

SEPTEMBER 2026 DGAS- MR MONTHLY REPORT



HIGHLIGHTS

	GTA
ARV ADMINISTERED	2483
RABIES HOTLINE CALLS	109
INDIVIDUALS EDUCATED	1170
IBCM CASES	1
SUSPECTED RABID ANIMALS	0
CARCASSES TESTED FOR LFA	18
LFA POSITIVE	1
BRAIN SAMPLES COLLECTED FOR DFA	18
DFA TEST CONDUCTED	39
DFA POSITIVE	7
X-RAY	14

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"



28 September 2026 - Kalimpong, West Bengal

Jointly conducted by:

Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter (DGAS), Mission Rabies,
and the Animal Resources Development Department (ARD),
Government of West Bengal

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

A Day of Integrated Rabies Prevention

On 28 September 2026, World Rabies Day was observed in Kalimpong under the theme “Stronger Together.” Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter, with its partner Mission Rabies and in collaboration with the Animal Resources Development Department, brought together multiple components of rabies prevention through coordinated action involving awareness and education, community engagement, rabies surveillance, dog population management and mass dog vaccination.



WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Awareness & Education

The programme began with a rabies awareness and education session for school children, focusing on rabies prevention, responsible interaction with animals and the importance of community participation. The session aimed to empower children with knowledge that they could carry back to their families and communities.



WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Community Awareness - "Rabies Mukht Pahar"

Following the education session, the children participated in a community awareness rally carrying the message "Rabies Mukht Pahar." The rally took the message of rabies prevention beyond the classroom and into the community, encouraging wider public awareness and participation in the fight against rabies.



GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026 "STRONGER TOGETHER"



WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Strengthening Rabies Surveillance

An essential technical component focused on strengthening rabies surveillance through hands-on training in brainstem sample collection for LFA and DFA testing, led by Dr. Shivani Pradhan. Seven participants each received an individual carcass for practical training and independently performed the procedure, carefully following the steps for sampling, PPE, handling and labelling. All participants completed the session and received certificates.



GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

"STRONGER TOGETHER"



2026. 3.13

GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

"STRONGER TOGETHER"



GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

"STRONGER TOGETHER"



2026. 3.13

GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

"STRONGER TOGETHER"



2026. 3.13 2:0

GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

"STRONGER TOGETHER"



GTA

WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Dog Population Management -ABC

Alongside the awareness and surveillance activities, Animal Birth Control (ABC) surgeries were conducted as part of dog population management. This demonstrated the importance of addressing dog population management as a distinct and complementary component of a comprehensive rabies prevention programme.



WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Mass Dog Vaccination

A separate team simultaneously conducted a static-point anti-rabies dog vaccination drive, reinforcing vaccination as a critical component of dog-mediated rabies prevention. The activity also provided an opportunity for veterinary teams to engage with the community and promote the importance of maintaining vaccination coverage among dogs.



WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

GTA

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Stronger Together

The day's activities demonstrated that rabies prevention requires multiple interventions working together. From educating children and engaging communities to strengthening surveillance, managing dog populations and vaccinating dogs, the programme brought government and non-government partners together around one shared goal:

A rabies-free future.

