



## **Press Release– for immediate publication**

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### **Anger at poisoning of dogs**

The poisoning of dogs in the Baneshwor area has deeply saddened the Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre (KAT).

KAT staff were startled to discover the seven dead dogs in the roadside in the Pipalbot area of New Baneshor on Sunday morning. Local people said a person wearing a raincoat had spread lumps of meat in the area on Saturday night. A post-mortem report has confirmed the dogs died from poisoning.

KAT, which works for the humane management of street dogs for community benefit in the Kathmandu Valley, expressed its strong concern about the inhuman, cruel and unnecessary act.

KAT has been conducting a sterilization and anti-rabies vaccination program on the street canine population for the last four years to humanely lower the number. It has so far treated 6,000 animals, preventing 55,000 unwanted puppy births and protecting the local human population from rabies.

KAT Founder Jan Salter said: “After KAT began working, the Kathmandu Metropolitan authorities stopped their poisoning campaigns. We welcomed this move wholeheartedly. Poisoning had proven to be cruel, costly and a complete failure. No matter how many dogs were killed, they are very quickly replaced by more. In fact, the poisoning of dogs can encourage a rabies problem, as diseased dogs from surrounding areas move into and occupy vacant niches.

“We have therefore been shocked and angered by this latest development. If this person had a problem with the local dogs, they should have just rung us. We would have come to the area, caught the animals, neutered them and vaccinated them. Now more unknown dogs will move in, possibly carrying rabies and possibly ready to breed, creating a whole new problem.”

KAT encourages local people in Kathmandu who see such activities to tell them about KAT and ask them to contact the organization.

“Their support will help KAT to achieve its aim to create within Kathmandu valley a stable, non-breeding and rabies-free street dog population,” added Jan Salter

**Ends**

**Notes to the Editors:**

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Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre (KAT Centre) is not-profit charitable organization based on Chapaligaon, Budhanilkantha working for the humane management of street dogs in Kathmandu. It has so far spayed and given rabies vaccination to 5,800 street dogs in four years that makes 47% of all females inside the ring road. It was established in 2004. It has also rescued and treated 1,500 street dogs.