



Message From Chairman



Project Mission Rabies A Historic Achievement for a Rabies Free India

With over 200 million street dogs and expanding urban habitations, if there is one major initiative that has truly brought awareness about rabies to the country, it is the spectacular success of Project Mission Rabies. Project Mission Rabies shows the enormous potential for excellence in execution and mobilization of resources that is possible with commitment, hard work and proper planning. At the Animal Welfare Board of India, we have offered all possible support to Luke Gamble, Veterinarian and Founder, Worldwide Veterinary Services to help him achieve this goal. Dr. Chinny Krishna, Vice-President, AWBI and President, Project Mission Rabies has been the backbone of this Project by mobilizing the active participation of a network of Animal Welfare Organizations across the country. It is the support given by the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations as well as PFA through a network of volunteers working at the grass-roots that has made it possible for this incredible initiative to take off the ground and deliver outstanding results in record time.

To vaccinate over 60 000 dogs in just 30 days in 10 rabies hotspots, with limited resources and a handful of volunteers stationed all over the country is an incredible feat. Though Project Mission Rabies had just close to 500 volunteers from 43 organizations and 16 countries, Luke Gamble richly deserves the honour of being felicitated with the Jeanne Marchig Award 2013 for his exceptional efforts. Luke is a truly remarkable veterinarian, with an iron-will and passionately driven to run that extra mile for the beloved street dogs of India. His contribution to protect both human welfare and the welfare of the street dogs of India by embarking on this mammoth anti-rabies vaccination drive is an extraordinary achievement.

Roaring along at an incredible speed of 2000 dogs a day or 166 dogs per hour in a gruelling twelve hour day, the Mission Rabies Truck swept through rabies hotspots in Coimbatore, Erode, Madurai, Chennai, Nagpur, Trivandrum, Goa, Tirupati, Bhubaneshwar, Bikaner, Calcutta, Ranchi, and Guwahati. With this detour all over India and achieving a record 70% vaccinations in the ten selected rabies hotspots, Project Mission Rabies has taken a major step forward in its plans to make India a rabies free nation. This initiative has been modeled along the lines of what was followed by Argentine medical doctor, Oscar Larghi who has successfully eradicated rabies from some of Latin America's largest and worst affected cities.

As the Mission Rabies chugs along through towns and cities all over India vaccinating dogs and teaching vets and paravets how to carry out ABC programmes adhering to high standards of quality and care, I can see that the day will not be far, when India will become a rabies free nation. Pledging to vaccinate two million dogs in the next three years, Project Mission Rabies has been generously funded with a large number of sponsors that include Merck Sharp and Dohme suppliers of the anti-rabies vaccines. The Dogs Trust and Jeanne Marchig Trust have played a key role in propelling the idea into reality. Nigel Otter, Director, IPAN and Ilona Otter, Clinical Director, Worldwide Veterinary Services India have been the anchor pulling everything together, to ensure that the Programme succeeded in the scale and magnitude of operations that it was envisaged to.

What can animal welfare activists learn from the success of Project Mission Rabies? That if you have a big dream, keep the faith and chase it with commitment, integrity and hard work, sooner or later, you will experience resounding success. If Project Mission Rabies succeeds in having a network of well functioning anti-rabies vaccination and ABC Centres in every major rabies hotspot in the country in the next three years, and with a significant drop in dog bites and deaths in humans due to rabies, it will be the biggest milestone for eradication of rabies in the world. My best wishes to the continuing success of the Mission Rabies Team.

Warmly,

Maj. Gen. (Retd) Dr. R.M.Kharb, AVSM

Launch of A New Era In Rabies Eradication



From right to left: Shri Manohar Parrikar, Chief Minister, Goa, Maj Gen (Retd) Dr. R.M. Kharb, (AVSM), Chairman, AWBI, Mr John Hicks, Founder, International Animal Rescue, Goa,



Dr. Luke Gamble, Founder, Worldwide Veterinary Services



Mr Nigel Otter, Director, India Operations, Mission Rabies, Chairman, WVS India & Managing Trustee, IPAN



From left to right: Shri Manohar Parrikar, Chief Minister, Goa, Dr. Chinny Krishna, Vice- Chairman, AWBI & President, Project Mission Rabies

Project Mission Rabies is an ambitious initiative that has been conceptualized by Dr Luke Gamble, Founder, Worldwide Veterinary Services Ltd to make India a rabies free country. This year, the first phase of the Project which was launched in September was completed on World Rabies Day, September 28th, 2013, with 60 310 dogs vaccinated against rabies within just 30 days. With a team of 500 volunteers and leading Animal Welfare Organizations supporting the initiative, the first phase of Project Mission Rabies has

achieved outstanding success. Through this Project it is expected that over two million street dogs will be vaccinated against rabies over the next three years. Traveling from city to city, vaccinating dogs, educating communities about vaccinating street dogs against rabies and providing training to vets and para-vets on Animal Birth Control Surgery, the Mission Rabies Truck is fast being recognized as symbol for rabies prevention and street dog population control. The above photographs were taken during the launch of Project Mission Rabies in Goa.