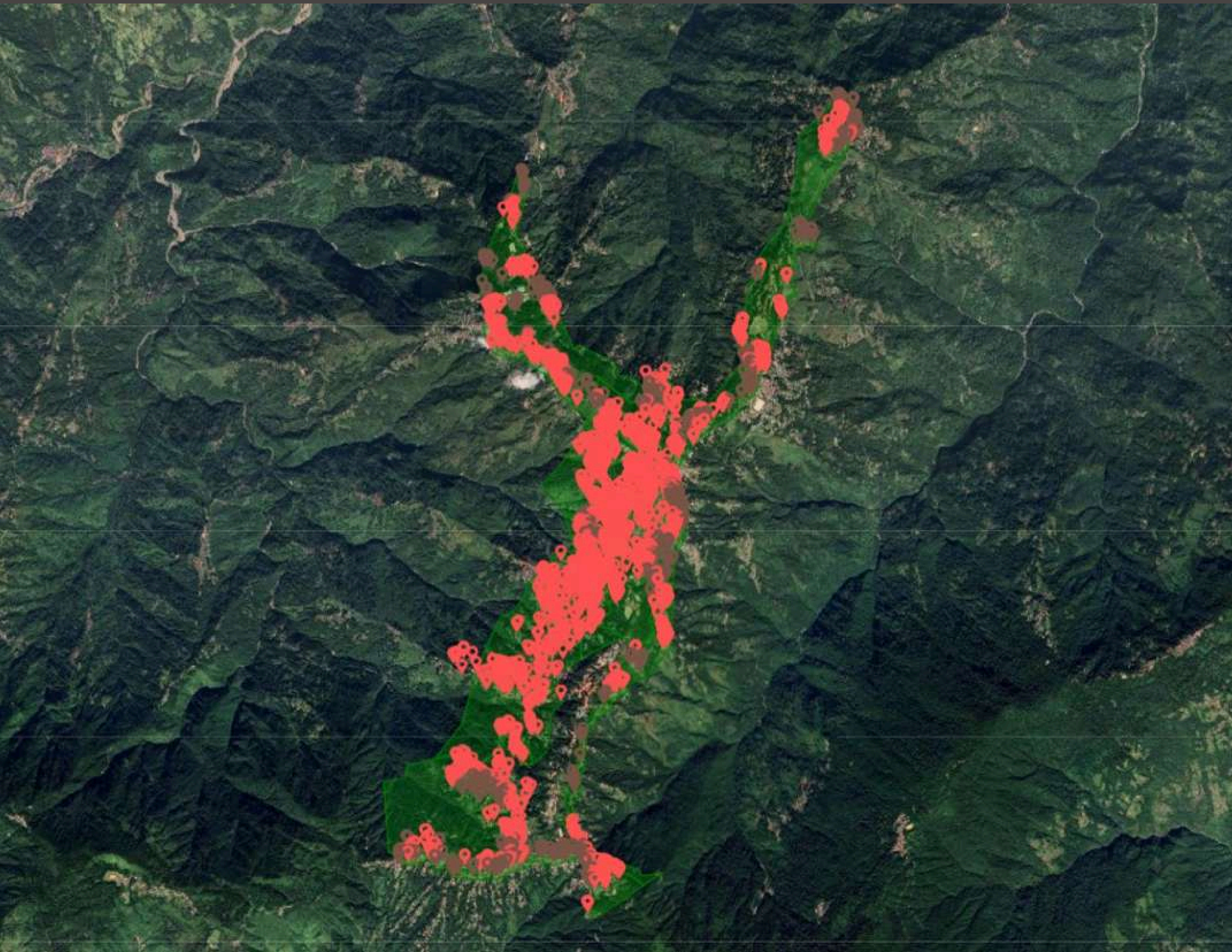
Stronger Together - working hand in hand for rabies prevention and elimination.



GTA

ANNUAL COMMUNITY DOG VACCINATION- DARJEELING MUNICIPALITY

In September 2026, a total of 2,483 community dogs were vaccinated across Darjeeling Municipality as part of the annual community dog vaccination programme.



Satellite view of the Darjeeling Municipality Wards After Our Annual Vaccination Drive

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG GTA VACCINATION DRIVE 2026 1-5 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Darjeeling Annual Mass Dog Vaccination Drive 2026 brought together teams from DGAS-Mission Rabies, Bhubaneswar Municipality-Mission Rabies Project, and Just Be Friendly (JBF)-Mission Rabies Project, Guwahati, working hand in hand to strengthen community dog vaccination across Darjeeling Municipality.



GTA

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026

With six field teams, the combined effort resulted in 1,272 community dogs vaccinated across 19 wards in just five days. The teams worked through heavy rain, steep and slippery terrain and challenging field conditions, while also sharing skills, experiences and plenty of friendly competition along the way.



