Kamala Education Society's
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• UGC - 2(f) and 12(B) Status
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Date:07/09/2026

Health Committee

Guest Lecture on Rabies Awareness & Animal Welfare

The Health Committee organised a Guest Lecture on "Rabies Awareness & Animal Welfare" on Thursday, 3rd September 2026, at 12:00 noon in T5 Classroom. The session was organised to create comprehensive awareness among students and staff regarding rabies prevention, safe interaction with dogs, dog behaviour, and responsible community animal welfare.

No.of/ Students benefited: 75

Objectives of the Session

- To understand rabies as a zoonotic disease, including its mode of transmission and major symptoms.
- To learn about safe interaction with dogs and understand basic canine behaviour to prevent dog bites.
- To gain knowledge about post-bite emergency first aid and the necessary medical treatment.
- To promote community responsibility, animal welfare, and peaceful human-animal coexistence.
- To create awareness regarding sterilisation, proper waste management, and responsible care of community animals.

The programme commenced with a welcome and introduction by Ms Krutvika Wakode and Dr. Charushila Patil, who delivered the opening address, provided context for the session, and introduced the guest speaker, Mr Aabid Bhat. Dr. Rajshree Nanaware formally welcomed and felicitated the guest speaker, Mr. Aabid Bhat, on behalf of the institution.

Mr. Aabid Bhat conducted an informative and engaging session covering various aspects of rabies prevention, dog behaviour, emergency post-bite management, and animal welfare.

Key Points Covered During the Lecture

1. Understanding Rabies

Rabies is a fatal zoonotic disease caused by the rabies virus and is primarily transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal, usually through bites, scratches, or contact with broken skin or mucous membranes.

The session highlighted common warning signs that may be observed in infected dogs, including lethargy, excessive salivation, abnormal behaviour, and unprovoked aggression or biting.

2. Safety and Understanding Dog Behaviour

- Not to disturb dogs while they are sleeping, eating, or caring for puppies.
- Not to run away suddenly when approached or chased by a dog.
- Not to throw stones or make sudden aggressive gestures.
- To remain calm and avoid actions that may provoke or frighten the animal.
- To understand basic canine body language and respond appropriately.

3. Post-Bite Emergency Response

The speaker emphasised the importance of immediate and appropriate action following an animal bite or suspected rabies exposure.

Wash: Thoroughly wash and flush the wound with soap and running water for at least 15 minutes.

Disinfect: Apply an appropriate antiseptic, such as povidone-iodine, where suitable.

Medical Care: Seek medical attention immediately for professional assessment and, when indicated, post-exposure prophylaxis, including anti-rabies vaccination and other recommended treatment.

4. Community Responsibility and Animal Welfare

The session also emphasised the importance of responsible community participation in animal *welfare. The* basic welfare needs of animals discussed included:

- Suitable food and clean water
- Safe shelter
- Appropriate healthcare
- A suitable social environment
- Freedom to express normal behaviour

The speaker stressed the importance of animal birth control/sterilization, responsible waste management, and compassionate treatment of community animals to promote peaceful human-animal coexistence.

The session concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks delivered by Mrs. Varsha Thakare. She expressed sincere gratitude to the guest speaker, management, organizers, staff members, and all the attendees for their valuable contribution and participation in making the awareness session successful.

Outcomes of the Session

- Enhanced Awareness: Participants gained a better understanding of rabies, its transmission, prevention, and the importance of timely medical care following exposure
- Behavioural Preparedness: Students and staff learned how to understand basic dog body language and respond appropriately during encounters with dogs, thereby reducing the risk of bites.
- Actionable First-Aid Knowledge: Participants gained clear knowledge about the importance of immediate wound washing with soap and running water for 15 minutes and seeking medical attention promptly after an animal bite.
- Promotion of Animal Welfare: The session reinforced the importance of community responsibility, sterilization, proper waste management, and compassionate care of community animals.
- Responsible Coexistence: The programme encouraged participants to promote safe, respectful, and peaceful coexistence between humans and animals.

Dr.Charushila Patil
Health Committee Convener

Dr.Rajashree N.
Health Committee Mentor

Dr.Kshitija Gandhi
Principal