India opens first blood bank for dogs
亞洲第一「狗血庫」印度開張

Veterinarians in the southern city of Chennai are looking for **donors** after opening India's first blood bank for dogs.

Dr P. Thangaraju from Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University said 28 owners had already registered their dogs for donation and a black labrador was the first through the doors when the facility opened last week.

"Our university has become the first university in Asia, after the US and UK, to start a blood bank," the vice chancellor said, adding that eight breeds of dog blood had been identified.

"We will need more donors to get blood in all eight varieties," he added.

Owning pets is a growing trend in India, but reserved **exclusively** for the middle classes and the wealthy, who can afford animal food and veterinary bills.

Stray dogs are a common sight throughout India, feared by many because of the **prevalence** of rabies and viewed as a pest for their nocturnal barking.

Thangaraju said the university, which attends to nearly 200 dogs a day, needed the million-rupee (US$22,000, NT$705,000) facility because lives were frequently lost for lack of blood.

Transfusions are needed during surgery to remove tumours, to treat dogs suffering from leukaemia, or after accidents — a frequent problem on India's **treacherous** roads.

(AFP)

印度第一家「狗血庫」開設後，南部大城欽奈的獸醫師正在尋找供血對象。

泰米爾納德邦獸醫暨動物科學大學的唐卡拉朱醫生表示，目前已有二十八位狗主人登記，要讓自己的狗捐血。上週捐血中心開幕時，第一條捐血的狗是隻黑色的拉布拉多犬。

擔任獸醫暨動物科學大學副校長的唐卡拉朱說：「我們是繼美國與英國之後，亞洲第一個成立狗血庫的學校。」他還說，已鑑定出狗狗的八種血型。

他又說：「為了取得八種血型，我們需要更多捐血的狗。」

印度養寵物的人愈來愈多，但只限於有能力負擔食物與獸醫開銷的中產階級與有錢人。

在印度經常可見流浪狗。許多人因為狂犬病而害怕流浪狗，牠們在夜間的嚎叫聲也令人們討厭。

唐卡拉朱表示，該大學每天必須照顧將近兩百隻狗，所以需要成立這個耗資百萬盧比（兩萬兩千美元，新台幣七十萬五千元）的機構，因為許多狗就是缺血而失去性命。

幫狗開刀移除腫瘤、進行白血病或車禍（印度危機重重的馬路上常見的問題）治療時，輸血變得格外重要。 （法新社／翻譯：吳岱璟）

A labrador puppy plays with a rose at the Guide Dogs Breeding and Training Centre in Brisbane, on April 9, 2010. PHOTO: EPA

四月九日，澳洲布里斯班導盲犬繁殖與訓練中心的一隻拉布拉多幼犬逗弄一朵玫瑰。
照片：歐新社

TODAY'S WORDS
今日單字

1. donor /ˈdonɚ/ n.
捐贈者 (juan1 zeng4 zhe3)
例: Doctors are still looking for a suitable donor for the patient.
（醫生們仍在為病患尋找合適的捐贈者。）

2. exclusively /ɪkˈsklusɪvlɪ/ adv.
專有地 (zhuan1 you3 de5)
例: The solution to this crisis rests exclusively with the minister for health.
（這危機的解決方案全取決於衛生部長。）

3. prevalence /ˈprɛvələns/ n.
盛行 (sheng4 xing2)
例: I am concerned about the prevalence of street crime.
（我很擔心日益盛行的街頭暴力。）

4. treacherous /ˈtrɛtʃərəs/ adj.
危機重重的 (wei2 ji1 chong2 chong2 de5)
例: We crossed the treacherous river shortly before dawn.
（日出前，我們越過了危機重重的河流。）