MONTHLY REPORT KALIMPONG ANIMAL SHELTER (KAS)



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CLINICAL CASES

Compared to the previous month, a wider range of medical cases was seen at the Shelter. It was particularly engaging to hear from Dr. Deo about some of the cases- dogs presenting with gastrointestinal issues, diabetes, transmissible venereal tumour (TVT), suspected canine distemper, anorexia, and accident-related injuries.

Cats, on the other hand, were found to be suffering from various conditions, including mycoplasma infections. There were also cases involving tom cats with urinary obstruction, as well as other cats affected by haemoprotozoan infections feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), scabies, and flea allergy dermatitis. Cases of haemoprotozoan infections and FIP continue to be concerning, given the severity and limited chances of survival in affected cats.



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The team also extended support to pet owners by providing home treatments in a few instances. One such case involved a dog diagnosed with pancreatitis. Mr. Mahesh from the Shelter team regularly visited the dog at home to provide veterinary treatment and successfully completed its course of treatment.





ADOPTION

The rain didn't stop a few compassionate hearts from visiting the Shelter, all just to welcome little furries into their lives. Six puppies and two kittens found their loving homes this month. The team at KAS helped these little ones with their weight checks to keep track for their next deworming. Their new families were also encouraged to bring them back for neutering at the right time, to ensure their well-being as they grow.







REUNION OF A DOG WITH HER FEEDER

The dog with TVT, who had faced severe cruelty in her locality, was released back to her area, but this time, she was reunited with the kind feeder who had stood by her during her most difficult days. When the locals pelted stones at her, it was this feeder who offered her comfort and care. After her third round of chemotherapy, the team handed the dog over to he community feeder. It was a heartwarming reunion. The KAS team felt it was important for the dog to return to someone familiar soon after treatment, so she could feel safe again and continue healing, both physically and emotionally.





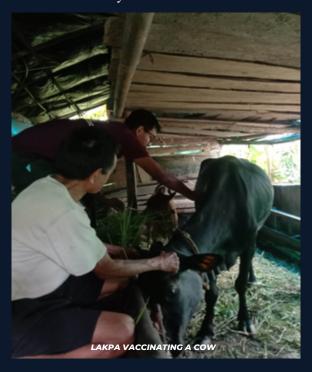
VISIT BY IBCM TEAM TO KALIMPONG ANIMAL SHELTER



On 1st July, the Integrated Bite Case Management (IBCM) team from Mission Rabies, in collaboration with Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter, visited Kalimpong Animal Shelter. The visiting team included the Rabies Programme Manager, Educational Officers, and IBCM Officers from Darjeeling, along with the newly appointed IBCM Officer for Kalimpong. During the visit, the new Officer was introduced and met with Dr. Deo Pandey and Mr. Arpan to discuss the commencement of the project in Kalimpong. The Officer will be responsible for responding to rabies hotline calls, managing dog bite cases, and promoting rabies prevention awareness in the region.

DOG BITE INCIDENT

This month, a bite incident was reported from Lower Salimbong, Deorali, a village located below Kalimpong Animal Shelter, where a dog, seen in a state of frenzy, entered a cowshed and bit a cow and a calf. Upon further investigation, it was found that eleven other dogs had come into contact with a dog suspected to be infected with rabies. Following the report, the team from Kalimpong Animal Shelter, along with the newly appointed IBCM Officer for Kalimpong, promptly visited the area to provide post-bite vaccination to the cow, the calf, and the exposed dogs, and to help restore calm within the community. Though no human bite cases were reported, the team acted swiftly to support the affected animals and reassure the community.





Since then, KAS Veterinary Assistant Mr. Lakpa, in coordination with the IBCM Officer, has been closely monitoring the situation and assisting with the post-bite vaccination of the cow, the calf, and the eleven dogs.

DOG BITE FOLLOW-UP AT TEESTA BAZAR

A similar case of dog bites was reported from Teesta Bazaar, a village situated along the banks of the Teesta River that connects several border towns and the neighbouring state.

Having been informed of the incident, the team from Kalimpong Animal Shelter visited the area and rescued five dogs involved. Government veterinary staff were also present to assist the KAS team in vaccinating the dogs on site. A total of forty-five dogs were vaccinated in Teesta.



ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL PROGRAMME

July saw heavy spells of rain, especially during the final weeks. Checking the weather forecast during the monsoon is essential, and at times, it does help. Two sterilisation camps were conducted earlier in the month in Sindebong, in conjunction with the Veterinary Department, when there were only light showers. An indoor space was provided for a makeshift camp, where Dr. Deo, assisted by the team, performed 18 sterilisations.

Alongside this, both owned and street dogs were brought in for the in-house ABC programme at Kalimpong Animal Shelter.





