



# HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

## Anti – Rabies Task Force

Project : Malappuram (Kerala)
Month : February – 2018
Submitted by : Dr. Meera Mohandas DD (A.H)Malappuram
Submitted to : HSI – INDIA

- Activities for the month
  - Animal Birth Control and Vaccination
    - Total number of dogs sterilized this month - **132**
    - Male: **76** and Female:**56**
    - We are using hand & net catching along with traps also.
  - After finishing all 38 wards of Tirur municipality, we did catching in neighbouring areas of Kuttipuram and Thirunavaya.
  - Fitness certificate obtained for both the vehicles used here from RTO, Malappuram.
  - Following a complaint of street dogs attacking people in Parapanangady Municipality, we were directed by the Malappuram Government to start catching dogs from there. That municipality has 45 wards and the team has started now for one week in that area. The facility still used is Tirur Veterinary Hospital.
  - World Spay Day was celebrated on February 27, 2018 with an awareness program at Parapanangady municipality hall for the government representatives as well as students from nearby schools.

- **Challenges faced**

- Because of the start of severe summer season, the heat is extreme and it affects work and stress.
- Narrow streets and open terrains making net catching very difficult.
- Two of the staff being on leave has left the team with just 3 AWOs and this makes work difficult and catching and cleaning all more difficult.
- Problems with public during release of dogs, especially in Parapanangady area where there was a recent report of 24 people being bitten by street dogs.

- **Team**

- **Veterinarian : 1** ( Dr. Shivendra )
- **Education and awareness officer:** Sally Varma
- **AWO's : 5** ( Santosh, Robert,Aman, Rohit and Ravidas ) Two AWOs Santosh and Aman on leave since mid of the month.
- **Dr.Meera Mohandas DD (A.H) Malppuram Implementing officer**

- **Next month Plan**

- Team will attend First Aid Training from Red Cross Society of India at Palakkad district to get certificate as part of the Disaster Management Program.
- Awareness and sensitization sessions to the public and panchayat members about our program and what we wish to achieve.
- As the team is presently catching in Parapanangady Municipality that is around 19 kms from the present facility, we will not be shifting the facility until we fully finish that area.
- Dr. Shivendra will be attending a conference in Bikaner as part of the Disaster Management Program on March 13<sup>th</sup> and March 14<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Mukesh from Vadodara will be joining ART Malappuram till March 27<sup>th</sup>.

## EDUCATION AND AWARENESS:

### Steps taken to spread awareness:

- Regular awareness sessions in Municipality wards schools and panchayats regarding our program.
- Always having a person present in the back of the catching vehicle with the dogs. This helps a lot in convincing the public that street dogs are not dangerous and that people can be around them without being hurt. Every time our vehicle stops for catching or release, a big crowd gathers around the vehicle and this time is very useful for spreading awareness as the public sees how the dogs are being handled by the team members and a lot of them have many questions about the program which are answered.
- Leaflet explaining ABC and sterilization program and its importance has been translated into the local Malayalam language and will be with the team in the vehicle as well as facility to be given to the public.
- The main issue that people have is regarding release of the dogs back from where they are caught. Public always keep wanting the dogs relocated and not brought back to the same area. We convince the public that relocation is against the law and that it is always safer to have dogs from their own areas back there because these dogs are used to the people. Sometimes we are threatened by the public that they will take those dogs away and release in faraway places to which we respond that if they create a vacuum in their area, then dogs from different areas which are not friendly to them will come and take over those territories and also other animals like foxes will also increase and cause more problems to the public.
- Public are shown the ear notches of the dogs when they are being released and explained that it is a sign to show that the dog has already been operated on and had anti-rabies vaccination. People keep complaining that there are still many dogs in their areas unaware that those dogs have already been operated and vaccinated.

