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Teen animal activist sets up dispensary near Chennai

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CHENNAI: Chennai-based animal activist Sai Vignesh, who sold his ancestral house and has been doing part time work of developing websites to raise funds for an animal sanctuary, saw the first signs of fruition recently, with the completion of a medical dispensary.

DGP of Railways Sylendra Babu IPS cycled for more than 60km from Chennai to Tiruvallur to express his solidarity towards the initiative and inaugurate the dispensary.

Chairman emeritus of Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations Chinny Krishna, Major General AVK Mohan and SP, Coastal Security Force, Ramanathapuram, Selvamagarathinam IPS, also attended the inauguration.

As of now, the dispensary has basic facilities, medicines and vaccines to treat small and large animals free of cost. Sai is now raising funds to get machines for blood testing, and other equipment at the dispensary. A separate room for surgery is also to be built.

“We plan to run free medical camps in the nearby villages on a weekly basis once the sanctuary is up and running,” says Sai.

The sanctuary, which is being built in Tiruvallur, will have separate sections for dogs, cats, birds and other large animals. The estimated cost for the sanctuary, built on a two-acre land with basic amenities and the medical dispensary, along with complete fencing, is Rs 10 lakh.

“So far, over Rs 1.9 lakh has been raised in our fundraising campaign. We’re in need of around Rs 8.1 lakh more to finish,” says Sai.

To contribute, go to https://milaap.org/fundraisers/animalsanctuary