

KALIMPONG ANIMAL SHELTER

Monthly Report



ANIMALSHELTERKALIMPONG



WWW.GOODWILLANIMALSHELTER.IN



Introduction

August passed in a changing rhythm of torrential rain, brief spells of sunshine and constantly shifting weather conditions. The unsettled weather was reflected in the health of the shelter animals, with an increase in weather-related illnesses and a greater need for veterinary care throughout the month.

Dogs were also going through their seasonal shedding period, losing their old coats as new growth began. Alongside this, several animals developed fever, gastrointestinal problems and other ailments. A few dogs were affected with Distemper, making August a particularly demanding month for the veterinary team.

Sadly, not every story ended in recovery. In the rescue world, losing an animal is one of the hardest realities to face, and August brought some of our most difficult days. Despite relentless supportive care and every effort made to see them through, we lost some of the dear puppies in our care to Parvovirus and Distemper.

For a team that had cared for them closely, watched over them and hoped to see them recover, saying goodbye was deeply painful.

During this period, strict kennel and runway monitoring was maintained to help contain the spread of illness. Sick animals were kept under close observation, treatments were administered as required, and the team remained vigilant throughout, responding promptly whenever further care was needed.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Species	No. of cases
Dogs	356
Cats	87
Goats	35
Pigs	15
Cows	14