A monthly newsletter of the **ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA.**

Published by AWBI

(Min of Environment & Forests, Govt of India).

Editorial Team

Secretary	Mrs S. Uma Rani
Assistant Secretary	Shri S. Vinod Kumar
Editor of Publications	Dr. R. B. Chaudhary
Consultant Editor	Dr. Lakshmi Iyer
Assistant Editor	Shri Rajesh Kaushik

Printed by C.P.R. Environment Education Centre. www.cpreec.org

On The Trail ...

Vaccinating Dogs in India's Rabies Hotspots



August 31st, Goa



September 28th, Guwahati



September 8th Goa



September 6th, Erode



September 25th, Kolkata



September 12th Madurai



September 23rd, Bhubhaneswar



September 16th, Chennai



Chennai	5291
Erode	5877
Madurai	8533
Goa	5678
Nagpur	4779
Kottayam	2168
Ranchi	5347
Kolkata	5121
Bhubaneswar	5922
Guwahati	5436
Thirupathi	1846
Bikaner	2400
Coimbatore	962
Trivandrum	950

The table on the left gives the number of dogs vaccinated in each city leading to a total of 60,310 dogs vaccinated in 30 days.

Mission Rabies Partners includes, Dogs Trust, WVS, Davies Veterinary Specialists, Fitzpatrick Referrals, BSAVA, Commonwealth Veterinary Association, WSAVA, Technik Technology, Vipex, WTG, Pet Air, Mayhew International, BCF Technology, Centaur Services, AGM Telematics, AST, Daray Medical, Medimark Scientific, MSD Animal Health, Starleaf, University of Bristol, W&H, ABC India, A1 Animals Come First, Humane Animal Society, Animal Rescue Kerala, International Animal Rescue, Just be Friendly, IPAN, TOLFA, Indian Veterinary Association, AWBI, APCRI, VSPCA, Vets for Animals, iSAW and CARE.



September 18th, Bikaner

A Few of The Stars Leading Mission Rabies...



Kate graduated as a vet from the University of Bristol in 2004 with a keen interest in animal welfare and world travel. She soon discovered Worldwide Veterinary Service and began volunteering on overseas animal welfare projects across Europe, Africa, South America and Asia. Kate joined the WVS team for a year in 2009, before taking on the role of International Director of Mission Rabies in 2012.



Chinny Krishna was a co-founder, in 1964, of the Blue Cross of India, one of India's most active animal welfare organisations and the home of the Animal Birth Control -Anti Rabies (ABC) programme. The Blue Cross of India completes fifty years of service to animals on March 31, 2014. An Engineer by training and an industrialist by profession, he is currently the Vice Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Government of India and serves on several key Committees of the Government of India. He is also a member of the Board of several Companies and charities including the CPRamaswami Aiyar Foundation, the CPR Environmental Education Centre (a centre of excellence of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India) and serves on the Board of the World Society for the Protection of Animals.



Paula graduated from the Royal Veterinary College in 1992. She then spent 11 years in general practice before joining Intervet / Schering-Plough Animal Health as a veterinary adviser in 2003. She joined Dogs Trust as Deputy Veterinary Director in June 2010 and became Veterinary Director in August 2011.



Ilona is Mission Rabies' South India Veterinary Director. She studied in the University of Helsinki, Finland, and started her career in mixed veterinary practice in 2003. She came to India in 2004 and has since been involved with India Project for Animals and Nature (IPAN) in Tamil Nadu as a veterinary consultant. In 2009, Ilona and her husband, Nigel Otter, began work with Worldwide Veterinary Service to establish the International Training Centre which has so far trained over 300 veterinarians from around India in spay/neuter surgery.



Nigel is Mission Rabies India Operations Director and Chairman of WVS India, as well as the managing trustee of India Project for Animals and Nature (IPAN). He has received the Jaigopal Garodia Animal Activist Award in 2003, Civil Society Citizen Karmaveer Puraskar in 2008 and Kulapathi Munshi Award in 2013 for his dedication to animal welfare and nature conservation. Nigel is appointed as an Hon. Animal Welfare Officer by Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) and has been a member of the Governing Body of the Federation of Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO).



James is Managing Director of Worldwide Veterinary Service and has spent much of his life working for animal welfare and conservation organisations overseas. He returned to the UK in 2010, after spending 8 years in Zambia where he founded an elephant release programme and helped establish it to become the country's only elephant orphanage and rehabilitation centre.



Chris is employed by Worldwide Veterinary Service as Logistical Support Officer and he is involved in covering the day to day liaison between the different groups involved with Mission Rabies, as well as assisting in the shipping of the Mission Rabies vehicle and the general logistics involved in the project.



Sujatha Deane is the Education Director of Mission Rabies and is also Coordinator for ABC India. She has over 12 years experience in the field. Until 2010, she volunteered with Samrakshan, and managed two ABC Centres in North-West Delhi & East Delhi for the organization.

