

HSNC UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI

KISHINCHAND CHELLARAM COLLEGE



Under the aegis of DBT STAR STATUS DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES

In collaboration with

The Welfare of Stray Dogs

PAWSE FOR A SECOND TO HEAR 'TAIL TALES'

Date: 30st March, 2021

31st March, 2021

On 30th and 31st of March, 2021, Department of Life Sciences, Kishinchand Chellaram College, Mumbai organized a two-day National level webinar, in collaboration with The Welfare of Stray Dogs on animal cruelty and first aid titled 'Pawse For A Second to Hear Tail Tales'. The event, hosted under the aegis of DBT Star Status, had over 150+ participants which comprised of the first, second- and third-year undergraduate students, current and ex-faculty members, ex-students and many more participants from across the country. The resource persons for Day 1 were, Dr. Freya Javeri, Mr. Meet Ashar and Mr. Abodh Aras. The resource persons for Day 2 were, Dr. Komal Raul and Mr. Pawan Sharma.

The webinar started with the opening remarks of Dr. Sagarika Damle, HOD, Dept of Life Sciences & Coordinator, DBT Star Status@ KCC, who invited the participants from over 10 states across the country. She gave a brief insight on the conceptualization of this webinar with an thought of reaching masses the significance of Animal Welfare.

Dr. Hemlata K Bagla, Principal, K.C.College & Sr. Dean, Faculty of Science, HSNC University, gave the welcome address and congratulated the Department for holding such webinar.

Session 1 on Day 1 was conducted by Dr. Freya Javeri who is a Small Animal Veterinarian. She spoke about Animal First Aid and Animal Behavior. She started off by explaining about the various signs that one needs to look for in their animal which is pain, fever, bleeding, etc. and also explained the various ways to treat each of the symptoms. Through her session, she emphasized on how giving the right first aid in case of emergencies is important before that animals are brought to a vet. Dr. Freya also gave us an insight on the topic of animal behavior and how each species behaves differently and gave us tips on handling and correcting animal behavior.

Session 2 of Day 1 was conducted by Mr. Meet Ashar who is an Associate Manager, Emergency Response Team at PETA India and an advisor for Maharashtra State Animal Welfare Board. The topic of his session was Ethics Related to Animal Care. Mr. Meet gave detailed information about the basic laws that protected animals from being abused and listed the right people to reach out for assistance. He also highlighted how important it is to be alert during a situation wherein an animal is being abused and the protocol to be followed then. He aided his explanation by showcasing two case studies – one from Noida and one from Ujjain and explained how taking the right steps and being alert unfolded these two horrifying cases.

Session 3 of Day 1 was conducted by Mr. Abodh Aras who is the Chief Executive Officer of WSD. His topic of discussion was Welfare of Stray Dogs in which he discussed about all the work they have been doing as an organization for the immunization, sterilization, first aid and food for the strays. He showcased the pictures of some of the famous street dogs of Mumbai and spoke about their story. He also shared some light on the positives of adopting and fostering an indie. The day was concluded by a heart-warming video made by WSD on the life of indie dogs.

Day 1 of the webinar was indeed a fruitful and insightful one paired with a healthy Q&A session. The session left the participants with a greater understanding and awareness of the life of animals, be it inside homes or on the streets and how one should do their best to look out for our friendly neighbors.

Day 2 of the webinar started with a moving video by Petmate which displayed the indie tails of Mumbai and their beloved feeders. The video was stirring and touched the hearts of the viewers with the story of the feeders.

Dr.(Ms.)Aashu Vajpai gave an overview of Day 1 of the webinar, the first session of Day 2 was commenced by Dr. Komal Raul who spoke about the Health and Management of Zoo animals. As a Veterinary Officer at the Mumbai Zoo since the past 10 years, she spoke about her interactions with zoo animals and how and where they are given treatment based on their diagnosis. She also spoke about the Humboldt Penguin exhibit and the Royal Bengal Tiger Exhibit. She informed the participants about how a Zoo is managed and the people behind keeping the animals and their enclosures clean and healthy. Under Zoo management, she showed the videos of two of the Zoo's beloved elephants and how enrichment practices are done for them. It was followed by an engaging Q&A session.

