

# Animal activists blame corporation for death of stray dogs after sterilization

Sambath.Kumar  
@timesgroup.com

R Baskar

**Trichy:** Animal activists in the city have accused the Trichy Corporation of remaining indifferent to the poor post-sterilization care being meted out to stray dogs by an NGO, leading to death of several canines in the past two months.

"I was shocked to see a female dog struggling to move as a portion of its intestine was seen bulging out from its stomach. The dog was found near Barathi Nagar in Thiruvananthapuram. Stitches were not properly sewn in its body during sterilization," said P Sadesh, a member of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI). "We took the animal to a nearby veterinarian but all our efforts to save the dog went in vain, as it had already developed several health complications," he said.

President of Faith Trust G Ramakrishnan said several dogs died in the past couple of

## BOTCHED UP INITIATIVE

➤ Though little more than 750 dogs were registered as strays as per the City Corporation's database, there are **over 5,000 of them in the city**

➤ The **number is increasing, with effective step** from the corporation

➤ So far, **620 dogs have been sterilised from June 27, 2015**, which is a record number of operation in a span of 2 months

➤ With limited infrastructure **it is impossible for an NGO**

➤ According to a veterinarian, dogs become **mature within 8 months after birth**. It takes about 60 days to deliver puppies. **On an average, a dog gives birth to 8 puppies**

➤ Most of the **puppies survive if the climate is not very harsh** during birth

➤ Instead of deputing an NGO, **the corporation can engage NGOs working in specific areas for sterilizing stray dogs**, animal lovers say



months owing to health complications developed after sterilization.

"While female dogs must get post-surgery care at least for a week, male dogs should be taken care for five days. But they are left out in the open to wander after the surgery even when its wound remain fresh,"

said Ramakrishnan.

The city corporation has given the contract for sterilization of stray dogs to a Thanjavur-based NGO called Yashoda Animal Welfare Trust. Coordinator of the NGO Rajalakshmi, however, claimed that the sterilization of dogs is being carried out as per rules and the

animals are taken care for seven days post-surgery.

She claimed that on an average 25 surgeries were carried out daily. But activists say it is practically impossible to accommodate these many dogs in the 14 kennels in the Corporation Veterinary Hospital near Palakkarai. The hospital can accommodate only 4-5 dogs. This leads to early release of the animals from the kennel, making them prone to many diseases and die. But the NGO begs to differ from the activists allegations.

Activists say surgeries are not carried out on daily basis. Sterilization is done only when stray dogs are brought to the Corporation Veterinary Hospital by workers assigned to pick the animals from streets, they say. However, city corporation commissioner M Vijayalakshmi said she had asked the city health officer to look into the allegation over the death of a stray dog post-sterilization.