



The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of the SPCAs / AWOs and Animal Welfare Workers. The Board encourages Animal Welfare activities, advises the Central and State Governments on issues relating to Animal Welfare, particularly the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and also helps to formulate Animal Welfare Policies / Legislations.

AWBI Newsletter

Vol No. 6 Issue No. 6 Re.1/-

RNI No. TNBIL2003/10675

May 2009

Law To Regulate Jallikattu Soon

From the Secretary's Desk

ESTABLISH MORE AWOS AND SPCAS

In order to strengthen the Animal Welfare issues in respective States, the Board has been continuously emphasizing all the States and Union Territories to establish State Animal Welfare Boards in their respective States and SPCAs in every district for the last two decades. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 6.8.2008, in W.P.(C) No.440 of 2000, Geetha Seshmani Vs Union of India has directed all the State Governments which have not constituted the State Animal Welfare Boards has to constitute within a period of three months and also to see that the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) be also constituted in every district as contemplated under the Rules.

The AWBI has circulated the copy of the order to all the State Governments and Union Territories for effective implementation of the directions of the Apex Court and compliance.

As on date, 24 States and Union Territories have established the State Animal Welfare Boards and 10 States have initiated steps to constitute Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) at the district level. This will address the issues of effective implementation of the P.C.A. Act & its Rules, better co-ordination between the States and AWBI in carrying out the Animal Welfare activities. The efforts are being taken by the Board to step up the correspondence with the rest of the State governments who have not established the State Animal Welfare Boards and SPCAs.

The greatest success of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 will be achieved only if the SPCAs are established under SPCA, 2001 rules & functioning with proper infrastructure and allocation of financial assistance for smooth functioning of the organization. The State Government may allot atleast 2 acres and provide some regular budget to the SPCA for establishing infirmaries animal shelters.

The objectives of the SPCAs must be to prevent cruelty to animals and to provide ameliorative measures by establishing Animal Shelters, Pinjarapoles, Water Troughs and other amenities to old, sick or injured animals. The Society can provide Veterinary/Dispensaries/hospitals/clinics, ambulance etc. They can also organize World Animal Day (4th October) and Animal Welfare Fortnight Celebrations from 14th January to 31st January every year and other animal welfare awareness programmes.

All NGOs / AWOs are requested to extend their co-operation and get themselves involved in SPCA constitution in their respective districts for active involvement in the functioning of the SPCA.

- D. Rajasekar, IFS

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu government informed the Supreme Court that a comprehensive legislation was on the anvil to regulate the controversial bull-taming sport of Jallikattu organized in the State as a part of the celebration during the harvest season. The legislation would provide adequate safeguards and guidelines to avoid any untoward incident, the State Government told a Bench headed by Chief Justice K.G.Balakrishnan. The Tamil Nadu government said the legislation could not be implemented at this stage in view of general elections. The Bench deferred the hearing on the matter for August. The apex court on January 30 had suspended the continuance of jallikattu, saying guidelines to prevent cruelty against animals have been violated. During the hearing, the court was informed that in January this year nearly 21 persons died and 1,614 were injured in the sport. The Animal Welfare Board of India, which had last year filed the petition against the holding of event, said

the guidelines were not followed during the event. The apex court on January 15 last year permitted keeping up of the 400 year old tradition of jallikattu on the condition that authorities will ensure that animals were not subjected to cruelty.

The permission for conducting the controversial bull-taming sport of jallikattu organized in the state was granted after Tamil Nadu government said there were elaborate guidelines to prevent cruelty against animals and planning for security arrangements. This event is organized in around 400 places in the state and



the court had last year passed an interim order on jallikattu. In the past hearing, the apex court had described the sport as 'barbaric' and 'inhumane'.

Before passing the interim order, the court had only allowed the rekla (bullock cart race) under the strict supervision of the authorities. □

AWBI Hints at Action Against Use of Animals for Polls

Chennai: Political parties that use elephants and camels in their election campaigns will land in trouble now. The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) will appeal to the Election Commission of India and Chief Electoral Office of Tamil Nadu to ensure that the political parties do not use animals, including elephants and camels for the campaign.

