

Veterinary Department conducts awareness programmes on stray dog management at two schools in South Andaman

Continuing its intensive island-wide mass awareness campaign on “Stray Dog Bite Prevention and Management”, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services organised two dedicated sessions on December 26, 2025, reaching out to students and teachers at Government Senior Secondary School Prothrapur and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Senior Secondary School, Pathergudda.

At Government Senior Secondary School Prothrapur, Dr V Subramanian, Senior Veterinary Officer, Veterinary Hospital Garacharma, addressed 45 students and 6 teachers. The session covered safe behaviour around stray and pet dogs, immediate first-aid measures in case of bites, the importance of thorough wound washing and prompt reporting, and the scientific role of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme in humanely controlling the stray dog population.

Similarly, at Saraswati Shishu Mandir Senior Secondary School, Pathergudda, the same resource person conducted an engaging programme for 101 students and 5 teachers. Participants were sensitised on recognising signs of aggression in dogs, avoiding situations that provoke bites, responsible community practices such as not feeding strays on roadsides, and supporting sterilisation and vaccination drives.

Both sessions featured lively interactive discussions where students raised practical questions and doubts, all of which were patiently clarified. Teachers actively participated and appreciated the Department’s efforts to equip children with life-saving knowledge, especially in areas where stray dog presence is noticeable.

The programmes reinforced that the Andaman & Nicobar Islands proudly remain rabies-free and that collective vigilance, education and humane management are key to preventing dog-bite incidents and ensuring complete safety for school children and residents.

School authorities from both institutions thanked Dr Subramanian and the Department for the timely initiative and requested regular continuation of such outreach activities.

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services has assured that the campaign will cover many more schools and communities across the islands in the coming weeks, combining awareness with ongoing ABC operations to create a safer and more compassionate environment for all.