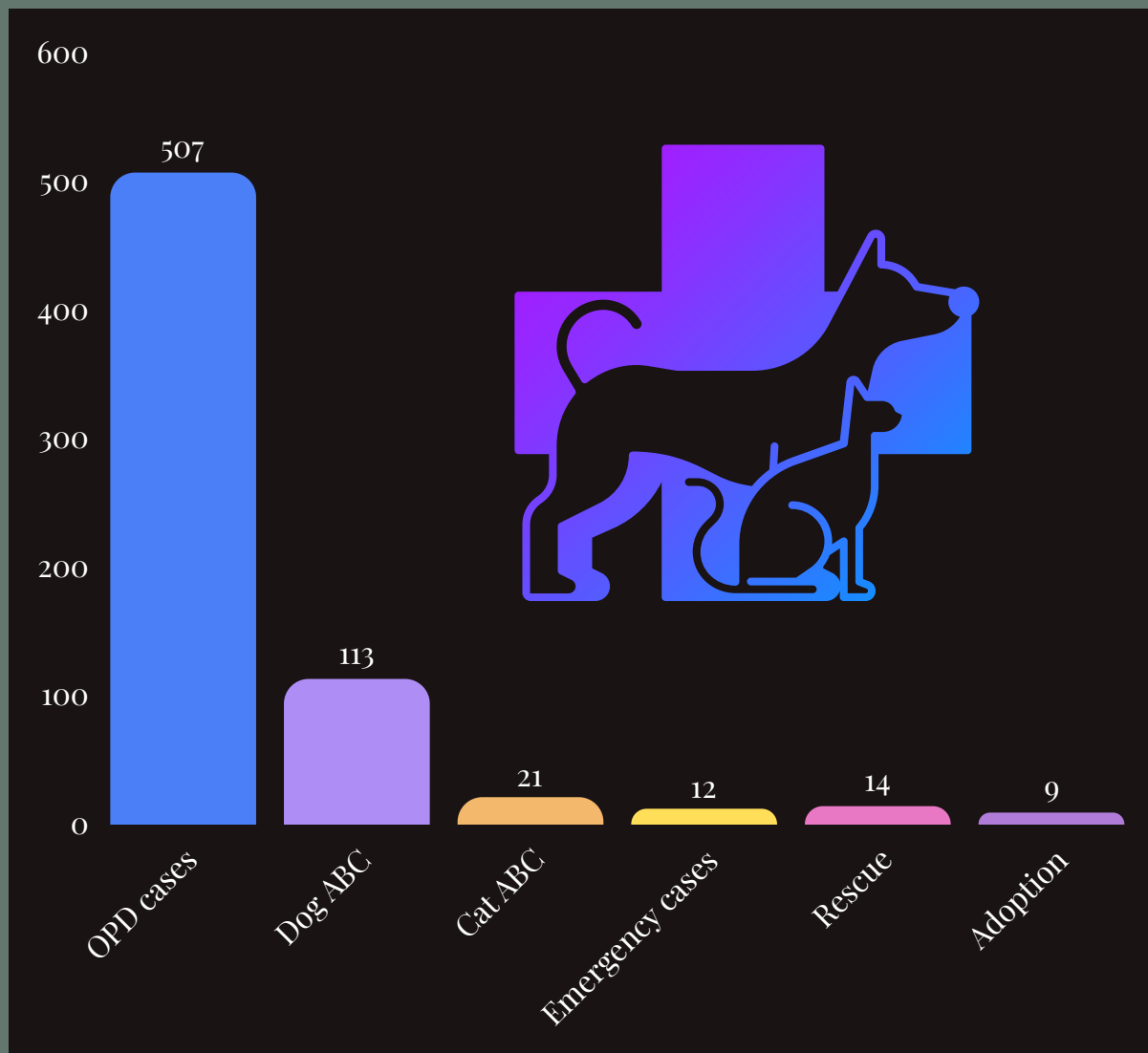
Total cases- 507



Animal Birth Control (ABC)/Sterilisation Prg.

Dog ABC	82
Dog ABC (Siliguri Extension)	31
Cat ABC	6
Cat ABC	15
Emergency Cases	12
Rescue	14
Adoption	9





Activity Breakdown

Outpatient Department (OPD)

The Outpatient Department (OPD) attended to animals brought in for routine check-ups, follow-up care and treatment of illnesses associated with the monsoon. Dogs, cats and goats were brought to the clinic for examination and treatment, while cases involving cows and pigs were attended to through veterinary home visits.

Emergencies required prompt attention. Dogs arriving with painful fractures, open wounds and injuries requiring suturing received immediate veterinary care, with treatment provided according to the nature and severity of their injuries.





Animal Clinic

A Home Visit to Help a Sick Dog

There are times when owners cannot bring a sick or injured dog to the clinic. In such moments, families turn to the Shelter veterinary team for help at home. Despite their busy schedules, the team makes every effort to reach animals when they are in need of veterinary treatment.

This month, a family from 9th Mile reached out to the team for home treatment for their sick dog. The dog's condition was deteriorating, and the family requested help.



Lakpa visited their home and began treatment, including IV fluids. The family was deeply worried. The owner held on to hope and pleaded with the team to save her dog. For the family, having the Kalimpong Animal Shelter team come to their home and provide treatment for their sick dog meant everything.

The Monsoon Damage

Monsoon rains can be unforgiving. After several days of incessant rainfall, our old volunteer hut was unfortunately damaged, leaving it in need of repair.



The Volunteer Hut



Village Camp at Teesta

During August, veterinary services reached communities beyond the Shelter through two outreach camps: a village-level Animal Birth Control (ABC) camp in Teesta, Kalimpong, and an extension camp in Siliguri.

The village-level Animal Birth Control (ABC) camp in Teesta, Kalimpong, was organised by the Teesta Adventure Boys Club. The camp brought together the veterinary team and the local community, with young volunteers taking an active role in bringing stray dogs for sterilisation.

A total of 25 dogs underwent ABC surgeries during the camp. The volunteers worked alongside the KAS team to locate, catch and safely bring the dogs to the camp site.





Many of the dogs were familiar with the young volunteers and approached them without fear when offered biscuits. The boys took care of the dogs after surgery, while the Shelter team remained readily available by phone for follow-up.

The community participation reflected the team spirit of the Teesta Adventure Boys Club, with the young members dedicating their day to helping the dogs. They were able to catch dogs that would otherwise have been difficult to approach, including some feral dogs.



A Call to Help Answered Immediately for Community Dogs at Dr. Graham's Homes

Dr Graham's Homes, Kalimpong, has several community dogs living around its school and hostel premises. As students spend time around the dogs, particularly when they have puppies, the school authorities approached Dr Pandey for help with their sterilisation.