"Though there is no provision to take action against the political parties, the AWBI will take legal action against the owners of the animals if the mammals were subjected to cruelty", AWBI Secretary Rajasekar said Deccan Chronicle "it has been a trend now among the political parties to use animals for their poll campaigns to attract voters. During previous elections, the Bahujan Samajwadi Party was keen in using elephants for their campaign, as elephant was their party symbol. But the issue was taken up to the Election Commission after which the usage of the pachyderm was restricted across the country".

To prevent such practices in future, an advisory letter will be dispatched by the AWBI to the poll officials at the earliest. The communiqué will also inform the EC on issues regarding taking care of the animals by feeding them properly and refraining from placing them for long.

The Animal Welfare Board of India addressed a letter to the Chief Election Commissioner, Govt. of India, New Delhi vide D.O. Lr. No. 10/2009-PCA dt.5.5.2009 requesting to direct the

authorities concerned to withdraw the use of animals and symbols used in campaigns as the animals are subjected to cruelty, pain and suffering. The Election Commission has replied that the commission has already deleted in 1997, the symbols depicting 'animal or bird' from the list of free symbols and assured that no cruelty would be meted out to the animal in any manner, and no live demonstration of that animal would be made in any of their election campaigns.

Banjara Samaj Members Take Oath to Stop Animal Sacrifice

Jalgaon: For the first time in the country, a Conference was organized for creating awareness about animal welfare, practice of ahimsa and non-violence for members of the Banjara tribal community in Maharashtra. The Conference, titled, 'Banjara Samaj Ahimsa Sammelan' was held in Chalisgaon Taluka of Jalgaon district in Maharashtra on 31st May, 2009. The objective of this event was to create awareness amongst the people of the Banjara tribe to adopt non-violence and ahimsa during the celebration of festivals by the community.

The event was jointly organized by Shri Indal Chauhan of Bharatiya Jeevadaya Rakshan Abhiyan and Viniyog Parivar Trust, Mumbai, who also provided financial support for organizing the function. During the event, mementos were given to outstanding animal welfare activists of the Banjara Samaj for adopting ahimsa and non-violence and for supporting animal welfare activities.

In his inaugural address, the Trustee of Viniyog Parivar Trust stressed on the necessity of abiding by the values of ahimsa and non-violence. He appealed to the members of the tribal community to give up superstitious beliefs of sacrificing animals on every family / religious occasion as it caused enormous pain and suffering to the animals and doing so could, cause a negative karmic impression that could adversely affect the community as a whole. He stressed on the need for starting Self Help Groups among members of the Banjara Samaj so that they could develop their talents to make useful products under the village development programme.

He also stressed on the importance of getting training in gaushala modernization programmes. Param Pujya Ramchaitanya Bapu of Parola, Madhya Pradesh who was present on the occasion also stressed on the importance of following Ahimsa and adopting non-violence. Members of the Banjara Community took an Oath in front of Bapuji promising that they would not sacrifice animals on any religious occasion. In his presidential address, Shri Kesari Chand Mehta, Former Member, AWBI requested members of the Banjara community to strictly follow the principles of Ahimsa and non-violence for their better living. Speaking about the role of Panchagavya medicines in the treatment of chronic ailments, he said that a non-profitable Cancer Hospital was running at Valsad in Gujarat that used Panchagavya Ayurvedic medicines prepared from using cow dung and cow urine. He further expressed the importance of Indian breeds of Cattle and their role in curing various diseases. He stressed on

A monthly newsletter of the ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA
Min. of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India

Published by Shri D. RAJASEKAR, IFS
Secretary

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA
13/1, 3rd Seaward Road, PO Box : 8672,
Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai - 600 041
Phone: 044-24454935, 24454958 Fax: 044-24454330
E-mail: awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in. Website: www.awbi.org

Editorial Team

the need for the community to utilize the full potential and bio-mass of cow dung and cow urine sustainably.

Dr Bharat Kumar, HEO, AWBI who was present on the occasion, on behalf of the Board, requested the Banjara community to stop cruelties to animals. He gave details of the activities carried out by the Board and expressed happiness that the Banjara Samaj had taken an Oath that would refrain from sacrificing animals. Participants at the Conference were also briefed about various activities carried out by the Board as well as financial assistance provided.

