



Starting with ABC - Case study of Animal Birth Control Project in Trivandrum

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Animal Birth Control Management Program

Introduction

Animal Birth Control Management program undertaken by Kudumbashree Mission is being successfully implemented in the various Gramapanchayats in Trivandrum District. Death of a fisherman in Pulluvila ward of Karumkulam Gramapanchayat created a crisis like situation in which Kudumbashree ABC Units were prompted to start interventions to manage the stray dog menace in the district.

Kudumbashree started ABC in the district by June 2017, now after six months of restless operation the team members are equipped with enough knowledge and experience to handle stray dogs of any kind and any nature. Assisting the doctors in the operation theatre, post operative care, catching and releasing, all these processes are done in a systematic way to ensure the best standards as per ABC rules.

Initiating Kudumbashree ABC in the District

Kudumbashree ABC phase - I started in Karumkulam Gramapanchayat and extended the program to other three Gramapanchayats which were near to Karumkulam. Initially District Coordinator was informed to catch a total of 500 stray dogs from Karumkulam, Poovar, Kottukal and Kulathoor grama

panchayats. The District Mission was able to achieve this target by two months and now the work is progressing in an increased pace.

Formation & Operation of ABC Units

An ABC management unit is constituted with 5 members, who were the owner cum proprietors of the unit. In addition to that, there would be a doctor who is empanelled by District Mission office. The unit have right to decide whether they need to hire service of a professional Dog catcher. The units will receive an initial training from District Mission and after that the units would undergo a continuous monitoring to determine the need of follow-up training.

The unit members will meet with President, Secretary and the Veterinary doctor of those LSGIs which transferred Fund to District Mission office. They would identify the worst areas and inform the Units, the units will deploy a catching team by early morning. The catching team will explore every corner of pre decided wards to capture the stray dogs. By 11 am the team would complete the catching and return to the ABC centers.

In the mean time another team of two women will be waiting in the hospital. By 8.30 am this two member team will arrive the hospital to clean the cages, operation theatre and other required facilities. By 10 am Doctor will arrive at the ABC centre; he will ensure availability all medicines, tools and equipments. For a normal day of procedures, the team would manage to complete ABC procedure for 15 to 25 dogs a day by 5pm on that same day.

Next two days the team will be engaged in post operative care of stray dogs in the cage. After the doctor examine and ensure the fitness of dogs, the team will go for releasing of that batch and to catch another batch. Those stray

found unfit would be allowed in the cage for two or more days to recover as per the instruction of doctor.

Current Status in the District

Right now Kudumbashree district mission has 5 functioning units, three in the Gramapanchayats and two in municipalities. Three more units would be deployed in the coming week. The units has caught a total of 141stray dogs on the fourth week of November and attained an overall total of 1478 dogs in 13 different Gramapanchayats in the District.



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