The KAS team responded immediately. Seven dogs were safely caught, brought to the Shelter, sterilised and vaccinated. They remained at KAS for post-operative monitoring and were released back to Dr Graham's Homes once they were fit to return.

While some institutions ask for community dogs to be permanently relocated, Dr Graham's Homes is an example of a place where the dogs are welcomed and wanted. The school recognises their presence and the role they play around the campus, including helping to keep other animals at bay.

In-House Sterilisation

Numerous neutering surgeries were carried out in-house, following appropriate surgical and hygiene protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of every cat and dog undergoing the procedure.





Each animal is carefully examined before surgery to assess its general health and determine its suitability for the procedure.

In-house
ABC
surgery
in
progress

Animals are closely monitored during surgery and provided with appropriate post-operative care to support a safe recovery.



Rescue

Dara Singh and His Great Escape!

Our dear friend and supporter Deep, is an avid animal lover who never stops looking out for the dogs in his community. During his morning walks, he feeds the dogs he meets, and it shows. They are healthy, happy and well cared for. He is always keeping an eye out for those who are wounded or injured and need help.

This time, Deep came across a boy with a wound that needed stitching. He named him Dara Singh and brought him in for wound management. But Dara Singh, as it turned out, had a mind of his own!



Not quite ready to accept kennel life, Dara Singh decided it was time for freedom. He jumped off the kennel, pulled the gate knob open himself, jumped over the fence and made his way back to his own street.

From Dara Singh's point of view, he probably did exactly what he thought he needed to do. After all, no dog enjoys being confined! But in all that excitement, he seemed to forget one small detail: he needed to get better first.



Deep went looking for him once again, found his runaway patient, this time without his collar, and brought him back to the shelter, where we admitted him for continued treatment and care. Dara Singh will stay with us until he has made a full recovery. Once he is healed and ready, he'll return to the streets he loves so much.

Thanks to Deep for helping so many animals like Dara Singh.

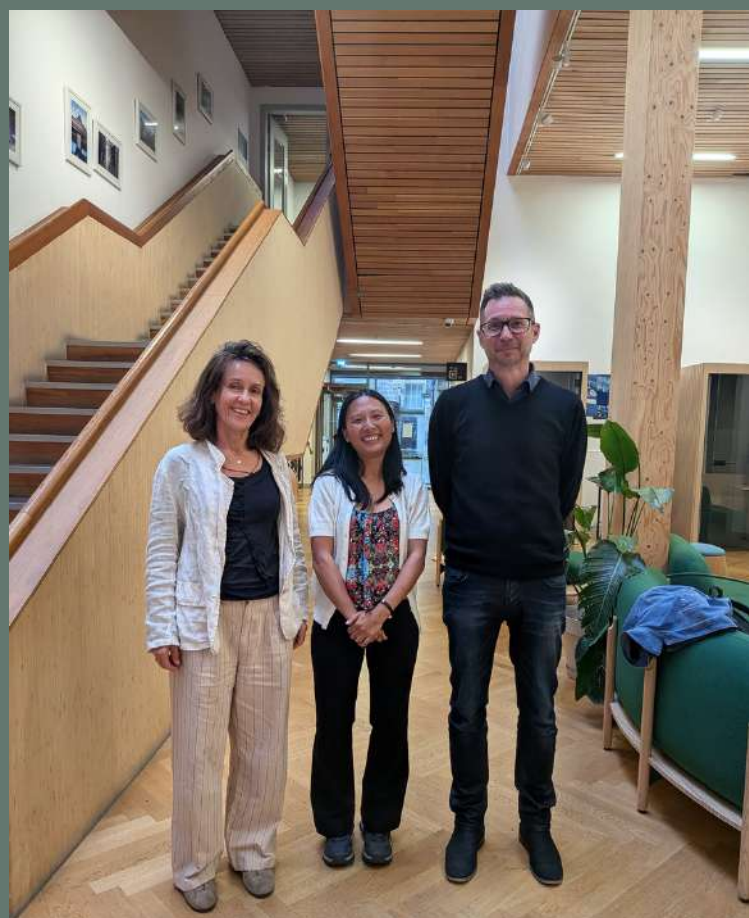
Visit to the University of Edinburgh for the Remaking One Health Workshop

