How to behave with street dogs and avoid dog bites?

*Please remember that street dogs may bite only when they are startled or frightened, in self-defence or in pain.*

Be sensitive and kind to street dogs and protect yourself

- Never look a dog straight into the eye, they may perceive it as a threat.
- Never disturb a dog that is eating, sleeping or caring for its puppies. Do not hit dogs with sticks and stones or anything. Respect their space.
- Do not run or move quickly near dogs... slow down your bicycles and cars as well while passing by dogs.
- If a growling dog gets close to you, pretend to be like a tree. Stand still with your hands at your side. Allow the dog to sniff you and it will usually go away calmly. Don’t scream or make noises or shuffle around; the dog may think you are trying to hit him and may get provoked to attack.
- If a dog attacks, assume a position of a rock. Curl into a ball and protect your face and body.
- Do not turn and run! If you turn and run, the dog might chase you!
- If bitten by a dog: Wash the bitten portion immediately and thoroughly with running cold water and soap for 10-15 minutes... go to a hospital and get your Anti-Rabies injections. If a vaccinated dog has bitten you, then get a tetanus shot. Don’t cover the bitten portion, leave it open, just apply Betadine ointment on it till it heals.

This leaflet is being distributed as an event of Free Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARU) Camp for dogs being organized by Chuna Welfare Pet Club (Pune) on the occasion of World Rabies Day

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Indian Street Dogs are a breed apart...
Intelligent, sturdy, loyal and friendly
Adopt them as community pets!

They are loyal and trusted 24x7 guardians of the territories that they inhabit...they bark and scare strangers away and alert homeowners to the presence of unscrupulous elements.

They act as scavengers in big cities like ours and feed on old leftover food, thus, preventing it from rotting and polluting garbage sites.

They keep the population of insects, rodents and mosquitoes under control, thereby preventing the outbreak of deadly diseases like Plague, Malaria and Dengue etc.

WHAT IS THE ‘ABC’ PROGRAMME?

STERILIZATION OF STREET DOGS = INJECTING THEM WITH ANTI-RABIES VACCINE (ARV)

STEP 1: STERILIZATION OPERATION

*During sterilization, the sex organs of dogs are removed surgically.
*It is the only ‘humane’ method to keep Dog Population under control.

Why is Sterilization of Street Dogs performed?

Because...

1. Bitches can reproduce ‘twice’ in a year and give birth to about 12 pups...because they can’t use condoms or Oral Contraceptive Pills (OCPs)!

Advantages of Sterilization...

*Sterile Dogs are more friendly and less aggressive, healthy and safe and can’t produce babies anymore!

STEP 2: ADMINISTERING ANTI-RABIES VACCINE TO STREET DOGS

Rabies is a fatal viral disease that spreads from the bite of an infected animal.

REGULAR VACCINATION OF DOGS AGAINST RABIES IS THE ONLY WAY TO PREVENT IT.

*After sterilization, all sterilized street dogs are administered Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) before being released back into their respective areas.

**Please note** that since Street dogs are territorial animals and consider the streets where they live as their home. Thus, under the Animal Birth Control Rules (2001), drafted under the Indian Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and as per the instructions of the Honorable Supreme Court of India it is important for the MCD/NDMC/Municipal agencies/NGOs to release the street dogs picked up by them (under the Animal Birth Control (ABC) program) back into their respective areas where they were picked up from post sterilization and administration of Anti-Rabies Vaccination.

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