Care Earth Launches Animal Rehabilitation Centre

Chennai: Parents can take their children on a picnic to the Pallikarani marshland, thereby providing them with an opportunity to study various species of birds and animals that live there, said Sheela Rani Chunkath, Chairperson of Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation. Speaking at a function to launch an animal rehabilitation and resource centre, she said that the marshland was one of the unique biodiversity spots close to the city. She urged Care Earth, an organization working for the past nine years in the field of conserving bio-diversity and ecology, to run photo journalism programmes to enthuse children and adults to care for the marshland.

Ms. Chunkath, who lauded the organization for its efforts in conserving the marshland, urged it to consider spreading awareness about the benefits of organic farming. Releasing a book

titled *The Dog: Myths and Realities* about Man's Best Friend she recalled that the government spent a lot of money on supplying anti-rabies vaccine to government hospitals.

R.J.Ranjit Daniels, Director of Care Earth, who explained the need for the resource centre, said the Dax Memorial Animal Rehabilitation and Resource Centre is located in Iyyencheri Village, Orapakkam, about 20 km from Chennai. It would provide onsite and outreach veterinary services by operating state-of-the art mobile clinic. The centre would shelter old, injured and sick animals, especially birds and small mammals such as rabbits and guinea pigs that cannot be rehabilitated and set free. Pet owners could also opt to leave their pets in the care of the centre when they are indisposed or must be away from home. Environment Department director R Annamalai, Blue Cross of India Chairman Dr. S. Chinny Krishna, Animal Welfare Board of India Secretary Shri D. Rajasekar and consulting physicians Susikaran Thangasami spoke.

Court told of plan to set up elephant rehabilitation centre

Chennai: A proposal to set up an elephant rehabilitation and rescue centre in the Mettupalayam range for unlicensed, old, diseased and incapacitated temple/private /rescued elephants at a cost of Rs.1.17 crore is under the government's consideration, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (PCCF) has informed the Madras High Court. In his counter to a writ petition

seeking a direction to authorities not to send ailing domesticated elephants to the elephant camp at Mudumalai or any other camp in forest areas of the State, the PCCF stated that at a meeting of the steering committee held in July 2006, the Union Government had committed itself to funding maintenance of the rescue centre. He and the Chief Wildlife Warden had requested the government to send the proposal to the Centre for necessary sanction. After the facility is established, the aged, diseased and other elephants would be sent there. In its petition, In Defence of Environment and Animals, represented by its managing trustee, Elephant G. Rajendran, submitted that taking diseased elephants into the dense forest for treatment was dangerous to wild animals.

The HR and CE Department, in its counter, submitted that the proposed transfer of mentally ailing elephants to the camp was in the interest of the animals. The entrustment of elephants with the Forest Department was only in the interest of wildlife and public interest. In its order disposing of the petition, a Division Bench, comprising Justices K. Mohan Ram and M. Duraiswamy, recorded the undertaking by the Forest Officials, "There is no proposal with the Forest Department to send ailing domestic animals to Mudumalai for treatment now". Hence, no specific direction was needed, it said.

Kerala Capital to Obey Indian Dog Law?

Thiruvananthapuram: Three years of defiance of the Indian national dog policy may be at an end in Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala state. Both

The Hindu and the Indian Express on April 25, 2009 reported that mayor C. Jayan Babu on April 3 reluctantly suspended killing street dogs after receiving notice from the Animal Welfare Board of India that the program violates a December 2008 ruling by the Supreme Court of India. From the ruling until obliged to stop, the Indian Express said, the administration paid 18 dogcatchers two and a half times the previous rate per dog caught.

Seeking to continue the killing, Kerala State Human Rights Commission chair Shri N. Dhinakar and the Ombudsman for Municipalities in March 2009 directed the city to stop "stray dog menace" and expedite "disposal of stray dogs." Indian national policy mandates sterilizing dogs, rather than killing them for population control. Municipalities are directed to conduct Animal Birth Control programs following the Animal Welfare Board protocol, or to hire nonprofit agencies to do the job.

