



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE USE

Thursday, 25 March 2004

Lucky 13!!

SPCA and DVS RESCUE DOGS from BREEDING KENNELS

In an organised and united effort DVS Cheras and SPCA Selangor worked together today to rescue dogs from a breeding kennels in Cheras.

"There have been many reports of cruelty about breeding kennels - members of the public who have been looking to buy puppies and other kind hearted citizens who have witnessed such conditions and wanted SPCA to do something" said Sabrina Yeap, SPCA Inspector. "We work very closely with DVS Enforcement Division, their officers are professional and act with willingness to save the animals" commented Sabrina.

The dogs totaled 70 and over 17 different breeds were present. The dogs' condition varied from bad to appalling. The worst being a Weimaraner who was painfully thin, suffering from a severe skin disease all over his body and whose feet had swollen to over 5 times their normal size. Other cases included untreated cancer, eye infections, open wounds and secondary infections. Dogs were kept in cages stacked on top of one another and kept in larger cages on the floor. Little provision was given for them to exercise and few animals had a solid base in the cage on which to rest.

Thirteen dogs were seized today and removed from the premises, Sabrina noted, "these dogs are not fit to stay in these conditions and had to be removed to receive complete veterinary treatment". These dogs will now begin to receive the care they deserve. "The dogs will take a long time to heal and will need regular veterinary treatment, however we should see improvement within 2 weeks from now" said Dr Zul, DVS.

These dogs are all the breeding stock, they are mated and their puppies sold to the public for a handsome fee. The puppy's commercial value is between RM1000 to RM2000 each. Each litter a female dog can produce 4 to 6 puppies.

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Currently, Breeding Kennels and establishments are mushrooming and no regulations are laid out to specify the conditions the animals should be kept in and as such anyone with a couple of bucks can buy 2 pedigrees and mate indiscriminately without any concern for the animals well-being. Acting on reports from the public, SPCA has investigated a few breeding establishments where the conditions are pitifully deplorable and this is just the tip of

the iceberg.

SPCA is currently working with the government to establish a set of rules and regulations to control breeding establishments by setting conditions such as

1. adequate kennel size
2. ensuring that they receive regular veterinary care and annual vaccinations where records are kept and easily accessible
3. bitches are not mated at every heat and that within their lifetime to only produce 4-5 litters
4. vets, enforcement officers and SPCA are allowed to visit and check the premises at will

SPCA encourages the **licensing** of breeding kennels in order to enforce adequate animal welfare standards and humane treatment of these animals.

Of the breeding kennels that SPCA has investigated, there was a clear violation of Animal Ordinance Act 1953 section 44 with regard to animal neglect and cruelty. SPCA regularly receives pedigree animals that are prone to breed specific diseases, such as Basset Hounds often suffer from eye infections, Shar Pei dogs often have ear infections and skin diseases, other pedigrees can suffer from behavioural defects. Pedigrees are very fashionable in Malaysia but few people - even owners of the dogs do not know why they were bred with special features or characteristics - what they are for!

Sabrina Yeap
SPCA Inspector