

Birth control drive for stray dogs begins

Corporation modernises cattle shed at Rs. 15 lakh for the purpose

Staff Reporter

COIMBATORE: In the wake of complaints pouring in about the stray dog menace across the city, the Corporation authorities and office-bearers of the People For Animals (PFA) on Friday revived the Animal Birth Control (ABC) surgery drive at the Corporation cattle shed at Seeranaickenpalayam.

The programme was launched in January 2006 and the Corporation authorities with the financial assistance from the PFA carried out birth control surgery for 214 dogs in three months.

The expense of surgeries, Rs. 445 a dog of which Rs. 170 for medicines, will be met by the Corporation, while the PFA will spend Rs. 275 a dog, towards catching, transportation, feeding and relocation. Rs. 60 have been allocated as surgeon fee for operating a dog, especially in the wake of additional doctors being roped in now. Owing to fund constraints, lack of sponsors and various administrative

reasons the drive remained suspended for quite sometime.

But as the problem has become severe, the drive has been revived at the Seeranaickenpalayam cattle shed after signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the PFA.

The Corporation has modernised the shed at Rs. 15 lakh. The operation theatre was air-conditioned and the dog kennel was improved. A watchman shed, rest room for additional doctors, kitchen for food of dogs in post-surgical care, post-surgical care shed, an open dog run area with fencing for letting the dogs with chaining were added.

Now it has been planned to operate 15 dogs a week. Human Animal Society (HAS) is likely to join the Corporation in the ongoing drive.

A sum of Rs. 80,100 at the rate of Rs. 445 a dog has been handed over by the Corporation as advance for performing the surgeries in the coming days, officials said.



TACKLING A MENACE: The Corporation authorities and People For Animals office-bearers at the Seeranaickenpalayam cattle shed. - PHOTO: M. PERIASAMY