



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
NIAW Campus, 42 Mile Stone, Delhi-Agra Highway
NH-2, Ballabhgarh, Haryana-121004
Email: animalwelfareboard@gmail.com : Website: www.awbi.in

No.9-13/2020-2021/PCA

Dt. 12.02.2021

To

The Divisional Commissioner,
Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Meerut Division,
Civil Lines, Meerut-250003, Email: commmee@up.nic.in

Subject: Complaint regarding relocation and cruelty inflicted to stray dogs, restriction and harassment of compassionate citizens - Reg

Ref: Refer to our letter even number dated 25.08.2015, 28.10.2015 and 14.08.2020 on the above subject.(Copy enclosed)

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the above cited subject, it is brought to the notice of the Board by Ms. Malti Gupta stated that President and some of the residents of Saraswati Public Society, Madhav Puram Delhi Road, Meerut indulged in dislocation of stray dogs from the campus, cruelty inflicted to the stray dogs and harassed the compassionate citizens by threatening and abusing them. In this regard, it is stated that it is fundamental duty given under Article 51A(g) of the Constitution of India and it states that "It shall be duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and to have compassion for living creatures." The removal of dogs from its natural habitat or from the owner is a punishable offense under Section 3, Section 11(1) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and violation of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. A copy of the complaint letter is attached herewith for your ready reference.

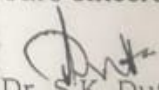
Further it is informed that as per Indian law, stray dogs cannot be displaced and relocated to shelters (or beaten or driven away). They can merely be sterilized in the manner envisaged in the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001, vaccinated, and then returned back to their original locations - Rule 7(6). For the area-wise sterilization program that the law mandates shall be followed, dogs have to be returned back to their original habitat after sterilization and immunization. The rationale behind the same is that dogs, being territorial in nature, tend to fight off other dogs, and keep them from entering their territories; and in this manner, the dog population in each territory / within each locale, stabilizes, and then reduces. In any event, dogs cannot be displaced or relocated, and have to be returned back to the very localities that they are picked up from, after sterilization and immunization.

Citizens who choose to do so are in fact performing a duty cast upon them by the Constitution of India - of showing compassion to all living creatures. Various Courts, including the Delhi High Court, have unambiguously upheld stray dog feeding.

The Board has also issued advisory to the States/UTs regarding welfare of animals and the copy of the same is attached for your information.

In view of the above it is requested to conduct an enquiry into the matter and take action against the offenders as per law and forward a copy of the action taken report to the Board at the earliest.

Yours sincerely,


(Dr. S.K. Dutta)
Secretary

Encl.: as above.

Copy to: The Complainant for information and further necessary action.

1. District Collector, Office of the District Collector, 45/1, Vijay Nagar, Mohanpuri, Nehru Road, Meerut-250003., Email: dmmee@nic.in
2. The Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Gokarnnath Rd BadshahBagh Lucknow-226007 Email: dir-ah@nic.in