

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for posting me the APCRI News Letter containing vibrant messages from the President, Secretary General, your goodself, many programmes and especially the report on the RIACON which I read with great interest.

As a Veterinary Surgeon, passing the octogenarian phase, and who worked in S.E.Asia immediately after World War II and **was in the Team which made the regions of Malaya, Sarawak and Brunei "Rabies Free" on the model of Great Britain, and these regions are still maintaining the Rabies free status. I am at a dilemma to understand the resolving of certain impediments in the control and eradication of Rabies in this country.**

Three weeks back severe dog bite cases on certain adults and children were reported in the local press and I wrote to Deccan Herald that unless they eliminate the stray dogs the situation would continue. People who are currently responsible for stray dog control informed me over the phone that they are pursuing the ABC programme and that the stray dogs are becoming ferocious by eating offal and other waste products from the local slaughter houses. I am perplexed at this answer because the slaughter houses and stray dog control are within the purview of one set of government agency only. I am not sure how many of us have visited the slaughter houses but I am sure one visit would make any body into a vegetarian and I am not exaggerating. As for the ABC programme how far this is successful no one knows. There is no follow up program and no one knows the behavior patterns of sterilised dogs.

I am sure that you will agree with me that "Vector Control" is very essential to control and eliminate Rabies and at the present situation I personally don't envisage any marked improvement in the Rabies situation in spite of the magnificent scientific methods carried out by the Medical and Health side of the APCRI.

With best wishes

Dr C V Subramaniam
Hon. Member

ANNOUNCEMENT

The APCRI Newsletter is published every six monthly, in October and in April. APCRI members and the members of the Scientific Community are requested to contribute News Clippings, Photographs and Reports on Scientific activity on Rabies and Related matter for publication in the Newsletter.

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