

TO SET UP ANIMAL HOSPITAL, CREMATORIUM & ROLL OUT MOBILE HEALTH CLINICS

MCG ties up with Vedanta to run ABC centres

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

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Gurgaon: MCG signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Anil Agarwal Foundation, the CSR arm of Vedanta Group, to launch an animal welfare programme with an initial investment of Rs 10 crore.

Under the MoU, the foundation will carry out sterilisation and vaccination of stray dogs, operate existing Animal Birth Control (ABC) centres in Begampur Khato-la and Basai, and expand the network of such centres to other parts across the city.

The project also includes setting up an animal hospital, an animal crematorium and mobile health clinics for on-the-spot treatment. Work on the initiative is expected to begin within the next three months, officials said.

YOU READ IT HERE ON OCT 9

Programme to control stray dog population at standstill

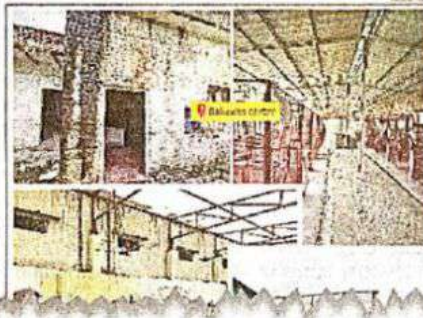
ABC Centres At Baliawas & Basai Shut, No Census Held In City

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Gurgaon: The animal birth control (ABC) programme, whose headquarters have led to the stray population exploding in the city, has come to a standstill in the city. The two ABC centres in Baliawas and Basai, meant to be the city's main facilities for sterilisation and vaccination of stray dogs, lie abandoned. At Baliawas, which had 20 kennels, an operation theatre and a post-operative ward, the gates were found locked for more than three months.

MCG OFFICIAL

We had floated a tender to hire four agencies. However, we did not get a good response.



This MoU has been made for 15 years and can be extended for an additional 15 years.

Commissioner Pradeep Dahiya said this arrange-

ment is not only necessary for animal welfare, but it is also an important step from the perspective of urban cleanliness and citizen safety.

Non-executive director of Vedanta Limited, Priya Agarwal, said the initiative aligns with the company's CSR vision of supporting both community and animal welfare. "We are committed to building long-term, humane solutions for animal care and public health in Gurgaon," she said.

Officials said the project aims to make the city a rabies-free and stray dog-sensitive model city over the next few years through systematic management and improved veterinary facilities.

TOI reported on Oct 9 that the two ABC centres in Baliawas and Basai, meant to be the city's main facilities for sterilisation and vaccination of stray dogs, lie abandoned. At Baliawas, which had 20 kennels, an operation theatre and a post-operative ward, the gates

were found locked for more than three months.

Between the two centres, the total monthly capacity to sterilise is 500. Gurgaon has not done a dog census and works with a ballpark estimate of 50,000 community dogs. The Basai centre, where 18 kennels were found to be shut for more than a year. The space once meant for surgeries was found to be a bare shell with a leaking roof and broken fittings.

The civic body had floated a tender to hire four agencies, one for each zone, for stray dogs in the city, including their sterilisation, vaccination, etc. However, MCG didn't get a good response. So, they recalled the tender in October to hire only two agencies for all four zones to cover vaccination and sterilisation of stray dogs across the city.