In June 2026, Pratibha, Advisor to DGAS, travelled to the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, to participate in the Remaking One Health Practitioner Workshop on Street Dogs and Public Health in India, held from 2nd to 4th June at the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute. She was invited as a practitioner representing DGAS, while also contributing as a PhD researcher working on canine behaviour and free-ranging dogs.



The workshop brought together academics, NGOs, and animal welfare practitioners from different backgrounds. One particularly engaging session focused on recent Supreme Court orders in India and their implications for street dog management, led by Prof. Krithika Srinivasan. Pratibha added that she also had the opportunity to share insights from her ongoing research on canine behaviour and socio-ecological interactions, connecting academic findings with practical experiences from shelter work.

The programme included thought-provoking contributions from scholars including Prof. Krithika Srinivasan, Dr. Guillem Rubio Ramon, Dr Prerna Bindra, Prof. Daniel Ramp, Dr Rosalie Chapple, Dr Heeral Chhabra, and Dr Chris Pearson, as well as practitioners working closely in conservation and animal welfare.



Pratibha with Dr Rosalie & Prof Daniel

A Birthday Meal for the Shelter Dogs

Anaya, a young girl from Dubai and a big dog lover, celebrated her birthday in a special way at KAS, with the Shelter's resident dogs. Although she could not be there in person, Ananya joined in virtually, taking a tour of the Shelter and enjoying seeing the furry residents online. To mark the occasion, Mr Rakesh Surti sponsored a meal for the dogs in her name.

We thank Mr Rakesh Surti for his generous support and for helping give the animals a better life at the Shelter through his yearly initiatives.



Off to Their New Homes

Eight shelter puppies and kittens were adopted this month. Each one left the Shelter to begin life with a new family.



A composite image featuring two photographs. On the left, a man with a mustache, wearing a dark blue polo shirt with a 'Men's Fellowship Bom Church' logo, holds a small white kitten. On the right, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a light pink shirt, holds a small tabby kitten. A semi-transparent grey circle with the text 'Happily Adopted' is centered over the two photos.

Happily
Adopted

Adoption brings joy, knowing that they now have a home of their own, a family to be part of, and no longer have to wait at the Shelter. It also means there is space for another animal in need to be taken in.

We are grateful to everyone who chose to adopt and give these young animals a place in their family.

When Duty Calls

Another Dr Graham's story. Another call. This time, a dog with a bone stuck inside his mouth, making it difficult for him to eat or swallow properly. He had not eaten for a day.



When the KAS team reached him, he would not let anyone get close. Every attempt to approach him sent him running again. The team stayed patient and waited for the right opportunity to safely use a net to catch him and help with his treatment. Once caught, he was allowed to rest and settle before being examined.

