



GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MEDICAL & HEALTH OFFICER
WEST JAINTIA HILLS DISTRICT: MEGHALAYA
LADTHADLABOH-793150, PH. No:03652-223260



No: DM&HO/WJH/NHM/DPMU/2024/ 17493

Jowai, the: 28th September 2026

PRESS RELEASE

The Office of the District Medical & Health Officer, in collaboration with the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, the Office of the District Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Officer and Just Be Friendly (JBF) Trust under Mission Rabies, will launch an anti-rabies vaccination drive for stray dogs from Monday, 28th September 2026 from 8:00 AM onwards till the 30th of September 2026.

Why this drive? As Rabies is almost 100% fatal once symptoms appear, but it is also almost 100% preventable. Since most human cases come from dog bites, controlling rabies in dogs is the most effective way to protect people.

A One Health approach Rabies sits at the meeting point of human and animal health, so no single department can control it alone. Under the One Health approach and the National Rabies Control Programme, the Health Department, the District Administration, Veterinary Departments, and civil society partners have come together to work towards rabies elimination in the district.

Community awareness activities under this collaboration have already been underway.

What is being launched?

- Stray dog vaccination: carried out by JBF Trust (Mission Rabies).
- Pet dog vaccination: spearheaded by the District Veterinary Department.
- Coverage: in this first phase, the drive will cover Jowai town, with plans to expand to other areas of the district.

Appeal to the public

- Pet owners are urged to get their dogs vaccinated during the drive at Mission Compound
- Anyone bitten or scratched by a dog should immediately wash the wound with soap and running water for 15 minutes and go to the nearest health facility for anti-rabies vaccine. Anti-rabies vaccine is available free of cost at government health facilities.
- Do not rely on traditional remedies or delay treatment after a bite.

For further information, please contact:

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Sd/-
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