KALIMPONG ANIMAL SHELTER

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2026

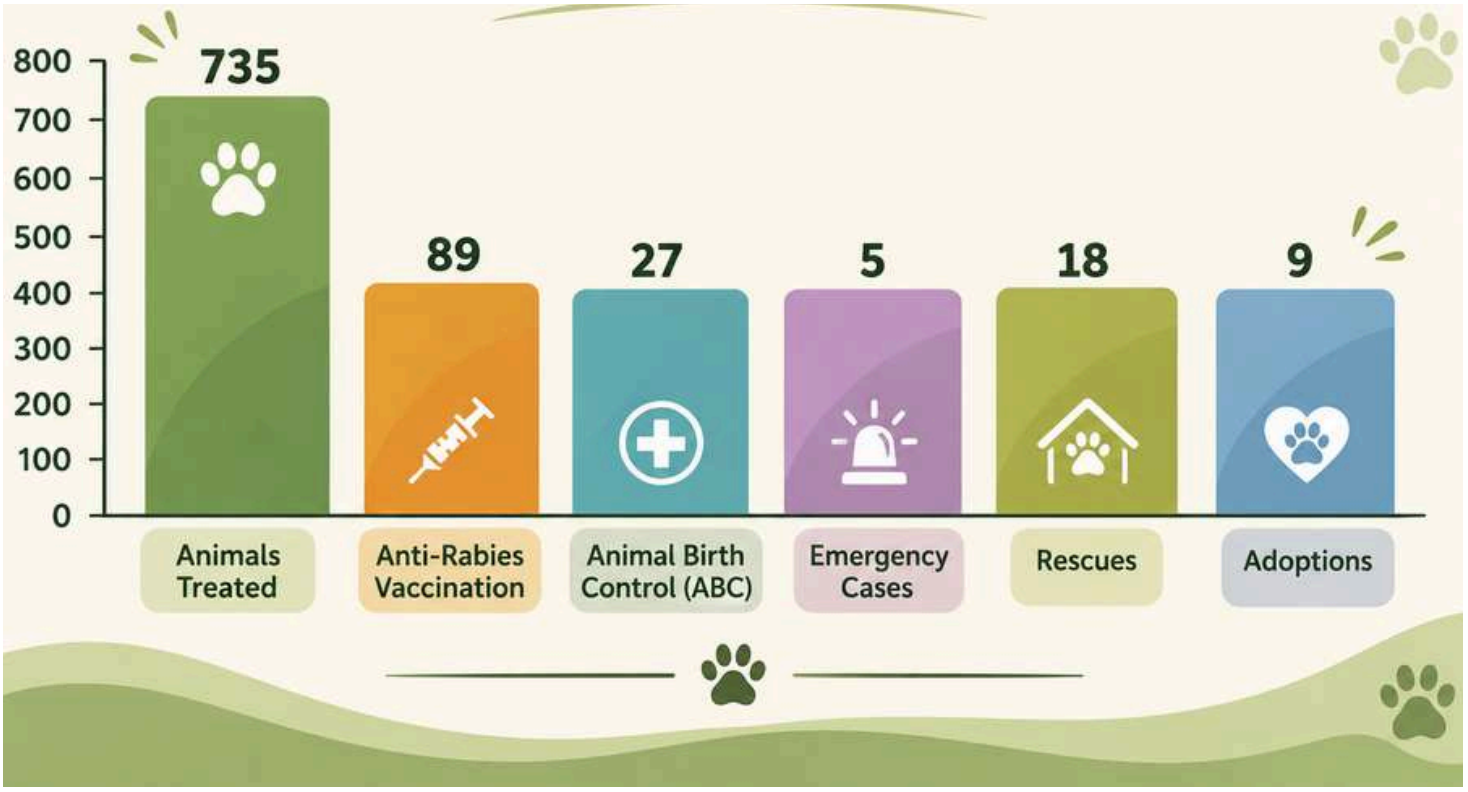




INTRODUCTION

October was a meaningful month for the Shelter, bringing the team closer to animals and their caregivers from far-flung areas, helping us better understand their needs and the challenges they face. With the onset of winter, the Shelter has also been receiving an increasing number of cases of animals affected by the cold weather, making seasonal care and support all the more important.