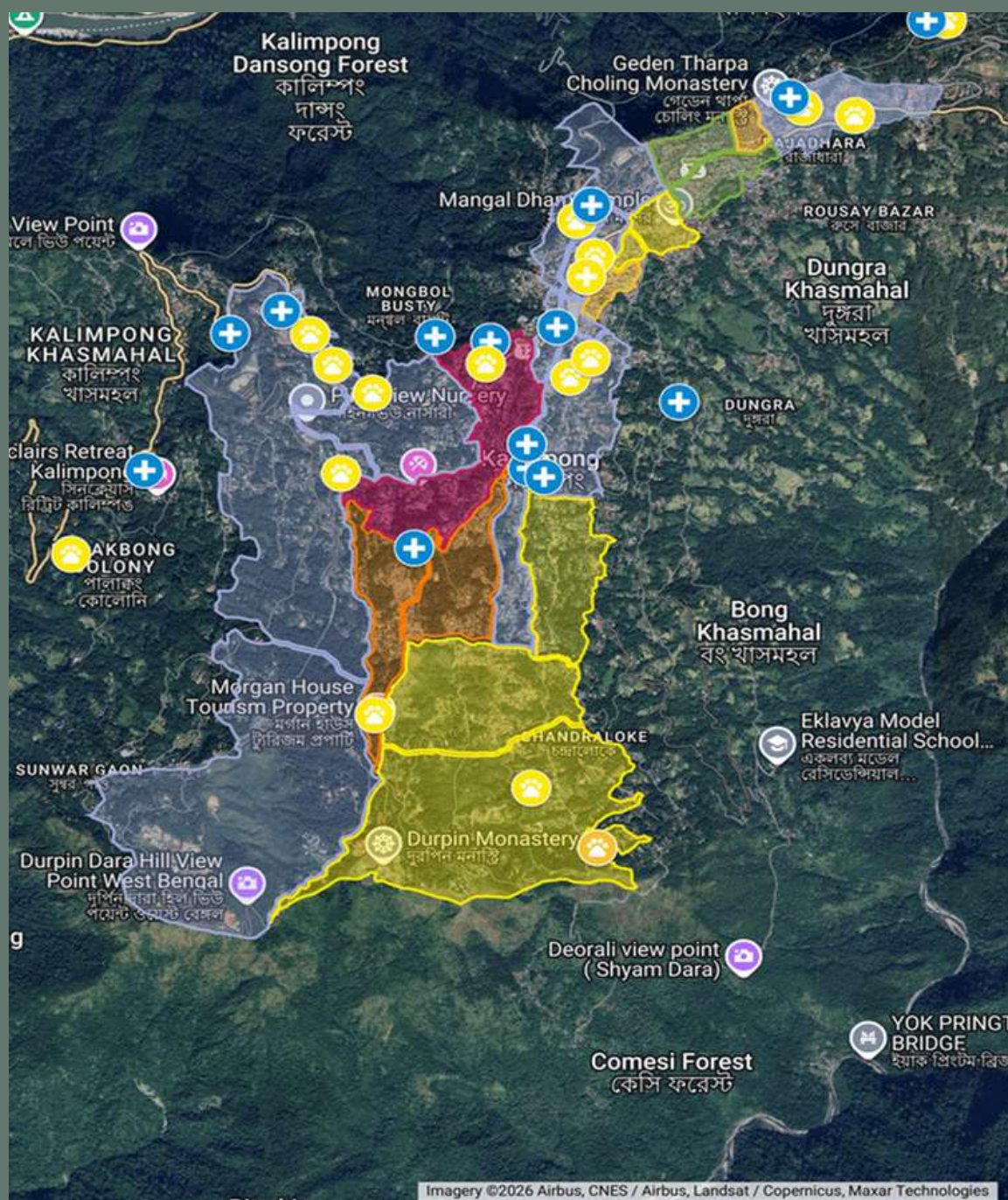


The bone was gently removed from his mouth on the spot, allowing him to return to his normal routine and eat again. A follow-up confirmed that he was doing well and had started eating normally.

MAPPING COMMUNITIES, GUIDING ACTION

The mapping provides a visual overview of animal welfare activities, dog-catching operations, medical assistance, and the distribution of canine populations across Kalimpong.

The mapping system has transformed field activities into actionable geographical data.



Spatial Analysis

- **Medical Assistance:** The blue markers show 13 recorded locations where veterinary/medical assistance was provided. These are distributed across the urban centre as well as surrounding settlements, demonstrating the Shelter's reach beyond a single concentrated area.
- **Dog Catching & Capture:** 17 catching points are represented by yellow paw markers. These operations have covered both densely populated neighbourhoods and peripheral areas, supporting ABC and vaccination activities.
- **Dog Population Distribution:** The red-shaded central zone represents the major concentration of dogs, corresponding largely with the more densely populated urban areas. The orange and yellow zones indicate progressively lower dog-population concentrations.