## HEALTHY PETS' HEALTHY PEOPLE

Pets contribute to the happiness and well-being of our families. Research has proved that pet owners benefit from their pets in many ways, "Specifically, owners had greater self-esteem, were more physically fit, tended to be less lonely, were more conscientious, were more extroverted, tended to be less fearful and tended to be less preoccupied than non-owners."

Remember, like any other member of the family the health and safety of our pets is directly linked to our own well- being. To enjoy these benefits without compromising on the health of our pets or that of our own the following tips should be kept in mind:

- Do not feed pets' uncooked offal and prevent them from scavenging.
- Follow proper vaccination schedule for pets.
- Pets should be screened regularly for parasitism and dewormed as per schedule with drugs prescribed by a veterinarian.
- Flea and tick infestation should be treated as early as possible.
- Any skin lesion should immediately be got examined by a veterinarian.
- Seek a veterinarian's advice whenever your pet is unwell.
- Adopt good sanitation and promptly dispose-off pet droppings.
- Never share your food with pets.

- Discourage pets from licking human face.
- Wash hands with soap after handling pets, especial puppies and kitten.
- Animal Husbandry Department has well equipped hospitals in all districts and a central veterinary hospital at Srinagar for providing the best possible treatment to your pets.