OCTOBER-REACH AND RESPONSE AT A GLANCE





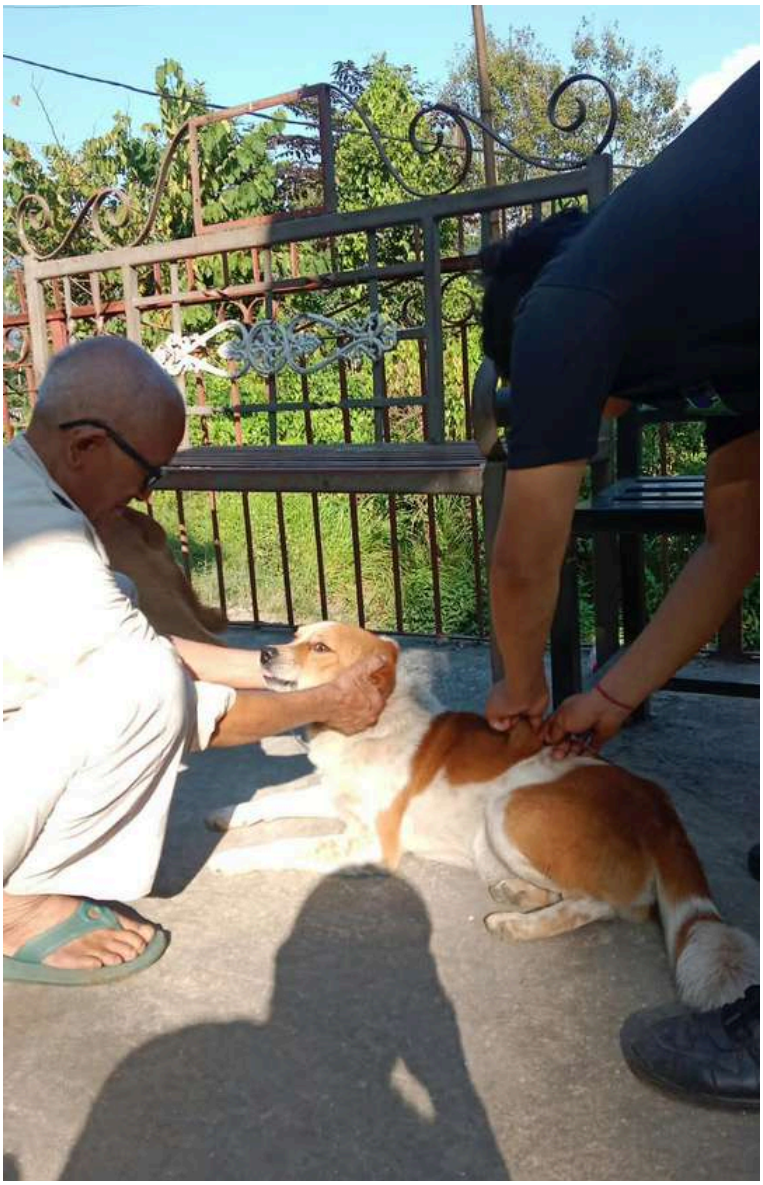
FIELD ACTIVITIES

During October, the KAS field team extended veterinary services to rural communities, including Mungsong and Deorali, reaching households with limited access to animal healthcare facilities.

In these communities, dogs are an integral part of everyday life, often accompanying their owners to agricultural fields, guarding homes and providing companionship. However, distance and transportation costs make routine veterinary visits difficult for many families. Through door-to-door outreach, the team provided annual vaccinations and basic veterinary assistance to dogs,cats and farm animals, bringing essential healthcare directly to their homes.

Such field-based engagement remains important in identifying local needs, strengthening community relationships and ensuring that animal healthcare services reach households beyond the immediate vicinity of veterinary facilities.





