

Puppies await adopters



ENDLESS WAIT: A puppy available for adoption at the animal shelter of Humane Animal Society at Seeranaickenpalayam. — PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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COIMBATORE: Mongrels or mixed-breed dogs are a group that face discrimination from pet lovers. This is what the long wait of 44 dogs for adopters at the animal shelter of Humane Animal Society (HAS) suggests.

People go for pure-breeds bought at high costs. Very few people come forward to adopt Indian country dogs, but they are truly a breed apart, says Dr. Mini Vasudevan, Managing Trustee, HAS.

According to her, several studies have shown that mixed-breed dogs have health advantages because of their genetic diversity. They are less prone to genetic diseases like hip dysplasia than the average pure breed dog. They require less medical attention and the mortality rate among them are relatively low, she says.

Thirty pups less than three months old, eight about five months old and six adult dogs are available for adoption at the animal shelter of HAS at Seeranaickenpalayam. Four of them are male dogs.

According to Viju Vijayan, resident veterinarian at the animal clinic of HAS, all the dogs are vaccinated and in healthy condition. All the dogs above five months old are sterilised. Other dogs would be sterilised

by HAS when they are around six months of age. The vaccination and treatment of the adopted dogs would be provided free of cost by the organisation throughout their lifetime, he says.

Indian country dogs are friendly and highly intelligent. They are extremely alert and serve as wonderful watch dogs. They are suited for the sweltering tropical climate and require far less maintenance in terms of food and grooming, Dr. Vasudevan adds.

According to HAS, shopping for dogs would only encourage puppy mills where dogs are bred with a profit motive in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions. It is always better to adopt puppies who are in need of a shelter. Adopting these dogs would also help reduce stray dog population, they say.

According to HAS, volunteers trained in dog behaviour would guide adopters to make the right choice, and provide information on dog care, diet, behaviour, vaccinations and grooming. The new adopters would be given vaccination certificates and provided assistance at every step, they say.

Those who wish to adopt puppies could reach HAS at 93671 44147, 97915 32266 or 91 93661 27215 or email to info@hasindia.org.