

REPORT OF 8TH SERIES OF KASTURI TALK

Topic: “IS DOG A GREAT COMPANY OR A THREAT?”

Rabies is one of the oldest and neglected viral disease that is regarded as fatal. It is spread to people through bites or scratches or usually via saliva of animals particularly of dogs. Fear of Rabies leads to the indiscriminate slaughter of millions of dogs every year. Education on dog behaviour and bite prevention for both children and adults can decrease the incidence of human Rabies and the financial burden of treating dog bites by taking immediate care, measures and increase its reach.

In pursuit of this, the Nature’s Club of MES College of Arts & Commerce and MES Society in collaboration with Foundation for Environment Research & Conservation as part of its 8th seires of KASTURI talk organised a talk on the topic “Is dog a great company or a threat?” on 3rd April 2019. The talk was attended by staff and students of MES College as well as citizens in and around Vasco Taluka. The guest speaker for this session was Dr. Murugan Appupillai who is currently the Director of Mission Rabies. He is actively beeninvolved in spreading the message towards public awareness on vaccination of dogs to help to make Goa and the nation Rabies-free.

Dr. Murugan Appupillai who created awareness on prevention and spread of Rabies and he also stressed upon the need for community to understand the importance of getting the street dogs vaccinated during Rabies free vaccination drive and help to make the nation Rabies free. The audience gained improved knowledge on sound understanding of policies, practices and strategies relating to Rabies and adopting other approaches for dog population management. Dr. Murugan said that killing of dogs is not a solution but we as human beings should learn how to get along with the dogs.He further said that Rabies is 100% preventable by timely vaccination and sterilization and undertaking vital safety measures for dog bites.

Dr. Murugan also spoke on different approaches adopted by W.H.O. to eliminate this fatal disease by 2030. The session ended with clear indication on how continuous vaccination of dogs and education among the students and communities can eliminate Rabies.

The session was followed by active Question and Answer session. Ms. Madhura Bandekar compered the programme and Ms. Shradha Rangnekar proposed vote of thanks.

The programme was monitored by Principal of MES College, Dr. R.B.Patil and Mrs. Lalita Joshi , Director of Planning and Development, MES College.



Dr. Murugan Appupillai addressing the gathering