FIELD ACTIVITIES











VETERINARY OUTREACH FOR FARM ANIMALS

Alongside companion animal healthcare, the team extended veterinary support to households rearing livestock, recognising their importance to rural livelihoods.

During these visits, free veterinary medicines, digestive supplements and other health products were distributed to livestock owners, accompanied by guidance on their appropriate use and preventive healthcare practices.
way.
Particular attention was given to goat health and the risk of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR). Farmers were advised to seek vaccination services through the Government's Animal Resources Development Department (ARDD), particularly during its mobile veterinary camps.





The visits were especially appreciated by elderly residents and farming families, many of whom expressed gratitude for the team's efforts to reach their homes and extend care to their animals.

Thank you to the Kalpataru Foundation for supporting our Animal Clinic and helping us extend veterinary care to animals in remote communities.

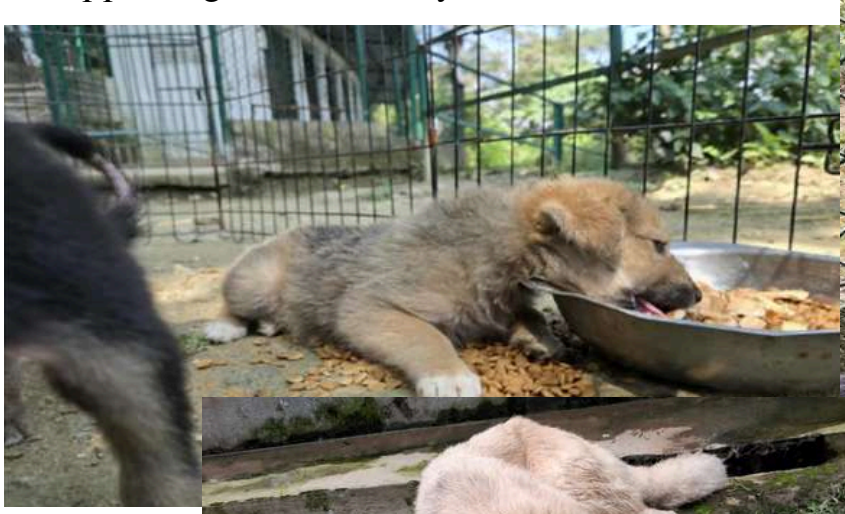
RESCUE

During the reporting period, KAS continued to receive and respond to cases of dogs requiring urgent medical attention.

Several rescued dogs were brought in to the Shelter with deep wounds, maggot infestations and skin-related disorders. These cases required sustained veterinary attention, wound management and supportive treatment.

The Shelter team provided ongoing medical care, including regular wound cleaning, treatment and monitoring, with the objective of stabilising the animals and supporting their recovery.





