

Report on Darjeeling Animal Shelter Activities - December 2023

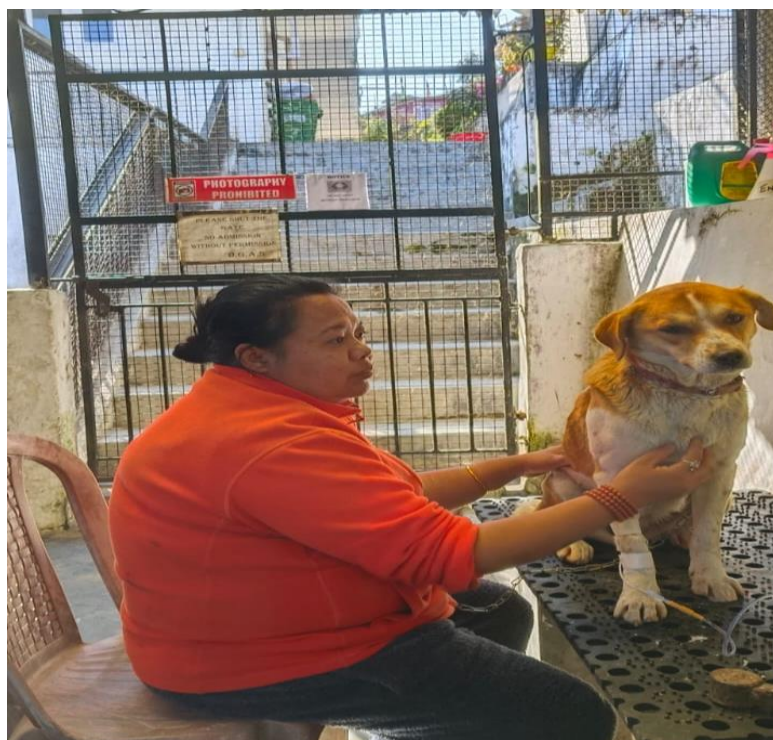
Introduction:

The Darjeeling Animal Shelter has demonstrated resilience and dedication in the face of challenging conditions, as outlined in the following report covering the month of December 2023. Despite the harsh cold and a significant outbreak of canine Parvovirus, the Shelter's operations have continued smoothly.

Medical Interventions:

The Parvovirus outbreak has led to the rise of Out-Patient Department (OPD) cases. The veterinary team has been actively engaged in providing necessary treatments to the affected animals, particularly addressing the challenges posed by infected puppies, some of which face slim chances of survival.

Nevertheless, due to the team's dedicated care and treatment, a substantial number of animals are now on the path to recovery.



Animal Birth Control (ABC) Program:

Dr. Mihir and Dr. Mohit conducted a total of 62 Animal Birth Control operations, showcasing the pivotal role of the ABC Program. The continuous efforts of the Shelter vets and the team have yielded fruitful results in effectively controlling the local dog population.

This success is evident in the transformation of Darjeeling Chowrasta, a popular tourist attraction, where packs of stray dogs were once a common sight. The area is now not only a happy and well-visited place for tourists but also for dogs.



In Pic – Dr. Mihir performing the ABC under the Dogs Trust Worldwide project



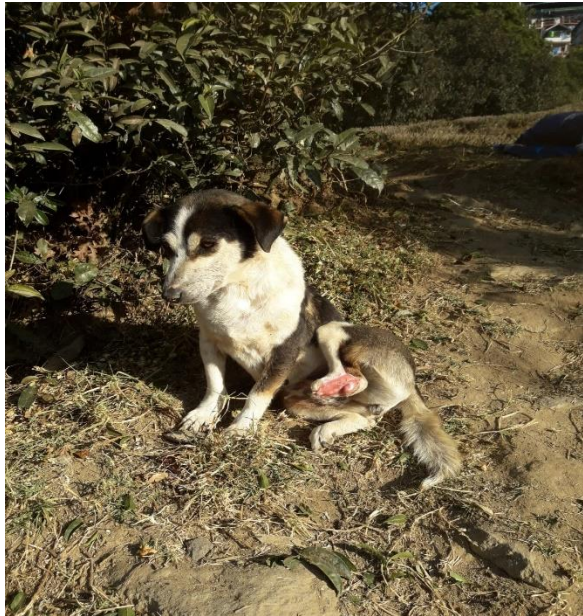
Pic 2 – Dr. Mohit performing the general ABC Programme at DAS

Dr. Mihir's comprehensive study on the ABC and rabies project has significantly contributed to the successful implementation of the ABC program. Further surveys conducted by Dr. Mihir in different villages have enhanced the understanding and impact assessment of the program. In December Dr. Mihir conducted surveys at PatleBaas, Malle Dhura, and Kara Bari in Darjeeling.

Rescue Operations:

The Shelter team has maintained consistency in conducting rescue operations, responding promptly to calls irrespective of weather conditions.

In December alone, 22 rescues were carried out, encompassing the rescue of homeless puppies and injured dogs.



Adoptions and Health Measures:

Adoptions have temporarily halted due to the rise in Parvo cases. A few rescued puppies contracted the virus, leading to their quarantine. The sick animals are receiving daily veterinary care, ensuring their swift recovery.

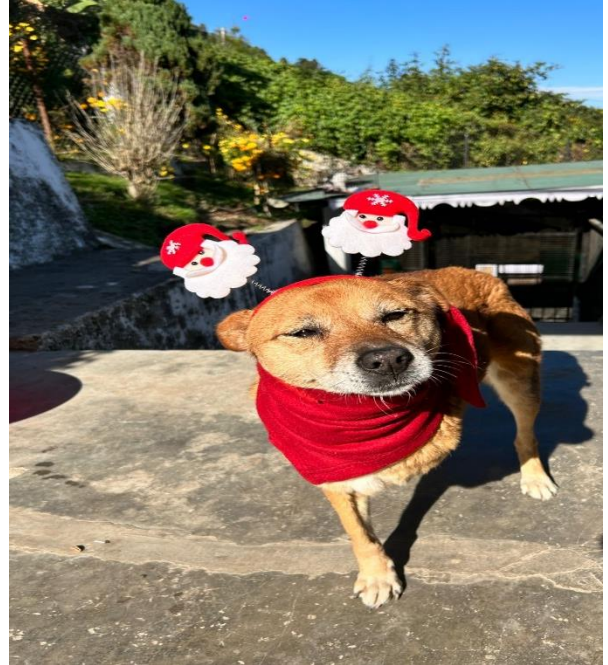
Community Awareness:



Under the IBCM project, four awareness camps were conducted in different schools by Ms. Prativa.

The camps aimed to educate the community on approaching dogs, avoiding dog bites, and understanding rabies, and its prevention. The Darjeeling Shelters Helpline number was circulated during these camps, offering assistance to those dealing with dog bite cases.

Christmas Celebration:



The Shelter organised a heartwarming pre-Christmas celebration for the furry family, indulging them with treats, cuddles, and an enjoyable photo booth session. Remarkably, this pack of dogs displayed more comfort with photography than those that are typically camera-shy, often evading cameras with hesitation.

Conclusion:

Even in the face of challenges in December, the Darjeeling Animal Shelter has shown strong commitment and effectiveness in its work. The efforts of the veterinary team and staff together have made a meaningful impact on animal welfare and community education, resulting in positive outcomes highlighted in this report.