## Parapanangady municipality story

# തെരുവുനായ ആക്രമണം തിരുങ്ങാടി, പരപ്പനങ്ങാടി മേഖലയിൽ ഇരുപത്തിനാലുപേർക്ക് കടിയേറ്റു

തിരുങ്ങാടി • പാലത്തിങ്ങൽ, നെടുവ ഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ തെരുവുനായയുടെ പരാക്രമം. പത്തുപേർക്ക് കടിയേറ്റു. നെടുവ സ്വദേശികളായ സുരേന്ദ്രൻ (47), രാജേഷ് (38), രവി (51), മമ്മിയൂർ ജുമാന (25), ഇത്താച്ചുട്ടി (75), പാത്തുമ്മക്കുട്ടി (60), ഖദീജ (41), കടലുണ്ടി നഗരം നഫീസ (54), പാലത്തിങ്ങൽ സദേശി ഉസ്മാൻ (48), പാലത്തിങ്ങൽ മുഹാദ് (14) എന്നിവർക്കാണ് കടിയേറ്റത്. ഇന്നലെ ഉച്ചയ്ക്ക് നെടുവ ഭാഗത്തെ ഏതാനും പേർക്ക് കടി



യേറ്റു. പരുക്കേറ്റവരെ താലൂക്കാശുപത്രിയിലെത്തിച്ച് അത് പം കഴിഞ്ഞപ്പോഴാണ് ബാക്കിയുള്ളവർക്ക് കടിയേറ്റത്. എല്ലാ

വരെയും ആക്രമിച്ചത് ഒരു നായ തന്നെയാണോ എന്നു സ്ഥിരീകരിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

പരുക്കേറ്റവരെ താലൂക്കാശുപത്രിയിൽ പ്രഥമ ചികിത്സയ്ക്കുശേഷം കോഴിക്കോട് മെഡിക്കൽ കോളജ് ആശുപത്രിയിലേക്കു കൊണ്ടുപോയി.

പരപ്പനങ്ങാടി • നഗരസഭയുടെ വിവിധ ഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ 14 പേരെ തെരുവുനായ കടിച്ചു. പുത്തൻപിടിക, അയോധ്യാനഗർ, കുരിയിൽ മൂല, അമ്പാടി

നഗർ, പുത്തരിക്കൽ എന്നിവിടങ്ങളിലാണ് തെരുവുനായ ആക്രമണം. ഒ.രാജൻ (40), ടി. സുരേന്ദ്രൻ (40), കോടത്ത് രവി (47), എം.സുനി (50), നാലകത്ത് ഹംസ (50), കുരിയിൽ മൂലയിൽ തങ്ക (57), എൻ.രാജേഷ് (38), എം.ജുമാന (25), എം.കദീജ (40), കെ.നഫീസ(54), പി.ഉസ്മാൻ (48), പി.മുഹമ്മദ് (14), പി.പാത്തുക്കുട്ടി (60), പി.ഇത്താച്ചുട്ടി (75) എന്നിവരെ കോഴിക്കോട് മെഡിക്കൽ കോളജ് ആശുപത്രിയിൽ പ്രവേശിപ്പിച്ചു.

MalayalaManorama paper reported of a case that happened in Parapanangady municipality that is around 20 kms away from our Tirur facility. We were called by Dr. Meera Mohandas, Deputy Director AHD Malappuram, who informed us that we should contact the municipal chairperson there and arrange for a meeting to discuss ABC there. Our team went to Parapanangady municipality along with Dr.Meera Mohandas DD(A.H) Malappuram and had an awareness session for all the councillors and members of Parapanangadymunicipality and managed to convince them that killing was not the answer and to let us do ABC and vaccination in that area.



We were very happy when after the session, many of them came to us and said that before the class, all of them just had the feeling to kill all the street dogs and end the issue but after the talk and showing videos of our work, they felt guilty that they had wanted to kill the dogs.

Our team began catching there and the reaction from the public is of surprise to see how we are handling and behaving with the street dogs. A lot of people crowded around the vehicle

and also during the catching time and ask a lot of questions regarding the work we are doing.



**World Spay Day** was celebrated by the team on February 27th, 2018 at Parapanangady Municipality by taking an awareness class by Dr.Meera Mohandas and Sally Kannan for the government representatives and students from nearby schools. It was a huge success and we got a lot of positive feedback. Dr. Meera Mohandas, Deputy Director AHD Malappuram was also present for the program.