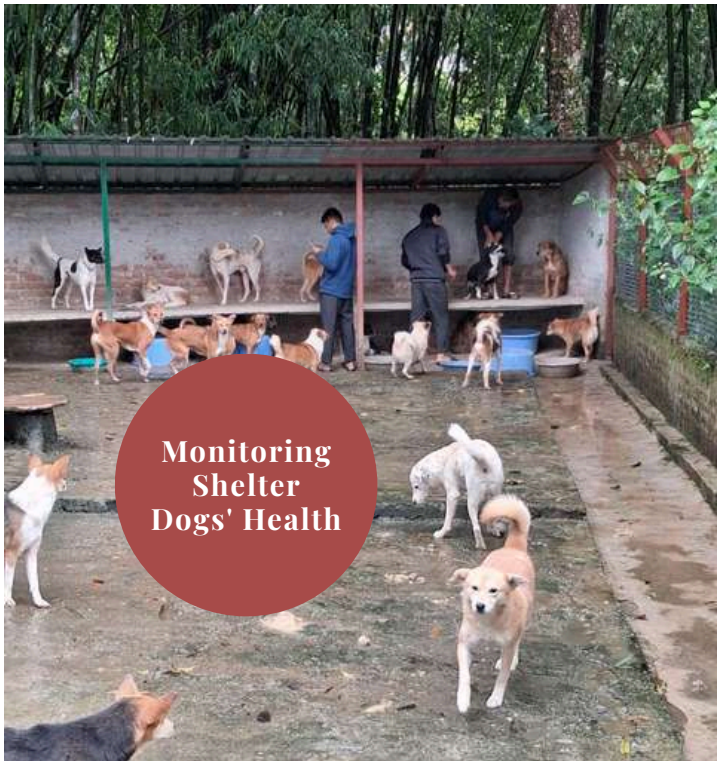




CLINICAL CASES

October also presented additional challenges due to an outbreak of canine distemper affecting dogs in the region, with several suspected and confirmed cases reported through the clinic's OPD services. Managing these cases required particular attention, given the highly infectious nature of the disease and the associated risk of transmission to other animals within the Shelter. Many of the affected dogs had not been vaccinated, while a few vaccinated dogs also contracted the disease, causing concern among their owners.

The team implemented precautionary measures and followed strict disease-management protocols to minimise the risk of transmission. Affected animals received appropriate medical care and close monitoring, alongside measures to safeguard the health of other dogs at the Shelter.







CAT WELFARE

On the other hand, concerns over infections among the resident cats led the team to conduct blood tests to help identify possible illnesses and rule out other diseases. The team has ordered a new medication for cats affected by Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) and will be trying it following a suggestion from one of our kind supporters, Deep Sanyal, whose own cats recovered well with the treatment.







ADDRESSING COMMUNITY DOG CONCERNS

Our team responded to numerous calls regarding newly arrived and unsterilised dogs in different areas. The team visited the reported locations, assessed the situations and helped the dogs receive timely assistance, reducing the risk of them being mistreated or displaced simply for being new to the area.



Dog displacement remains a concern in Kalimpong, where we continue to receive reports of dogs being moved from one locality to another. Addressing this issue remains a priority for our team as we work to protect animals and promote peaceful coexistence within communities.



STUDENTS FROM SAMBHOTA TIBETAN SCHOOL STEP UP FOR A DOG

Sometimes, the most meaningful acts of kindness come from the youngest hearts. A group of students from Sambhota Tibetan School, Kalimpong, came across a sick dog lying on the roadside while returning home from school and decided to help.

Rather than walking past the helpless animal, the students took action. Pooling their pocket money, they arranged a taxi and brought the dog to the Shelter, ensuring it received the medical attention it needed. The veterinary team examined the dog and provided the necessary treatment. Their initiative turned a roadside encounter into an opportunity to save a life.

Sometimes, all it takes is a little pocket money, a taxi ride and a heart that refuses to leave an animal behind.







The students were equally keen to learn about animal healthcare and the basic medical attention their own pets might require. They raised thoughtful questions about common illnesses, treatment and responsible pet parents.

KAS values such interactions with young people, as they provide opportunities to encourage compassion, responsible pet ownership and greater awareness of animal welfare. May their kindness inspire more young people to stand up for animals and contribute towards a healthier, safer and more compassionate world.



TWO LITTLE LIVES, ONE LOVING HOME

A heartwarming adoption took place at Kalimpong Animal Shelter when a young boy, who has always loved cats, persuaded his parents to adopt a kitten from the Shelter.

During their visit, he was delighted to meet the playful kittens. Although he initially planned to adopt just one, seeing the close bond between two kittens changed his mind. He happily decided to take both home so they could continue growing up together.

This thoughtful gesture reflects the importance of compassion and responsible pet adoption. At KAS, we encourage everyone to ADOPT, DON'T SHOP and give rescued animals the opportunity to experience the warmth, security and affection of a loving home.



A FRIENDSHIP THAT CONTINUES BEYOND THE SHELTER GATES!

SHARING LOVE ON WORLD ANIMAL DAY

Students from Army Public School,Kalimpong visited the Shelter on 4th October to celebrate World Animal Day with our furry residents. They brought along plenty of treats for the animals and spent a lovely day sharing their time, care and affection with them. Their visit brought much joy to the shelter dogs and cats, making the day special for everyone.

We thank these young hearts for their thoughtful visit.