GTA

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026



GTA

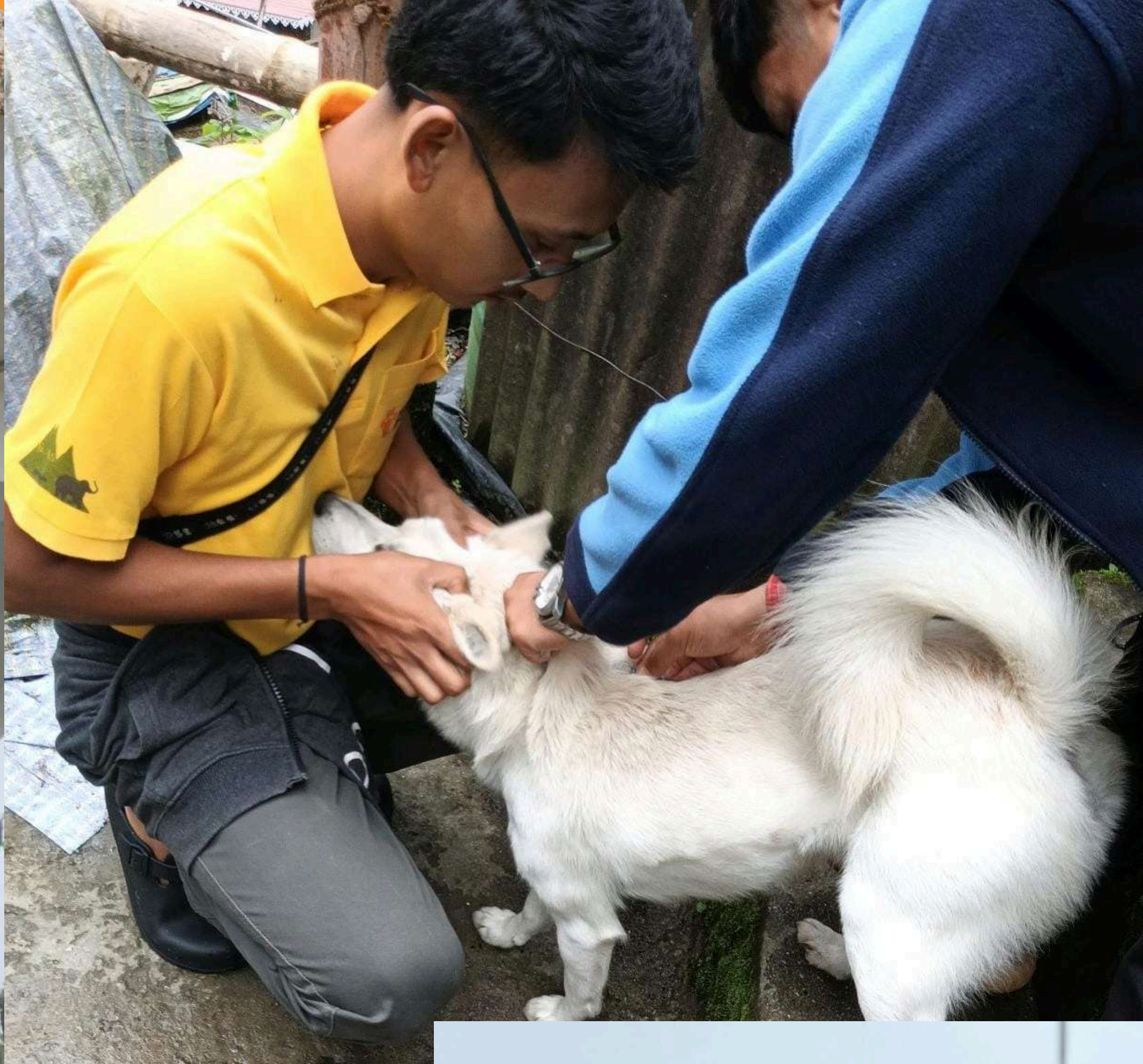
DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026

The RSO cum Hotline Manager provided essential coordination support throughout the campaign, including pre- and post-vaccination surveys, stakeholder coordination and field-level follow-up.



GTA

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026



The drive became much more than a vaccination exercise. Team members learned from one another, strengthened their skills in dog handling and hand-catching, and came together for daily field check-ins and debriefings. The friendly rivalry between Team Wolves and Team Cheetah added energy and enthusiasm to the five-day effort, with teams keeping track of each other's numbers and pushing one another to do more.



GTA

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026



A Moment from the Field

One small field story captured the spirit of the team beautifully.

During a vaccination visit, a dog owner said her dog had already been vaccinated a few months earlier. Our vaccinator, Wangchen, recognised the dog and remembered vaccinating it during the previous year's programme. When the owner remained unconvinced, he opened his phone, searched through his photographs and found a picture of the same dog — taken outside her house during that earlier visit.



GTA

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026

It was a small moment, but it said a lot about the people behind the programme. Our teams remember the animals they meet, take their work personally, and care deeply about doing it well.

These are the moments that turn a vaccination drive into something more than numbers - people, animals, teamwork and communities coming together for rabies prevention.



GTA

DARJEELING ANNUAL MASS DOG VACCINATION DRIVE 2026



A little Assam in Darjeeling 🎵

Between long field days and evening debriefs, the Assam team introduced their Darjeeling colleagues to the music of Zubeen Garg. A friendly debate over which song to play quickly became a little cultural exchange of its own!

