

NEWS RELEASE



Don't buy a dog on impulse this Lunar New Year

Singapore, 12 February 2018 – The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is concerned that there may be impulse purchases of dogs this coming Lunar New Year. Following the last Year of the Dog (2006), there was an increase in the number of dogs taken in by the SPCA, and in suspected abandonment cases (Appendix A).

Pets should not be acquired just because it is auspicious to do so. Without having carefully considered the responsibilities involved and without adequate preparation, the chance of the novelty wearing off and subsequently relinquishing the animal, is much higher. While dogs can add much meaning to our lives, one must be ready for the lifetime commitment. The SPCA urges potential pet owners therefore, to take the time to learn more, and only proceed when the entire family is ready for the new addition.

Dr Jaipal Singh Gill, Executive Director of the SPCA said, “With the Year of the Dog approaching, it’s a good time to reflect on how we can do better for man’s best friend. Choosing to adopt, joining SPCA’s Sponsor-A-Dog programme, volunteering with an animal welfare organisation, or helping to spread the animal welfare message are some of the ways you can get involved. Together, we can make the Year of the Dog a great one for our furry friends.”

The public can also make a contribution to our animal protection work by gifting an “ang bao” for our animals. Visit http://www.sPCA.org.sg/news_details.asp?id=2051 for more details.

~ End ~

For more information, please contact:

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About *Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)*

The SPCA is a registered animal welfare charity and its two main objectives are to promote kindness to animals and to prevent cruelty to animals. Relying mainly on donations from the public and fundraising, the Society provides various animal welfare services including a 24-hour emergency service, cruelty investigation, an adoption programme, an education programme for schools and organisations, a sterilisation programme for community animals, running an animal shelter and supporting quarantine for unwanted, abused and abandoned animals. For more information, visit <http://www.sPCA.org.sg>

Appendix A

Total number of dogs SPCA took in (includes surrendered pets, abandoned dogs, lost dogs, sick or injured street dogs):

2006 – 2727

2007 – 3002

2008 – 2970

Number of lost dogs that went unclaimed, these are suspected abandoned cases:

2006 – 518

2007 – 738

2008 – 715