

31st July 2006

Forum Editor
Straits Times

Dear Sir,

I refer to the letter 'Faith in man restored by rescue of injured dog.' The SPCA would like to offer its sincere thanks to the writer for highlighting this case and the people who came forward to help in the rescue. We are very much encouraged by the actions of all the individuals concerned, which are not only commendable, but give hope that this will become a better world for animals.

The SPCA received the call from Ms. Vaitinadan and responded by sending out a rescue driver and van. When our driver called to finalise the exact location whilst on the journey, he was informed that the dog had been rescued and was being brought to a veterinarian by a passer by.

In 2005 the SPCA attended to 2,394 emergency calls involving sick and injured animals. These statistics testify to the fact that there are many people who are kind to animals in our society. We thank them, for, without their co-operation in reporting these cases, many animals would endure prolonged suffering.

In relation to the lorry driver who drove off after hitting the animal, the SPCA would like to highlight that under the Road Traffic Act, a driver of a vehicle that is involved in a road accident whereby damage or injury is caused to any person, vehicle, structure or animal, is under obligation to report the accident at a police station or to a police officer within 24 hours of the occurrence. If any person fails to comply, he would be guilty of an offence (ref. SPCA letter to S.T. Forum on-line 27th June 2006).

The SPCA hopes that all drivers would render assistance to an animal that their vehicle has hit, to prevent further animal suffering.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre Moss (Ms.)
Executive Officer