The last session of Day 2 was conducted by Mr. Pawan Sharma who is an Advocate at Bombay High Court and the Founder & President of RAWW (Resqink Association for Wildlife Welfare). For his session, he spoke about Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation and Urban Wildlife Conservation. He spoke about the drastic effects of Human – Wildlife conflict with respect to urban wildlife and how it can be avoided by knowing how to take appropriate action by judging the condition and behavior of the animals. Video footages of rescues conducted by RAWW were also shown. He stressed on the topics of rehabilitation and coexistence. He ended his talk by

showing us a video prepared by RAWW. He concluded his session by saying that conflicts are endless and one must evolve, adjust and adapt to ensure coexistence and patiently addressing the questions.

Later the Valedictory function was addressed by Dr. Tejashree Shanbhag, Vice Principal, Science Section & Associate Professor, Dept of Life Sciences, K.C. College. Dr. Shanbhag gave an overview of the Two-Day Webinar in detail, explaining the need to create awareness amongst people regarding being compassionate about the

FEEDBACK:

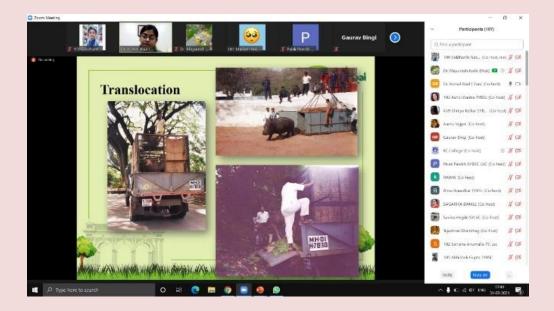
The two-day session of 'Pawse For A Second to Hear Tail Tales' was hugely appreciated, and majority of the audience were left satisfied with a greater sense of awareness and curiosity towards their furry neighbors.

The feedback received from participants was overwhelming. Over 82% of the attendees commended the resource persons' knowledge and 97% of the participants were in awe of the content. Content organisation and resource material were efficient, and 94% attendees appreciated it.

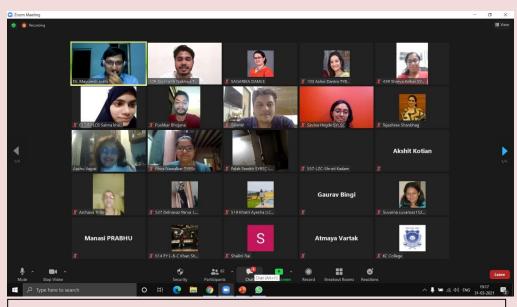
All participants found the time enough with 76% of them finding the allotted time perfect. A huge 99% agreed that the session improved their understanding on the topics covered and ideas they had before the session.

56% participants gained a benefit of solving their prior doubts and 46% gained an insight on new ideas that they could try. 79% of the attendees agreed that the session gave them insight on animal care in the zoo and 86% participants benefitted by having created awareness. 68% participants felt that the session helped them learn about co-existence through the various example and explanations through the webinar. In response to the heartwarming session, 94% people swore to creating awareness, 25% of the participating individuals stated that they would try to adopt a pet, while 56% of the attendees were inspired to have an active participation as a volunteer and were looking for opportunities.

The participants were satisfied as they could seek answers to their questions while also benefitting in the form of video presentations throughout the virtual event. The session also served as an informatory tool for awareness on animal cruelty and laws that protect them from being exploited. An informative session about primary first aid for animals was also beneficiary. Overall, the event was a success owing to the presence of such eminent speakers and an engaging audience.



Dr.Raul,Veterinary Officer,Jijamata Udyan, explaining the care taken during the translocation of animals across the Zoo in India



Mr.Pawan Sharma, Founder and President, RAWW along with the participants for the webinar.