



NEHRU MEMORIAL COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)
(Nationally Reaccredited with "A+" Grade (II cycle) by NAAC)
Puthanampatti, Tiruchirappalli District, Tamil Nadu – 621 007

PG AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
ORGANIZED
SPECIAL LECTURE ON
“SNAKES, SNAKE BITE, FIRST AID AND TREATMENT PROTOCOLS”
Held on 29th August 2022
Report

The PG and Research Department of Zoology, Nehru Memorial College (Autonomous), Puthanampatti – 621 007 has organized a Special Lecture on **“Snakes, snake bite, first aid and treatment protocols”** on 29th August 2022 at Seminar Hall (IT Block) premises. This programme boosts up the understanding skill and perseverance of the students knowledge in reptiles especially on snakes. The Special lecture was started at 11.00am with “Tamilthai Vazhthu” followed by a welcome address given by Dr. N. Ramesh, Assistant Professor and Head-SF, PG and Research Department of Zoology. He also gave introduction about the programme and introduced the chief guest. Dr. S. Kumararaman, Vice Principal, Associate Professor of Physics, presided the programme. Er. Pon. Balasubramanian, President, provided generous logistic support and permission to conduct the programme. Shri. Pon. Ravichandran, Secretary, Nehru Memorial College, Puthanampatti, encouraged the programme. Dr. M. Meenakshisundaram, Co-ordinator provided all kind of internal support. In this programme as many as 150 participants from Under Graduate and Post Graduate of Zoology students, other department students, staff members of Zoology and other departments were eagerly participated. The special lecture was organized by Dr. N. Ramesh, Assistant Professor of PG and Research Department of Zoology, Nehru Memorial College, Puthanampatti, Trichy district.

Then the session was handed over to the Chief Guests Dr. P. Kannan, Assistant Professor, Thiru Vi. Ka. Government Arts College, Thiruvarur, Tamil Nadu at 11.30am. Dr. P. Kannan, delivered the special lecture on “snakes, snake bite, first aid and treatment protocols” to the students by way of power point presentation with many video clips too. In his speech he informed much useful information which is as follows. Now-a-days the population of snakes being decreased due to indiscriminate using up of insecticides and pesticides on many agricultural fields. As a result the numbers of prey items, due to impact of chemicals, have been reduced during the past three decades. The importance of snakes in various ecosystems was

strongly pointed out in this special lecture. Dr. P. Kannan delivered the distribution of snakes in India. It includes poisonous and non poisonous snakes. There are 283 snake species occur in India, out of 283, 62 species are poisonous and 42 are mildly poisonous snakes and remaining is non-poisonous category. Little information of snakes such as snake comes out time, feeding aspects, breeding biology was informed. The effect of snake venom and mode of snake bite, venom injecting process to the prey and man was also informed. The cobra, king cobra, saw scaled viper, banded viper and sea snakes are highly poisonous in India. On the contrary, the non poisonous snakes such as Indian Rat snake, common wolf snake, common sand boa, red sand boa and tree snake living in many habitats. Snakes are coming under schedule I and schedule II of Indian Wildlife Protection Act 1972. Killing of snakes, hunting and poaching, trade of snake and snake products are banned totally by the Indian Government, he added. The role of snakes in many aspects was told viz., on ecology, controlling agricultural pest, aesthetic value and medicinal values etc. The prize of one gram of snake venom is around Rs. 15,000 to 80,000. It differs species to species accordingly. The false believes against snakes such as 1) snakes never do revenge, 2) snakes never drink milk and 3) snakes never emit diamond during half-moon days were informed. Generally in snakes the venom is produced in the back of the snake's head in the salivary gland. Snakes use hypodermic needles (fang) to inject the poison to kill the prey. The prey become paralyze usually. Snakes are found more where the agriculture practices are more due to present of more and more rats. Snake bite, sign, fang, mode of bite and the venom strength were informed. Two fang impressions indicate highly poisonous snake. Dr. P. Kannan highlighted the symptoms of cobra and krait bite as picture. Cobra and krait give neurotoxicity effect, Russles's viper and saw Scaled viper snake bite affect the circulatory system and bleeding occur inside the body tissue which makes swelling of the body after three days. Prior to that the snake apply only nano gram of venom to human body as it does not waste the venom, because human is not its prey. The venom is exclusively used for to kill its prey, he added.

The Government Hospital and Primary Health Centres only possess the anti venom injections. Normally human blood coagulate within eight minutes, if not that is the blood not coagulated more than 30 minutes the symptoms is snake bite and is caused by highly venomous snake, he added. Snake venom is made up of more than 60 types of proteins which are making the neurons destroyed. The mode of anti venom preparation was informed. First the low concentration of snake venom is dosed on Horses, because the horse possesses high immune power. As a result high concentration of antiserum is being formed in horses. This is the special

character of horse. Then the antiserum is being extracted from horse blood that is the drug. Dr. P. Kannan also informed about the preventive measures and conservation of snakes to the students. One might set mosquito net around his/her hut or tent to prevent the entry of snake, while going in the dark one must use torch light, stick beat on floor may create some vibration which may banish the snake from the path way, one should keep the path way as clean. Herbal drug somehow do remedial process against snake bite, especially the tribal take herbal medicine after snake bite, he added. The herbal drug with combination of Neem leaves extract, banana plant shoot extract, Seriyangai leaves extract, Periyangai leaves extract, betel leaves extract and Gauruda var (root) powder which is prepared by tribal are effective one against snake poison, he added. The victim must drink the extract of several doses periodically. Some foreign countries, people use vaccination against snake bite. Hence the venom may not react, he informed. Dr. P. Kannan concluded his speech at around 1.30pm

In conclusion, students and staff raised various questions and the chief guest cleared all doubts raised by the students and staff. Hence the present scientific session was more useful for students and they shared the ideas. Dr. A. Boopathyraja, Assistant Professor of Zoology, delivered vote of thanks. The Special lecture programme was concluded at 1.45pm with National Anthem.


12/9/22
ORGANIZER


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Date: 29.8.2022
Place: Puthanampatti