

ABCD BMU -KUDUMBASHREE

Animal Birth Control Designated Block Management Units of Kudumbashree

In concurrence with the Government Circular no. 45151/RC3/2014/LSGD dated 27/8/2016 and as per decisions in the conference of District Collectors under the chairmanship of Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala on 22/9/2016, the following **Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures** are issued for formation of **Animal Birth Control Designated Block Management Units of Kudumbashree**.

District Collectors and Jilla Panchayaths will lead the campaign of ABC Programme for Stray Dog Control Measures and the District Mission Coordinators, Kudumbashree will be responsible for the formation and management of ABCD-BMU of Kudumbashree.

Panchayath wise Database on vulnerable geographic areas and wards/ADS for urgent intervention should be provided by the respective Local body to the DMC.

Responsibility of ABCD BMU of Kudumbashree Mission shall include management and support to the ABC Programme of the Local bodies under respective Block area. It shall include capturing or hired capturing of stray dogs from identified area, transportation of dogs captured to the identified institution for A B C Programme, required Pre and Post Operative Care for the animals and safe release of the animal back as per law. The activity of the BMU will be based on the SOP attached with this circular.

The amount admissible and payable to the BMU shall be met from the funds pooled and at the disposal of Jilla Panchayath from the Plan allocation for ABC project of Local bodies of the District. Vehicles for transporting dogs shall be hired .Hiring charge and remuneration for dog catchers shall be fixed by the District Level Committee chaired by District Collectors. Hiring charges to the BMU is payable by LSGI or Jilla Panchayath.

District level monitoring committee of ABCD-BMU of Kudumbashree:

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| 1. Jilla Panchayath President | - Chair person |
| 2. District Collector | - Co Chair person |
| 3. Standing committee chairman Health & Development of JP | - Member |
| 4. Representative of Grama Panchayath Association | - Member |
| 5. District Planning Officer | - Member |
| 6. Jilla Panchayath Secretary | - Member |

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| 7. Deputy Director, District Animal Husbandry Office. | -Member |
| 8. Deputy Director Panchayaths | - Member |
| 9. District Medical Officer | - Member |
| 10. Representative of NGO/AWBI rep | -Member |
| 11. District Mission Coordinator, Kudumbashree | -Convener. |

Standard Operating Procedures for Animal Birth Control Designated Block Management Units of Kudumbashree.

The project as a Rural Micro Enterprise Unit of Kudumbashree Mission will be piloted at Ernakulum District in 3 Blocks. It will be elaborated to 50 more blocks based on the demand as per requirements of the Local Bodies and if needed will cover all Blocks of the State in phases.

Functions and structure of block management unit (BMU)

- Each of the unit would be a five member team registered with the one of the CDS of the block
- The members of the group must be either a member of Kudumbashree network, or family member.
- The selected persons for the BMU should undergo a 3 day training provided by Kudumbashree, on completion of which a certificate would be provided
- Each member should have an identity card issued by the District mission and should wear uniform prescribed by Kudumbashree.
- All the trained BMU members are required to get preventive vaccination for Rabies and Tetanus.
- Each of the unit should maintain registers as mandated for the micro enterprises unit under the Kudumbashree. A separate register regarding the details for the dogs captured and sterilized has to be maintained.
- Monthly report on the activity undertaken by the BMU has to be submitted to the district mission
- Convergence with Local Government Institutions/Bodies, Animal Husbandry department and Veterinary Hospital has to be ensured. Availability of Registered Veterinary

Practitioner and suitable provisions for the sterilization at nearby or identified veterinary hospital has to be ensured by each of the unit before starting the functioning of the BMU.

- All surgical procedures has to be done by a qualified veterinary doctor, however Pre and Post operative care of the animal can be undertaken by the BMU, under the supervision /advise of the veterinary doctor.
- The unit can hire the services of other persons for the capture of dogs; however it must be ensured that the capture of the dogs is undertaken as per the SOP.
- Release of the animal after recovery to the same place or as per law.

Identification of the target area

- A field survey of the locality for assessing the population of stray dogs where the ABC program is to be targeted is essential, before initiating the programme. Assistance may be sought from the NHG, ADS and CDS.

HUMANE CAPTURE & HANDLING OF STRAY DOGS

- The catching method used by BMU should be humane and gentle. The dogs must be treated with kindness to minimize stress to the animals. The catching method used for each dog should be the least invasive and most humane possible that can be safely applied for that particular animal and situation.
- Dog catchers employed by the BMU need to be trained for at least three day in order to become skilful at catching the dogs humanely.
- Dog catching staff, whether directly employed by the BMU or by another agency to catch dogs, must be fully and properly vaccinated against rabies. Adequate training in the treatment of dog bite wounds, along with emergency first aid kit should be provided to the dog catching team.

Warning!

Cruel, rough handling of dogs can never be condoned. Tongs and wire loops must never be used in any circumstances to catch dogs. The practice of swinging dogs by loops or chains around the necks, or by the legs is strictly prohibited.

The following Six methods are acceptable for catching street dogs:

- By Live Trap
- By Hand
- Sack and Loop Method
- Use of Dog-catching hoops with nets (Butterfly Nets)
- Use of the Balinese pole-net

In order to reduce the risk associated and make the procedure more humane, live trap cage method is more advised.

TRANSPORTATION OF STRAY DOGS

Once caught, the dogs must be safely transported to the hospital premises/ABC centre. The type of vehicles to be used will depend on the organization involved and the areas from which the dogs are to be caught. The vehicle should be easily able to navigate small lanes and byways in cities and towns. The dogs should also be transported in a manner that they do not fight with one another.

Basic infrastructure for ABC Programmes

Animal Husbandry Department shall make available qualified Veterinary Doctors and shall equip all veterinary hospitals for ABC procedure and the department institution of the Local Body must ensure that sufficient basic requirements are available at identified ABC centre.

Cages/ Feeding

For temporary housing of dogs and for individual housing during transportation, a cage with suitable dimensions is advised. However, such cages are not suitable for long term housing of dogs. The Stray Dog Rehabilitation Zoo mandated as per circular dated 27/08/2016 may be utilized by BMU for long term care.

Proper feeding and care of the captured dogs has to be ensured by the BMU, pre-operative fasting has to be provided for the animal. Post operative care and feeding has to be ensured before freeing the animal. As part of post operative protocol, the animals have to be housed in kennels before releasing. In non availability of Kennels at the hospital, the BMU should ensure the availability of proper housing places for the animals in suitable cages.

Release of the sterilized and vaccinated dogs

Only dogs certified by a veterinary surgeon as fit for release should be released after ABCP by ABCD BMU. It is imperative that dogs are released back to the exact location from where they were picked.

BMU as a community level unit can sustain their activity by involving suitably in broad measures of control of Stray Dog Menace such as Pet License Protocols and Advance Waste Management Protocols implemented by Local Bodies/Agencies concerned.

Homo
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