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Title: Need to make anti-rabies vaccines available at affordable price.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARAGODA): Sir, I would rise to mention about the deadly menace of rabie. Sir, I may be allowed to speak in my mother tongue, Malayalam.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, yes, why not.. You can speak in Malayalam.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN: * Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government into two aspects of this problem. First of all, we don't have a preventive vaccine for rabies and the curative vaccines that are available are extremely expensive, amounting to thousand to twelve thousand rupees. In normal circumstances, people fall prey to rabies. So the anti rabies vaccines should be made available at affordable prices and easy availability of the needed quantity of the medicine should be ensured.

Sir, of late, those who are employed by the local administration are not willing to catch and kill the stray dogs. According to them, a court order prevents them from doing so. Hence I request the Government, the animal welfare organisations and the courts, to show more concern to their fellow-men first who die of rabies rather than to those stray dogs which spread this menace. I once again request them not to complicate the existing problems by their so-called concern for animals. Let the serum to kill stray dogs be allowed to be manufactured by companies and let the local administration employees be entrusted with the job of catching these dogs. Moreover, the Government, the animal welfare groups and the courts may be informed thoroughly about the various aspects of this danger to human beings who are becoming endangered species.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.