation was battling the pandemic. And in one such unprecedented move that almost ran parallel to the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination, a mass sterilization program was rolled out for professional management of dog population in the country.

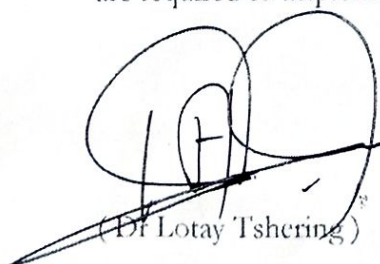
It preceded with nationwide survey, trainings of thousands of Desuups, and engaging communities and local leaders. With the Department of Livestock and Desuung Office in the lead, the Nationwide Accelerated Dog Population Management & Rabies Control Program is not just historic but a success story that appends Bhutan's achievement in COVID-19 handling.

I would like to commend the selfless efforts of the concerned offices and all individuals involved in this endeavor. However, this is just the beginning and much remains to be done to sustain the benefits of this campaign.

We need stringent measures to control and manage the free-roaming dogs, feral dogs and stray animals in the country. We have to address issues of irresponsible ownership of pets and other domestic animals, among others.

Therefore, the government seeks the support and cooperation of the public in securing healthy dog population, as well as building safe communities for the people. In doing so, the government issues additional livestock and pet management measures as prescribed under **Annexure 1**.

The measures are being issued in accordance with the decision of 129th Session of the *Lhengye Zhungtshog* held on 14th September 2022, with immediate effect. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests in collaboration with the Regulatory Authority, *Dzongkhag*, *Thromdes* and other stakeholders are required to implement the measures being introduced today.



(Dr Lotay Tshering)



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Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

Annexure 1: ADDITIONAL LIVESTOCK AND PET MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Managing feral, aggressive and stray animals

1. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests shall prescribe necessary measures for the management of feral, aggressive and stray animals to safeguard public health and safety.

Proper care of pet animals

2. The owner shall take proper care of the pet animals. Any person who abandons the pets shall be liable for payment of fines prescribed in the Livestock Rules and Regulations. The animal shall then be confiscated.
3. Owners who release or fail to secure the pets in public places shall be liable for payment of fines prescribed in the Livestock Rules and Regulations. The owner shall also be liable for payment of medical costs, labour days lost, or production loss in case of injury to animal or cost of property damaged.

Management of animal shelters

4. The Animal Welfare Organisations, *tshethar tshogpa* or any other entity or person desiring to establish and operate animal shelters shall obtain technical clearance from the Department of Livestock. Failing to do so shall be liable for payment of fines prescribed in the Livestock Rules and Regulations, and will also result in closure of animal shelter and confiscation of animals.
5. The management or release of animals by the Animal Welfare Organisation, *tshethar tshogpa* or any other entity or person shall be regulated as per the Bhutan Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines, and *Tshethar* Guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests. Any release of animals in contravention to prescribed standards and guidelines shall be liable for payment of fines prescribed in the Livestock Rules and Regulations.

Prohibition on the feeding of stray animals

6. The feeding of stray animals in public places, highways or roadsides shall be prohibited to safeguard public health and safety. Any person or agency who feeds stray animals in contravention to this provision shall be liable for payment of fines prescribed in the Livestock Rules and Regulations.

Enforcement

7. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Regulatory Authority and the concerned Local Authorities shall enforce the additional livestock and pet management and regulatory provisions.