Antony has been an Honorary Animal Welfare Officer for AWBI and was awarded the PFA Animal Activist of the Year. He has a bachelors and masters degree in Sociology and has taken part in numerous animal rescues. He currently volunteers with the Chennai Adoption Drive, re-homing abandoned and stray animals. He lives in Chennai and is working for Mission Rabies as Logistics Support Officer.



Dagmar studied veterinary medicine in Munich. After her postgraduate doctorate in 2004 she spent 6 years in UK working as a vet in small animal practices. Since 2009, Dagmar has volunteered on veterinary projects in Europe and Africa and was part of the teaching staff during the first training of Indian vets at WVS International Training Centre in Ooty.

Anna is a Registered Veterinary Nurse who has served the profession for twenty years. She has experience in practice management and recently completed training to be able to offer thermal imaging services but remains committed to providing the highest standards of veterinary care as a night nurse in both first opinion and referral practice. Outside of work, she loves travelling and in recent years has combined has been able to combine both work and travel by volunteering on veterinary welfare projects.



Dr. Jeff Young set up Planned Pethood Plus, Inc in 1990 to offer low-cost mobile ABC services and training for vets the world over. Till date, he has sterilized over 165,000 animals. Dr. Young is the Mission Rabies Trainer for North India.



Andy qualified from the Royal Veterinary College in 2010. He has been involved in charity work in U K, Malawi, Thailand & Hong Kong. Andy joined Mission Rabies after volunteering in the September vaccination campaign in Madurai & Kolkata. His previous field experience with the data collection tool, EpiCollect, came in useful while volunteering and he has been working on a bespoke data collection smartphone app for the project.



Dr. Shashikant S Jadhav did his post-graduation in 2006 from Nagpur Veterinary College. In 2008, Dr. Jadhav founded Vets for Animals (VFA), which has neutered and vaccinated over 30,410 dogs and provided 12,783 anti-rabies vaccines.

Praveen Ohal is the North India Regional Manager for Project Mission Rabies. Earlier, Praveen has walked in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia & Singapore for 18 months creating awareness on environmental conservation issues.



Rosalind has worked with a number of international animal welfare, conservation and human development NGOs. With a BSc in Anthropology, & MSc in Conservation, Rosalind has volunteered on a range of development & conservation projects. Rosalind joined the Mission Rabies team in 2013 bringing her skills in fundraising, project and volunteer management to support the campaign.

Mike completed his veterinary studies in the US in 2009. Always interested in human/animal interactions throughout the world, he headed to India in the summer of 2013 to volunteer with WVS - first to assist in teaching at WVS-ITC, and to volunteer with Mission Rabies. Mike is now directing the newly-formed US branch of Mission Rabies.



Dr Murugan graduated in Zoology in 1975 and in Veterinary Science from Madras Veterinary College in 1982. Out of passion for Rural Development, he worked on various Projects for NDDDB, India for 20 years until 2002. He has also worked in South America, Sri Lanka, Malaysia & UK. Murugan was looking for a career change to work with pet animals, and was attracted by Mission Rabies, which led him to join the team as Senior Veterinary Co-ordinator, based in southern India.



Anastasia is a Veterinary Epidemiologist passionate about disease investigation.. She has offered to help with analyzing the epidemiological data from Mission Rabies. She works full time as a Veterinary Officer teaching Veterinary Nurses.



Ursula qualified as a vet in Berlin in 2002. Ursula joined Mayhew Animal Home in 2009, as Chief Veterinary Surgeon.

परियोजना मिशन रेबीज के फोटो और संक्षिप्त रिपोर्ट

शहर	रेबीज के खिलाफ टीका लगाया कुत्तों की संख्या
चेन्नई	5291
इरोड	5877
मदुरै	8533
गोवा	5678
नागपुर	4779
कोट्टायम	2168
रांची	5347
कोलकाता	5121
भुवनेश्वर	5922
गुवाहाटी	5436
तिरुपति	1846
बीकानेर	2400
कोयंबटूर	962
त्रिवेंद्रम	950
संपूर्ण	60,310



The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of the SPCAs/AWOs and Animal Welfare Workers. The Board encourages Animal Welfare activities, advises the Central and State Governments on issues relating to Animal Welfare, particularly the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and also helps to formulate Animal Welfare Policies / Legislations.

AWBI NEWSLETTER

(Monthly)

Official Publication of the Animal Welfare Board of India

To



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA
(Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt of India)
13/1, Third Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar,
Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai – 600 041
Tel: 044-24571024/ 044-24571025 Fax: 044- 24571016
Email: awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in

AWBI Newsletter

Vol No. 9 Issue No. 8 Re.1/- RNI No. TNBIL2003/10675 September 2013



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA,
(Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt of India)
13/1, Third Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai – 600 041
Tel: 044-24571024/ 044-24571025 Fax: 044- 24571016 Email: awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in