



## PRESS RELEASE

### **The Animal Care Organization (TACO) commits INR 100 crores in Haryana to enhance animal welfare landscape; Inks MoU to upgrade the Government Veterinary Hospital in the presence of Chief Minister**

- The Government Veterinary Hospital, Gurugram (Haryana) will be upgraded into a 24x7 multi-speciality animal hospital
- The MoU was signed between the Anil Agarwal Foundation, Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Haryana and Haryana State CSR Trust in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nayab Singh.

**11<sup>th</sup> July 2024, Gurugram, Haryana:** The Animal Care Organization (TACO), a flagship animal welfare initiative under the Anil Agarwal Foundation, dedicated a corpus of INR 100 crores today towards bolstering animal welfare in Haryana through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the state government. The MoU was signed in the presence of Shri Nayab Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Haryana. As part of the MoU, TACO will undertake the upgradation of the Government Veterinary Hospital in Gurugram into a 24x7 multi-speciality animal hospital and commence the construction of an animal birth control (ABC) unit, laboratory, pharmacy, training centre and shelter for extremely critical animals in Haryana. The facility is spread over 2 acres in Kadipur, Gurugram.



*(From Left to Right: Ms. Ritu Jhingon (President, Anil Agarwal Foundation), Shri Nayab Singh (Hon'ble Chief Minister, Haryana), Shri Nishant Kumar Yadav (Deputy Commissioner, Gurugram) and Dr LC Ranga (Director General, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of Haryana), exchanging the signed MoU on TACO's commitment of INR 100 crores towards animal welfare in Haryana)*

Speaking on this occasion, Chief Minister Shri Nayab Singh said that he is delighted to witness this significant partnership between The Animal Care Organization and the State Government. The effort to transform the landscape of animal welfare in Haryana, earlier with the Faridabad shelter and now the initiative in Gurugram will vastly improve veterinary care services in our state which the residents of Gurugram as well as nearby



cities can make use of. He said that “I look forward to seeing the positive impact this initiative will have on the well-being of animals and the overall health of our communities”. The Chief Minister instructed the concerned officers to upgrade the care services for the animals in cow shelters.

Priya Agarwal Hebbbar, Chairperson of Hindustan Zinc Ltd, Non-Executive Director at Vedanta and Anchor, TACO stated, *“We are delighted to collaborate with the Government of Haryana yet again to augment animal welfare infrastructure in the state. With an investment of 100 Cr for the upgradation of the Government Veterinary Hospital in Gurugram, the construction of a 24x7 multi-specialty animal hospital and our existing shelter in Faridabad, we are committed towards ensuring availability of state-of-the-art veterinary care in Haryana. I am thankful to the Chief Minister for his continued support as we work towards the vision of One Health.”*

The MoU marks a monumental step towards the improvement of animal welfare services in Haryana with the state government inking a 10-year long collaboration with the Anil Agarwal Foundation. As part of the collaboration, TACO will also deploy an ambulance and an advanced mobile health van to provide emergency care services at doorstep.

Notably, TACO's initiatives encompass a holistic approach to ‘One Health’, recognizing the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. The organization's shelter in Faridabad, Haryana, is home to 160+ animals, including cows, bulls, and dogs, focusing on rescue, rehabilitation, advanced veterinary care and overall well-being. Since its inception in 2022, it has treated more than 60,000 animals through its health camps, rescued almost 5,000 animals during the Delhi and Haryana floods, and supported over 460 members of farmer community through animal OPD services. Furthermore, TACO's dedication extends to education and training through the TACO Academy, which conducts sessions for veterinarians and paraprofessionals. TACO also supports and strengthens veterinary healthcare services through OPD and ambulance services.

### **About The Animal Care Organization (TACO)**

The Animal Care Organization (TACO) is a unique animal welfare project under the aegis of Anil Agarwal Foundation (AAF). It is aimed at providing world-class infrastructure, veterinary services, a training facility, and animal shelters to heal and protect animals. TACO's six pillars of shelter, hospital, academy, wildlife conservation, disaster relief efforts and sectoral development, aim to develop international standards for animal welfare. Advanced animal healthcare, preventive veterinary care, a spay and neuter program, diagnostics, and mobile emergency care units will be the main priorities of the under construction multi-specialty veterinary hospital and Animal Birth Control Centre in Faridabad. TACO academy offers short-term courses for a variety of target groups, including veterinarians and para-vets, the animal shelter concentrates on rescue, rehabilitation, geriatric and palliative care, animal housing services, nutrition, and well-being. Its mission is to establish a sustainable and scalable ecosystem for the well-being of animals based on the principles of ‘One Health’.



### **About Anil Agarwal Foundation**

The Anil Agarwal Foundation is the umbrella entity for Vedanta's community and social initiatives. The focus areas of the Foundation are Healthcare, Women and Child development, Animal Welfare Projects, and Sports Initiatives. Anil Agarwal Foundation aims to empower communities, transform lives, and facilitate nation building through sustainable and inclusive growth.

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