GTA LEARNING ACROSS PROJECTS

The collaboration began even before the vaccination drive. The Bhubaneswar Municipality–Mission Rabies Project Manager spent several days with the Darjeeling team to gain practical exposure to different components of rabies prevention and response.

This included learning about hotline management, Integrated Bite Case Management (IBCM), rabies surveillance, brain sample collection for LFA and DFA testing, field operations, team coordination and the logistics involved in managing a large-scale vaccination drive.



GTA LEARNING ACROSS PROJECTS

The learning continued in the field, with practical exposure to how teams navigate Darjeeling's challenging terrain and engage with communities during vaccination activities. One field visit even involved a long walk to reach a team working in an area that was difficult to access by vehicle — a memorable introduction to the realities of fieldwork in the hills!



GTA LEARNING ACROSS PROJECTS

The exchange was not limited to technical skills. It was an opportunity for teams from different projects to learn from one another, share experiences and build a stronger, more connected rabies response network.



Hands-on learning in rabies surveillance: practical training in brainstem sample collection for LFA and DFA testing.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY LEVEL RABIES SURVEILLANCE

To strengthen dog-bite surveillance and improve timely reporting from the Mirik subdivision, coordination was initiated with the local health system. Discussions were held with medical officers and frontline health workers, alongside awareness and hotline promotion at PHCs and sub-centres, to improve community-level awareness, reporting and data collection.



8 September - Mirik BPHC

Coordination with BMOH & Medical Officer, Mirik BPHC

Discussion on strengthening dog-bite surveillance and timely reporting across the Mirik subdivision.

