The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of the SPCAs/AOWs 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.

From the Secretary’s Desk

The Central Government has notified Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2009 to prohibit unnecessary killing of animals for slaughter and for the regulation of slaughter houses. The earlier notification of 1984 was also deeply flawed. The many fold increase in the population in urban and rural areas increased the demand of meat production in the existing slaughter houses, was uncared and thus resulted in increase of unchecked mass scale slaughterhouses. This situation had increased the threat of cruelty to animals in the slaughter houses and all the Standards Rules under the Central, State or Provincial Act or any rules or regulations made thereunder, (all “Veterinary Acts”) were being violated. The animals in slaughter houses were under most unhygienic environment. Veterinary authorities had also failed in enforcing the rules, regulations and the provisions of the Act. In view of the above, the Central Govt. has notified the above Slaughter house rules, 2009 and taken a step forward to modernize slaughter houses all over the country, by strict enforcing of the provisions of the law of animal welfare programme in place.

Rules under the P.C.A. Act and Environmental Act were implemented by the implementation of the provisions of the law of animal welfare programme in place.

As per the Rule 2, definitions:- (c) “Slaughter house means a slaughter house wherein 10 or more than 10 animals are slaughtered per day and is duly licensed or registered under a Central, State or Provincial Act or any rules or regulations made thereunder.

As per Rule 3, animals should not to be slaughtered except in recognized or licensed houses: (1) No person shall slaughter any animal within a municipal area except in a slaughter house recognized or licensed by the concerned authority, empowered under the law for the time being in force to do so.

As per Rule 4 (D), the veterinary doctor shall examine a minimum of not more than 12 animals in an hour and not more than 90 animals in a day. (2) The veterinary doctor certifying that the animal shall issue a fitness certificate to the party notified under the Central Government for this purpose. The Director is empowered to recognize the Veterinary Council of India to notify the slaughter house all over the country. As per the direction of the Veterinary Council of India has also attended inspection of 8 Municipal Corporation of Tamil Nadu, 32 Municipal and 337 Municipal slaughter houses. It has also carried out inspection of 11 Municipal Corporation of 13 Districts and 27 Districts of Karnataka. As per the recommendation of the Central Government, the boards had drawn an action plan for modernisation of slaughter houses in Tamil Nadu.

As per Rule 7, under Slaughter house Rules, 2001, the Animal Welfare Board of India or any person or Animal Welfare Organisation authorized by it, may inspect any slaughter house without any notice to its owner or the person incharge of it at any time during working hours to ensure that the provisions of these rules are being complied with it, is the right time that the effort should be made by the agencies, together in co-operation and co-ordination of the Central Government and Municipal Authority, Law Enforcement Agencies, Environmental Department, Pollution Control Boards, State Animal Welfare Board and at each state for modernizing the slaughter houses.

Maj.Gen.(Retd.) Dr.R.M.Kharb, AVSM, Chairman, Animal Welfare Board of India

Asia for Animals (AfA) 2010 Conference was held at the Kurama River Front Hotel, Singapore from 15th to 19th Jan., 2010. This biennial conference has been held previously in Manila, Hong Kong, Singapore, Chennai and Bali. AfA Singapore 2010 was attended by 374 delegates from all Asian Countries, besides delegates from US, UK, Germany and several other countries.


An excellent presentation on setting up an ABC Spay / Neuter Training Programme in Ethiopia. Finally, it was concluded that in order to run a successful Animal Welfare Programme support from the under mentioned agencies / organizations is considered important and as such should be harnessed: (a) Media support (b) Political support (c) Funding support (d) Public awareness / support (e) Having an accountable and committed NGO / AWF for programme and (f) Engaging with stake holders / committees.

Resolutions of AfA-2010:

Calls for the WildLife Reserves, to: a) End the circus style shows b) Improve the living conditions for the cactoids and cougars, according to the ACRES Acceptable Standards for the Well-Being of Animals. c) Improve the living conditions for the show animals at the Night Safari according to the ACRES Acceptable Standards for the Well-Being of Animals.

2. Calls for the Government of Singapore to: a) Implement and/or support TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) programmes that are not only more effective but are also more humane than culling, as a method for long term stray population management.

3. Calls for the Ava and Town councils to: (i) Revive the discontinued Stray Cat Rehabiliation Scheme (ii) Acknowledge with deep concern the increase in the numbers of animals sacrificed during religious events and festivals.

4. Calls for all Governments of Asian Countries to: a) Ban the use of animals in blood sacrifices. b) Urges religious leaders to end the suffering of animals involved in animal sacrifices and promote non-animal alternatives.

5. Calls for all Asian Countries to: a) End bear farming and all trade in bear products. b) End dog farming and all trade in dog products. c) End dog meat consumption.

6. Calls for all Asian Governments to: a) Reduce farming of animals.
that release methane into the air and contribute to climate change.

7. Calls for all Asian Governments to: a) End the keeping of wild animals in circuses and travelling menageries. b) Ensure all animals in zoos and other captive animal facilities are provided with conditions that meet their species-specific needs. c) Phase out the keeping of wild animals as pets.

8. Calls for all Governments of Asia to: a) Recognize animals as sentient beings. b) Support the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare.

9. Calls for the Government of South Korea to: a) Ban the consumption and trade in dog and cat meat. b) Work towards the introduction of legislation to guarantee the welfare of farm animals. c) End the hunting of wild animals. d) Ban classroom dissections.

10. Calls for the Government of Nepal to: a) Increase the number of national parks and wildlife reserves. b) Work closely with conservation organizations, which are working to control rhino poaching. c) End the domestic trade in rhino horns and ivory.