The AWBI allows ABC programs to euthanize dogs who are ill, injured, or dangerous. Animal Rescue Kerala in September 2006 trained 25 dogcatchers to participate in a purported Thiruvananthapuram ABC program, but the program turned out to be a ruse for killing dogs under the ABC exemption. Purebred dogs were spared and sold, alleged Shri R. Abhed Kiran Kandamath of the Bhima Club. Animal Rescue Kerala founder Avis Lyons contested the Thiruvananthapuram policy, but in April 2007 the Kerala High Court authorized the city to continue killing dogs. Kerala state minister for local self-government Paloli Mohammed Kutty then "directed the heads of local self-government institutions to take effective steps to end the stray dog menace before May"

Government of Andhra Pradesh		
Abstract		
Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries (AH.III) Department		
G.O.Ms.No.13	Dated 2 nd March, 2009	
Read the following:		
1.	Directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 20.9.2008	
2.	Guidelines issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai F.No.28-2006/COAWBI, dated 5.9.2008	
3.	From the Director of Animal Husbandry, Letter Roc. No.31042/D/D3/2008, dt.1.1.2009.	
ORDER:		
Rule 3 of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment & Regulation of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules, 2000, envisages every State Government have to establish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in all the Districts in order to pay an important role in the society by checking the animal cruelties and implementation of Animal Protection laws at the grass root level.		
2.	In the letter third read above, the Director of Animal Husbandry has informed that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its orders dated 20.9.2008 has directed the States to constitute the District Level Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) in very district level as contemplated under the Rules. He has also informed that during the meeting of the A.P. State Animal Welfare Board, it was resolved to request all the District Collectors in the State to take steps to constitute District Level Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. In view of the above, the Director of Animal Husbandry has requested the Government to constitute the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in every District.	
3.	The proposal of the Director of Animal Husbandry has been accepted by the Government, keeping in view the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment & Regulation of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules, 2000 issued vide the notification dated 26.3.2001 by the Government of India and the guidelines issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India in their letter second read above and to have a uniform pattern of Society for Prevention to Cruelty to Animals in all the Districts, Government hereby order the constitution of Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in every district in Andhra Pradesh State with the following composition.	
Sl No.	Name	Designation
1.	District Collector	Chairperson/President
2.	Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad	Vice-President-I
3.	Superintendent of Police/ Commissioner of Police	Vice President - II
4.	A Member of Lions Club/Rotary Club or well known humanitarian engaged in Animal welfare activities in the district	Non Official Vice-President
Sl No.	Name	Designation
5.	Joint Director, Animal Husbandry Department	Hon. Secretary
6.	Active Humanitarian Or Hon. Animal welfare Officer	Executive Secretary
7.	Two members elected by the General Body of Members of the society	Member
8.	Tow members of local Animal Welfare Organisations to be nominated by the District collector on behalf of the government	Members
9.	District Forest officer/Dy. Conservator of Forests/Wild Life	Member
10.	Road Transport Officer	Member
11.	Commercial Taxes Officer	Member
12.	Assistant Director of Marketing or Regional Joint Director of Marketing	Member
13.	Representative of Animal Welfare Board of India	Member
14.	District Panchayat Officer	Member
15.	Municipal Commissioner	Member
16.	District Public Relations Officer	Member
17.	District Educational Officer	Member
4.	The duties and powers of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals shall be	
i.	to aid the Government, Andhra Pradesh State Animal Welfare Board, Andhra Pradesh State Cow Protection & Animal Preservation Committee, GOshala Development Committee and Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai in enforcing the provision of the Act.	
ii.	To make such bye-laws and guidelines as it may deem fit necessary for efficient discharge of its duties.	
iii.	To check various forms of cruelties inflicted on animals especially during transportation and implementation of Animal Protection Laws at the grass root level through Members, Hon. Animal Welfare Officers and Inspectors.	
iv.	To supervise and monitor the overall functioning of the Animal Welfare Organisations, Infirmarys, animal shelters, civic body cattle pounds and pinjarapoles.	
v.	To carry out the inspections of the slaughter houses with regards to humane slaughter of animals.	
vi.	To create awareness among general public, school children on the need for developing a sense of compassion towards the well being of animals.	
5.	In addition to the powers conferred by Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment and Regulation of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules, 2000, the Society shall have other powers conferred by the State Government from time to time under these rules. However the regulation of Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals shall be as per Government of India Notification.	
6.	All the District Collectors are requested to take immediate action for constitution of District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals as indicated in para (3) above.	
(By Order and in the Name of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh)		
N.P. Ramakrishna Reddy <i>Special Secretary to Government.</i>		