DR. DEO PERFORMING ABC SURGERY ON A CAT WHILE LAKPA PREPARES A DOG FOR THE PROCEDURE.

In the last few years, it is worth mentioning that cat ABC has been increasing, which shows that awareness around cat neutering has now reached many owners, and they bring their cats for the procedure as part of their well-being.

This month, a total of 31 cats were neutered at the KAS OT.

Thank you to the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust for supporting the cat ABC programme and Help Animals India for supporting Dog ABC at KAS.

Altogether, 104 ABC surgeries were conducted by the KAS team.

EMERGENCY CASES TREATED AT KAS

Other than ABC, six dogs were brought in for emergency treatment. Of these, three were brought in by Animal Helpline Siliguri for surgical intervention.

Two of the dogs had sustained mandibular fractures after being hit by vehicles in Siliguri, where hit-and-run cases are unfortunately common on the city's busy streets. The third dog was brought in for sterilisation.

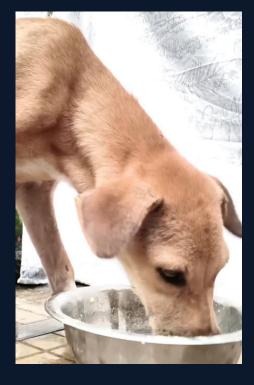


Dr. Deo attended to the cases and performed the required surgeries. According to Ms. Priya from Animal Helpline, both injured dogs are recovering well post-surgery, while the third has fully recovered following sterilisation.

Kalimpong Animal Shelter is open to all, both near and far, and when animals recover this way, it encourages us even more to continue helping, especially when these animals see us as their only hope.

The Animal Helpline team has expressed their gratitude to Dr. Deo and the KAS team for saving the lives of these dogs, and many others.





BEFORE & AFTER

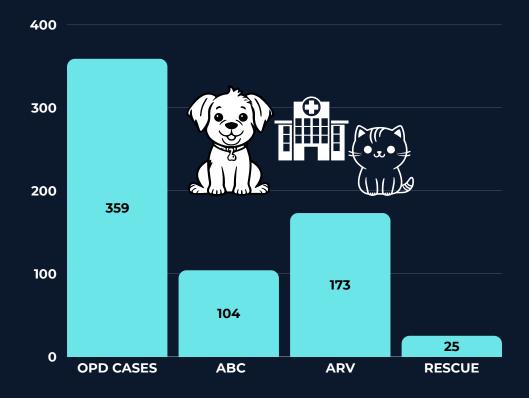
RESCUE

The dogs rescued earlier at the Shelter, who had been under treatment for some time, have now been released following their ABC procedures and full recovery. With their treatment complete, the team has been able to make room for new rescues, many of whom are in need of medical attention. Through rescue operations, the team managed to help 23 dogs and 2 kittens.





VETERINARY STATISTICS – JULY



SHELTER REPAIR WORK

The cattery finally got its much-needed repair work wrapped up, making the space more comfortable with new vents for the cats. The dog runway also received a fresh whitewash, giving it a cleaner, lighter feel for both the dogs and the team.



CHALLENGES FACED

- The past few days have seen torrential rainfall, slowing down the pace of Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme and catching street dogs. The rains have made dog catching more difficult. With many dogs seeking shelter from the rain, catching them often involves long waiting hours.
- At the Shelter, a few cats have been diagnosed with FIP, making it a trying time for both the cats and the team caring for them. Providing comfort and treatment to cats with limited chances of survival has been emotionally and physically demanding.
- Calls from pet owners looking to surrender their dogs permanently continue. Many cite reasons such as their dogs becoming difficult to manage or their own inability to provide proper care. While cases of dogs being abandoned at the Shelter gate have slightly reduced, there are still instances where dogs are are left outside in the evening.
- This month, several puppies along with their mothers were rescued following complaints from locals about unfamiliar dogs, largely due to dog displacement. Some of the puppies are only two weeks old. There are now around 21 puppies at KAS, and with kennels already full, they will stay until weaning. We hope they grow strong and lucky enough to be adopted.

FUTURE PLAN

- The team has scheduled a camp in mid-August in collaboration with the Siliguri Municipal Corporation. If road conditions remain poor, they may have to take a longer detour via Lava to reach Siliguri, which could take several hours.
- An ABC camp is also scheduled to be held on the 21st of August in Kaffer, Kalimpong.



WE SINCERELY THANK OUR KIND DONORS. YOUR COMPASSION AND SUPPORT MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO CARE FOR AND BRING HOPE TO THE VOICELESS.

GIVING THE SHELTER AMBULANCE A FRESH COAT OF PAINT