

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION**

Press Release

**Launch of Second Phase Of Foot & Mouth Disease Vaccination Of Animals Under
GOI's Foot & Mouth Disease Control Programme in U.T, Chandigarh**

Chandigarh, 4th April, 2018: In continuing their efforts to combat dreadful and contagious disease of Foot & Mouth (FMD) in livestock, Department of Animal Husbandry U.T. Chandigarh formally launched second phase of mass vaccination of animals against FMD under the Government of India's 'Foot & Mouth Disease Control Programme' on 04-04-2018 at village Hallomajra Chandigarh . Capt. Karnail Singh, PCS, Director Animal Husbandry & Fisheries U.T, Chandigarh addressed to large number of livestock owners and members of nearby Gram Panchayats who were present on the occasion. They were educated for economic importance of Foot & Mouth Disease in animals and its prevention.

Government of India, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has included Chandigarh, U.T under the FMD-CP from 2017-18 to achieve the desired goal of FMD Mukh Bharat. Foot & Mouth is one of the most economically devastating contagious viral animal diseases affecting all susceptible cloven footed animals and causes great loss in production of susceptible animals.

Dr Kanwarjit Singh, Joint Director, Animal Husbandry revealed that under FMD Control programme, animals are vaccinated twice in a year of which first round was carried out during the month of Oct-November 2017. Now 2nd phase of vaccination drive has been initiated in the month of April 2018 to vaccinate all susceptible species of animals against FMD, free of cost, to ensure 100% coverage of animals. To keep the record of animals vaccinated, Animal Health cards have been issued to each Livestock owners for their animals. Besides vaccinating the animals, Sero monitoring & Sero surveillance of the disease shall be carried out. The Pre & Post vaccination samples of cow & buffaloes shall be collected and sent to RDDDL, Jalandhar for investigation to monitor the implementation of the programme in U.T. Chandigarh. The Department has covered all the 11 villages of Chandigarh (U.T.) under this campaign. 20,000 animals are to be vaccinated under this programme.