

## WEEKLY REPORT



Every day, Kalimpong Animal Shelter team has to attend to several cases of cats, dogs and a few other animals but mostly, it is dogs. KAS has an open Dispensary where animal patients are treated during the day. The clinic area is most of the time full with patients and this season, because of Canine Parvovirus and Distemper, there is a surge in animal cases at KAS.

Generally, every year starting from October end to March, there is always an outbreak of viral diseases in dogs. As India experiences the cold winter season it gets difficult to keep all dogs safe from the cold. So as the Shelter Veterinarian says, 'It all start with the cold and dogs end up getting worse followed by Distemper which, affects the respiratory and GI tract and nervous system in dogs.'

It is quite unusual that this year Canine Parvovirus and Distemper cases in dogs is still underway which actually would cease by March every year. So the team from Kalimpong Animal Shelter is attending to such cases at present and also, attending to emergency cases, surgery and spaying, etc.



Thanks to Dr. Deo and the team of Para Vets from Kalimpong Animal Shelter (KAS) for managing such animal cases every day, emergencies and villages camps.

The beginning of a new year is always challenging for the KAS team because there are several owned pet animals inflicted with viral diseases that need treatment and who at times, may not survive because of such viral disease outbreak. Saving an animal by treating them the right way is what we believe in and KAS has saved thousands of animals through treatment so far though sometimes, some things are only in God's hands. The team yet at KAS has been able to provide the best possible treatment and nursing to each animal that is afflicted. It is this phase when the team even has to convince owners whose dogs cannot survive and it is heart-wrenching to see sad owners, but we at KAS politely convince them so that their other dogs at home are safe and about the importance of vaccines available for dogs and why all owned dogs should get it.

On the other hand, the same time of year, KAS is involved in scheduling Spay and neuter Village camps in far-flung areas of Kalimpong and sometimes, away from Kalimpong in a neighbouring town or different Blocs. Village camps though are conducted all seasons whenever there is a need esp., when newly adopted puppies are big enough for their spaying, either community or owned pet animal. However, the beginning of each year is important and that's when we also see series of village camp projects of KAS running because KAS has to cover many areas and reach their target. Also, the same time, there are several Government Programmes held in different blocs of Kalimpong, run by the Govt. Veterinary Dept. and thus, KAS is requested to participate to conduct spay and neuter camps along with them whilst the Govt. Veterinary team focuses on census and distribution of medicine to large animals in those hamlets. Not only that, the Kalimpong Animal Shelter team runs village camp programmes independently as well.



Coming to the **Weekly Report** from KAS, we would like to say, it's been a busy week for us.

Numerous animal cases were seen and treated by the Vet and team this week. There were many other owned pet animals brought in for their yearly anti-rabies and Distemper vaccinations followed by a fewer blood work and X-rays.



Five dogs were brought from a neighbouring city, Siliguri for their spaying and one with the broken jaw. The Shelter Vet, Dr. Deo spayed on these dogs successfully and also fixed the broken jaw of a puppy aged 6 months.



On Tuesday, there was a village spay and neuter camp in Dungra Busty, Kalimpong where a total of thirteen dogs were spayed.

A tiny new born kitten was brought to KAS all the way from Calcutta - is a metropolitan city and the capital of West Bengal. This tiny tot was fostered by a Good Samaritan who was there out on her job. She found this little kitten who too had a sibling but couldn't be saved. Dorjee, the foster parent at KAS told us that the kittens mum had died in an accident soon after giving birth on the streets of Calcutta, and that's when she came to their rescue. One of the orphaned kittens who we accepted yesterday has found a surrogate mum at KAS. This mother and her kittens were surrendered to KAS four weeks ago by an owner so hopefully, this new kitten from Calcutta will be at ease meeting this mother who too, has adopted the kitten. Wishing her well and praying this newborn can make it as a week old kitten would be very delicate and requires expert nursing.



Sanjeev, one of the team members made a home visit close by the Animal Shelter this week for the treatment of a goat. The goat has tetanus and a very slim chance of recovery.





On Thursday, there were two emergency cases of a cat and dog and were seen by Dr. Deo. These were pet animals having owners. The cat was diagnosed with dystocia meaning difficult / abnormal birth. The fetus was already dead inside and Dr. Deo suggested of ovarian hysterectomy to the owner and its importance as a result it was successfully carried out by Vet Deo that day. The cat is relieved and doing better.



Emergency case of a dog with a massive tumour.

The tumour had enlarged in no time even though the dog was kept on medications before, the owner said. The dog was brought from Sangsay Busty for removal of such malignant tumour. The dog was brought quite late at noon and several cases were still to be looked after at the Clinic, but Vet Deo upon this emergency call attended to the dog and successfully operated on him.



Dr. Deo Pandey suggested the owner that the dog should get his leg amputated where the tumour was. Because the tumour had covered the limb and 'amputation' was the best possible option to help this dog survive. The procedure for removal of his tumour took more than an hour but it was successful. We have asked the owner to update us further on him.





Many of the team observed Good Friday but as always, we have some of the other working team members on rotation to carry out their duty esp. feeding sheltered animals and attending to animal cases. So a few of them came to work and treated animals as there were many owned pet animals that had their follow-up treatment.



Saturday again, there were ample cases of dogs with infection, skin disease and treatment at KAS.

**Thank you very much**

We are very grateful to all our supporters and **Animaux Secours** for their generous support in helping our animals in the Hills of West Bengal, India.