Cruelty Cases in the month of May, 2009 and Action Taken by AWBI

Date of Report & Nature of Cruelty	Communication sent to Officials
05.05.09 Use of animals during the election campaign by the parties	Chief Electoral Officer, (CEO) Addl Chief Secretary to Government The Chief Election Commissioner (CEO) Secretary to Government of Punjab The Election Commission of India has replied that they have already withdrawn the symbols of animals used by the Political Parties except few who have registered prior to 1997 and ensured that no cruelty to animals will be inflicted.
Illegal transportation of animals	The District Collector, Villipuram,
07.05.09 Complaint from PAWS about animals – dolphins, fish and other animals being kept illegally by aquariums and boating clubs in Mumbai	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Dept. of Forests, Govt. of Maharashtra
08.05.09 Brutal killing of cat with the report telecast as humorous anecdote on Radio Indigo, Bangalore	The Production Manager, The Fuller Life, Bangalore
11.05.09 Stopping of inhumane and Illegal Killing/sacrifices of Camels	Chief Secretary Govt. of Karnataka
15.05.09 Inhumane Killing of Stray Dogs in Kerala	District Collector, Kollam Principal Secretary, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram Ombudsman of Local Self-Government Institutions (LSGIs) Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram The Superintendent of Police, Office of the Superintendent of Police, Govt. of Kerala, P.O Kollam, Kerala The Station Head Officer, Chathannoor Police Station, Dist: Kollam, Kerala
20.05.09 Indiscriminate killing of stray dogs in Kerala	Municipal Commissioner, Kerala Municipal Corporation

Inhumane Killing of Stray Dogs in Aluva, Dist: Ernakulam, Kerala

The District Collector, Ernakulam
Principal Secretary, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
Ombudsman of Local Self-Government Institutions (LSGIs) Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Superintendent of Police, Office of the Superintendent of Police, Govt. of Kerala, P.O Aluva, Dist: Ernakulam
The Municipal Council, Municipal Corporation Office, Aluva, Dist: Ernakulam

21.05.09

Killing and Torture of stray dogs in Mahakavi Bharathi Nagar, Vyasarpadi, Chennai

Commissioner of Police,(North), Chennai

Brutal killing of stray dogs in Indore, M.P

District Collector, Collectorate Office, Madhya Pradesh, The Superintendent of Police, The Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry Department, The Municipal Commissioner, Indore

22.05.09

Implementation of ABC Programme in Anakaputhur and Pammal areas of Kancheepura district

District Collector, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu

Advice given to Thoothukudi Corporation regarding culling of pigs to control swine flu

Commissioner, Corporation Office, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

Killing of pigs due to Swine flu by the Municipal Corporation in Indore

The District Collector, Indore, The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Indore, The Director, Public Health, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, The Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh

28.05.09

Cruelty inflicted to Elephants brought in Mumbai

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Dept. of Forests, Govt. of Maharashtra

Cruelty to Elephants at Samayapuram Temple

District Collector, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu
The Commissioner, Hindi Religious Endowment Board, Chennai
The Commissioner, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Chennai
The Superintendent of Police, Tiruchirapalli
The Executive Officer, Samayapuram Mariamman Temple, P.O Samayapuram, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu

The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of the SPCAs / AWOs and Animal Welfare Workers. The Board encourages Animal Welfare activities, advises the Central and State Governments on issues relating to Animal Welfare, particularly the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and also helps to formulate Animal Welfare Policies / Legislations.

PRINTED BOOK

Registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India under No. RNI No. TNBIL2003/10675

AWBI NEWSLETTER

(Monthly)

Official Organ of the Animal Welfare Board of India

To

If undelivered, please return to :

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India
13/1, Third Seaward Road, Valmiki Nagar,
Thiruvanimiyur, Chennai - 600 041.
Phone : 044-2445 4958, 2445 4935 Fax : 044-2445 4330
E-mail : awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in



AWBI Newsletter

Vol. No. 6 Issue No. 6 Re. 1/- RNI No. TNBIL2003/10675 May 2009



- Law to Regulate Jallikatu Soon
- AWBI Hints at Action Against Use of Animals for Polls
- Banjara Samaj Members Take Oath to Stop Animal Sacrifice
- Kerala Capital to Obey Indian Dog Law



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

(Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India)
13/1, Third Seaward Road, Valmiki Nagar,
Thiruvanimiyur, Chennai - 600 041.
Phone : 044-2445 4958, 2445 4935 Fax : 044-2445 4330
E-mail : awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in