GTA

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY LEVEL RABIES SURVEILLANCE



Phuguri Tea Estate

RSO Prajit and Subba with Manager Mr. Diwakar Kant Misha



Okhati HWC Sub-Centre

Frontline Worker Engagement & Hotline Promotion
with ASHA workers

GTA

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY LEVEL RABIES SURVEILLANCE



Mechi Sub-Centre
with Sister Pramila Pradhan



Mirik Sub-Centre
Rabies Awareness & Hotline Promotion

GTA

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY LEVEL RABIES SURVEILLANCE



Mirik Basti Sub-Centre



Mirik Soureni PHC

GTA

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY LEVEL RABIES SURVEILLANCE



Rabies Awareness Programme with ASHA Workers
at Phuguri HWC

GTA

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY LEVEL RABIES SURVEILLANCE



EO Sushant Mohra with Principal of Green Hill English Academy, Sonada



Central School for Tibetans, Sonada

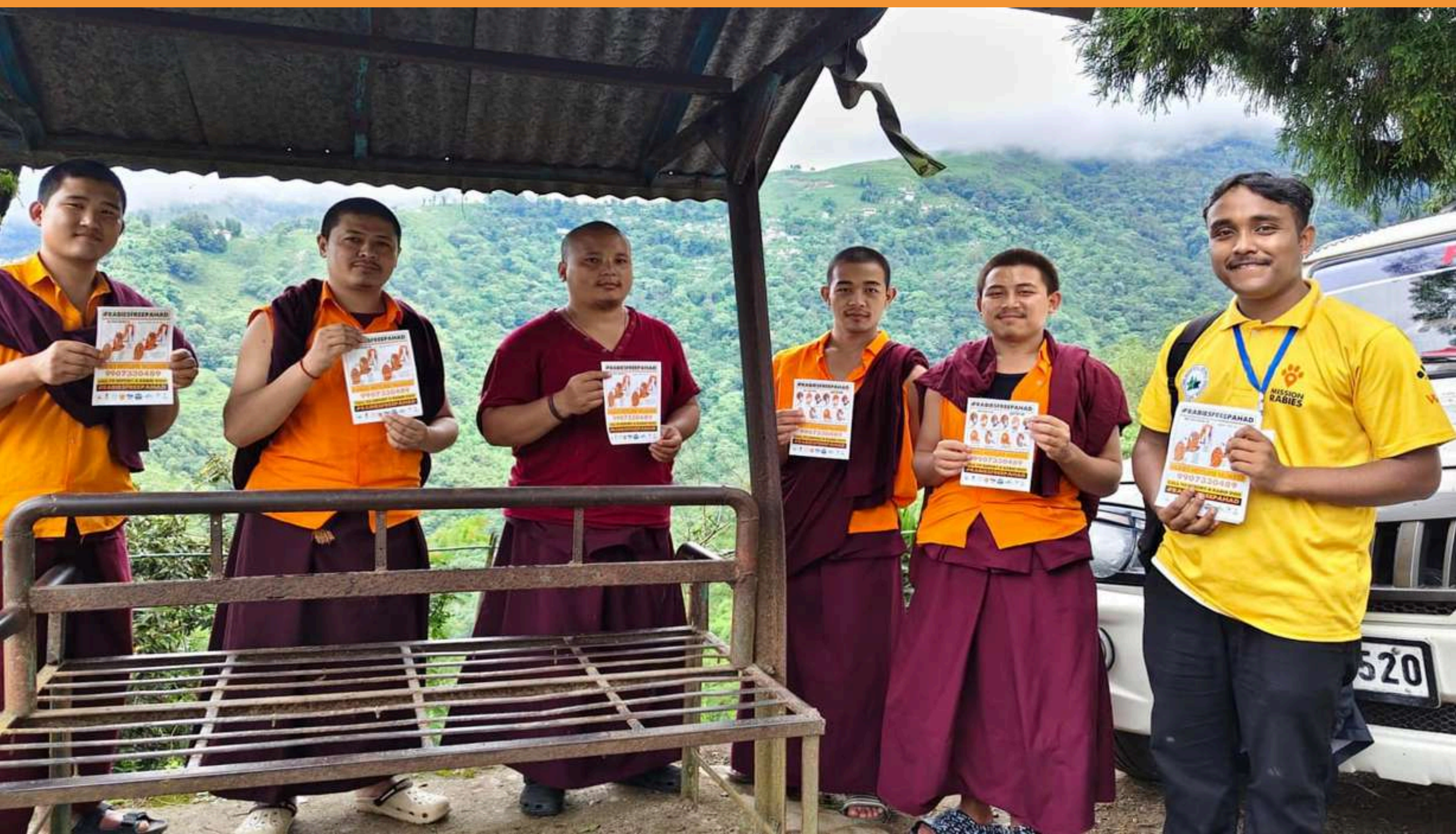
KNOWLEDGE IS OUR FIRST LINE GTA OF PROTECTION AGAINST RABIES



small efforts, safer communities-together toward a Rabies-Free Future



KNOWLEDGE IS OUR FIRST LINE GTA OF PROTECTION AGAINST RABIES



small efforts, safer communities-together toward a Rabies-Free Future



KNOWLEDGE IS OUR FIRST LINE GTA OF PROTECTION AGAINST RABIES



small efforts, safer communities-together toward a Rabies-Free Future



A Category III dog-bite case reported through the rabies hotline on 22 September 2026 was investigated at Tenth Mile, Kalimpong. Although the dog was reported to have aggressively charged and bitten the victim, it showed no apparent aggression or abnormal behaviour during field assessment and allowed the RSO to approach, feed and touch it. The dog was subsequently brought to the Kalimpong Animal Shelter for controlled observation and rehabilitation, with continued monitoring of its health and behaviour. The case highlights the importance of early bite reporting, prompt wound management and PEP, and systematic observation of the suspected animal as part of effective rabies surveillance.



During September 2026, 14 radiographic examinations were conducted, comprising 10 dogs and 4 cats.

Case Highlight - Trauma Management in a 4-Month-Old Golden Retriever



A four-month-old Golden Retriever rescued from Singamari was presented following a road traffic accident with severe forelimb swelling and soft-tissue trauma. Digital radiography confirmed no fracture or cortical disruption, establishing that the extensive swelling was due to soft-tissue injury rather than bony damage. This finding avoided unnecessary limb amputation, and the patient was managed conservatively through wound lavage and closure, antibiotics, analgesia, anti-inflammatory therapy, strict cage rest and daily aseptic dressing. The pup is currently recovering well and remains bright and active.



AS

ANIMAL RABIES DIAGNOSIS LABORATORY (ARDL)

During September 2026, ARDL, Khanapara tested 41 samples, of which 9 were positive and 32 negative. Samples from Assam comprised 2 cases, both positive, while West Bengal contributed 39 samples, of which 7 were positive and 32 negative. Overall, 36 dog and 5 cat samples were tested, with all positive samples originating from dogs. The sex-wise distribution comprised 25 male and 16 female animals, with 4 male and 5 female samples testing positive.