11. Call for the Government of Philippines to: a) End the dog meat trade. b) Work closely with animal protection NGOs to improve enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, which prohibits dog and horse fighting. c) End the exploitation of animals in zoos. d) Ensure all animals in zoos and other captive animal facilities are provided with conditions that meet their species-specific needs. e) End the exploitation of animals in the tourism industry. f) End trade in wildlife. g) Integrate humane education into the national education system. h) Make spay/neuter programmes for companion animals, a government policy. i) Make government pounds animal welfare friendly. j) Ensure that humane slaughter policies for food animals are strictly followed. k) Not allow greyhound racing to take place in Philippines. l) Aim for a rabies-free Philippines by 2015 through vaccinations and education. m) Ban the importation of any animal by any school for classroom dissections. n) Ban the importation and exportation of whales and dolphins.

12. Calls for the AVA to: a) Not to grant license for the importation of dolphins into Singapore by Remains of the World of Sentosa. b) Call for the HDB to permit the keeping of cats and medium-sized dogs in HDB flats.

13. Calls for the Government of Taiwan to: a) Criminalize the possession, use, buying and selling of gin traps, snares, glue traps and other inhumane trapping devices.

14. Calls for the Government of Australia to: a) Commit funding for improving the detection of CITES Appendix 1 products being imported into the country.

15. Calls for the Governments of Asian Countries to: a) Strive for a “Crime Control Bureau”, which would connect all the nations of Asia through a network of individuals and organizations who are experienced in this field, for animal related crimes.

16. Calls for the CITES MA of Qatar to: a) End the local trade of wildlife in Doha.

17. Calls for the Government of Nepal to: a) Strive for the reduction of meat trade. b) Work closely with animal protection NGOs to improve enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, which prohibits dog and horse fighting. c) End the exploitation of animals in zoos. d) Ensure all animals in zoos and other captive animal facilities are provided with conditions that meet their species-specific needs. e) End the exploitation of animals in tourism. f) End trade in wildlife. g) Integrate humane education into the national education system. h) Make spay/neuter programmes for companion animals, a government policy. i) Make government pounds animal welfare friendly. j) Ensure that humane slaughter policies for food animals are strictly followed. k) Not allow greyhound racing to take place in Philippines. l) Aim for a rabies-free Philippines by 2015 through vaccinations and education. m) Ban the importation of any animal by any school for classroom dissections. n) Ban the importation and exportation of dolphins.

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ANIMAL WELFARE FORTNIGHT CELEBRATED - A REPORT

NEW DELHI: The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) celebrated Animal Welfare Fortnight in a grand manner from 12th January to 30th January 2010. An awareness campaign was started from New Delhi and ended at Haryana. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Vijay Sharma, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India accompanied by Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM, Chairman, AWBI, Shri M.M. Farooq, IAS, Addl. Secretary and Shri Hem Pande, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests. The representatives have travelled a total distance of 3478 km when the environment was completely covered by fog. The programme, co-ordinated by Dr. Brahmachari Om Swaroop, Member, AWBI, visited the states of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh.

During the fortnight celebration, the representatives of the awareness campaign applied the popular and simple methodology of extension technique like distribution of posters, pamphlets, stickers, etc. and approached schools and colleges to organize meetings and seminars. The team delivered useful talks on animal welfare in regional languages, distributed fodder, provided healthcare facilities to the needy and helpless animals. The team met the representatives of 87 goushalas and accordingly, visited 46 cities/towns and 140 villages for the purpose of awareness.

The campaign was supported by Shri Krishna Gaushaala, Karnataka, Haryana and it has been appreciated by various institutions, authorities and media persons. Thus, Animal Welfare Fortnight was celebrated by various Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs), SPCA, Animal Welfare Trainers, Hony. Animal Welfare Officers, Government Departments, Zoological Parks and Voluntary Organisations throughout the country held from 14th Jan. to 31st Jan. 2010 with great gusto, fervour and enthusiasm. This gives an opportunity to protect environment and animals. It has a catalytic effect on animal welfare groups to spur them in their activities and seminars, drawing competitions, quiz and elocution contests, broadcast/telecast of radio or TV talk, video show, dog show, intensive celebrations conducted by various organisations, departments and individuals.

Cruelty Cases in the month of February, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Report &amp; Nature of Cruelty</th>
<th>Communication sent to Officials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2010</td>
<td>Thru Santosh K.Misra, IAS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collector, Collectorate Office, Kancheepuram</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Commissioner, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Govt. of TN, Chennai – 600 006.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Director, Municipal Administration, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai-600 005.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Superintendent of Police, Office of the Supt. of Police, P.O. &amp; Dist: Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Joint Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The President, Pondur village Panchayat, Cheyyur Taluka, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu, Pondur village Panchayat, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms. Radhika Chandrashekhar, Kottivakkam, Chennai-41</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shri J.P. Dange, I.A.S, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai – 400 001.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Director General of Police, Office of the Director General of Police, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai – 1</td>
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<td>The District Collector, Collectorate Office, Nashik, The Supdt. of Police, Office of the Supt. of Police, P.O. &amp; Dist: Nashik, Maharashtra</td>
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<td>2.2.2010</td>
<td>Shri J.P. Dange, I.A.S, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai – 400 001.</td>
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<td>The District Collector, Collectorate Office, Nashik, The Supdt. of Police, Office of the Supt. of Police, P.O. &amp; Dist: Nashik, Maharashtra</td>
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<td>8.2.2010</td>
<td>The District Collector, Collectorate Office, P.O. Rajkot, Gujarat.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Superintendent of Police, Superintendent of Police, P.O. Rajkot, Gujarat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.2.2010</td>
<td>The Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry Department, P.O. Rajkot, Gujarat.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Forest Range Officer-Incharge, Rajkot, Gujarat.</td>
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