Jayanthi Ji Promises New Animal Welfare Law Will Be Passed Soon

While welcoming the dignitaries on the dais, Mrs Amala Akkineni, Hor/ble Board Member said, “We are gathered here today on December 29th, 2012 for a very proud and significant moment. Today, we complete fifty years of Animal Welfare work. On the memorable occasion of AWBI’s Golden Jubilee Celebrations and the 1st Regional Animal Welfare Seminar, we would like to welcome to the dais His Excellency, the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr Rosaiah, Hor/ble Union Minister for Environment and Forests, Smt Jayanthi Natarajan Ji, Maj, Gen. (Retd) Dr. R.M.Kharb, AVSM, Hor/ble Chairman, AWBI and Dr. Chinny Krishna, Hor/ble Vice-Chairman, AWBI. I welcome all the delegates and thousands of bravehearts who have been working tirelessly for the cause of animal welfare.”

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Narendra said, “I am very grateful to the Animal Welfare Board of India for inviting me to attend this event. We have learnt that in schools too now there is much better awareness about issues pertaining to animal welfare” Talking about the role of predators in an ecosystem, Shri Narendra said, “Even predators have a role in maintaining balance. Somewhere humans have become greedy. Now, an unfortunate scenario has arised...with the impact of climate change happening and the forest cover severely affected, so many species of wild animals and birds are becoming extinct. Thus there are compensatory measures at work through afforestation programmes, a lot more needs to be done”. Talking about IOB’s platinum jubilee celebrations, Shri Narendra said, “At IOB, we have just celebrated the platinum jubilee. Indian Ocean Bank is proud to say that the welfare of a tiger in Mysore Zoo has been sponsored by our company.”

Talking about issues of great concern to the Board, Ms Amala said, “Many of our State Governments have not constituted an Animal Welfare Board. I am happy to inform all of you that Smt Jayanthi Ji. It is working on all these issues. We are indeed fortunate that compassion is seeded into our consciousness. All of us assembled in this gathering today and for millions of Indians all over the country, we are fortunate and privileged to be born in a land with a great tradition of ahimsa and reverence of life. Practising compassion towards animals was our dharma”.

In her address to the gathering, Hor/ble Minister Smt Jayanthi Natarajan Ji said, “Your Excellency, Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr Rosaiah, Gen Kharb, Dr Chinny Krishna, Amala, Norma...I would like to congratulate all the Board Members of AWBI for carrying out a task that is not media savvy and for doing work for animals who are not a vote bank. I would like to sincerely congratulate all of you. I would like to express my happiness that Shri Narendra Ji is here and to Indian Ocean Bank and the Max Foundation for sponsoring this initiative.

“In so many parts of our country, farm animals are so much like a part of the family. Farm animals are a member of our family. It is a part of our culture”

You might ask as a Minister, why the Government cannot do it. When I became Union Minister of MoEF, I thought it was about climate change, saving forests and such issues related to the ecosystems and the environment. There were many issues that did not engage me. Animal welfare was one such issue. However, I came to understand that to become a convert to the cause and have become aware of the immense suffering that animals undergo, I promise to take the animal welfare movement forward. However, today I am at loss for words with the young woman who lost her life. Today, we have observed two minutes of silence. Last week, all the Parliaments were in utter turmoil due to this incident. When will all of us see the Parliament in turmoil about the enormous suffering that animals undergo. Perhaps, we may never see it. Dr Chinny Krishna asked me about the draft of the Animal Welfare Act, when will it be discussed in the Parliament. I promise all of you that I will ensure that an ordinance is passed. I will do my best to strongly pursue the PCA Act and ensure that it is enacted as a revised Animal Welfare Law in Parliament”.

Talking about the interdependence between different species and the need to show compassion and reverence for all life, Jayanthi Ji said, “In so many parts of our country, farm animals are so much like a part of the family. Farm animals are a member of our family. It is a part of our culture...”

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Education of the Heart Is Real Education

His Excellency, Dr. R.K. Rosaih, Governor of Tamil Nadu in his address at the 3rd Regional Seminar on Animal Welfare in Chennai held on 29th December 2012 said, “At the outset I congratulate the Animal Welfare Board of India for its sincere and dedicated efforts to serve the cause of the welfare of animals right from the days of its establishment. It is a pleasure to inaugurate the Regional Seminar of the Animal Welfare Board of India held in commemoration with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations. We are a civilization that has lived for more than 5000 years. India stands as a symbol of peace and is known for being friendly with the neighbouring countries. Unity and harmony are the hallmark of our nation. What is worrying today is that we have moved away from our path of being kind towards the other sentient living beings with whom we share this planet. Cruelty and unkindness would shut away from our minds and hearts. We need to reawaken our conscience and to think, understand, protect and safeguard the welfare of the animals.

The Constitution of India states that, “It shall be the fundamental duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for all creatures”. Animals have made immense contributions from time immemorial for the well-being of human beings. In India, we have a rich tradition of caring and love towards all creatures, love and compassion for animals, from the time of Lord Mahavira and King Ashoka the Great. Humans share this planet with other species of animals and many forms of life coexist within an interdependent ecosystem of nature. Humanity’s survival on this planet depends on maintaining the delicate balance in the co-existence between humans and animals.

We worship nature. Pongal and Sankranti festivals underline our spirit to live in nature with reverence. These festivals also remind us to show our gratitude to the animals which have helped us to reap the fruits. The loving and tender relation towards animals have been deteriorating now. I want to emphasize that life is dearer to all creatures. Our culture and tradition teaches us to worship cows as a symbol of all creation. Our religions have taught us to be compassionate and kind to all. To be a true human being, we must be humane. The father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi said, “The greatness of a nation and its social development is judged by the way its people treat their animals”.

The visionary insight of a great leader lays the foundation for a better world. Smt Rukmini Devi Anandale was one such person whose tireless efforts to treat animal life with respect and compassion, highlighting their huge contribution to the well being of human beings led to the enactment of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. Her vision also led to the creation of the Animal Welfare Board of India for the promotion of animal welfare and the protection of animals from cruelty. I am proud that India is one of the first countries in the world to have passed the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and to constitute the Animal Welfare Board to address the welfare concerns of animals. I am happy to note that AWBI is now providing financial help for animal welfare programmes and guidance to establish animal shelters and veterinary hospital, including about 2000 Gavals to facilitate the enforcement of animal welfare legislation, provision of shelters, veterinary healthcare for sick and injured animals, ambulance services, and immunization and sterilization of street dogs to stabilize their population and to control rabies.

Showing kindness should be ingrained right from childhood. Education is the heart of the real education. It should develop the spirit of compassion and kindness. The quality of kindness and discipline begins at home. The humane spirit that is developed in childhood should be carried on throughout one’s lifetime. The initiatives taken by AWBI to create awareness in the society to adopt the humane-animal conflict in a harmonious and scientific manner through its Humane Education Programme deserves appreciation. Scant space, resources and human resource intollerance have left our animal population in cold and AWBI faces a daunting challenge in protecting our animals, particularly in the rural areas and above at the national level. A lot of cruelty is perpetrated on the hapless animals taken to slaughterhouses during their transportation and also during the slaughter. Establishing Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in each district and enabling them to effectively enforce the prevention of cruelty to animals is urgently needed.

I congratulate AWBI for its dedicated services to the noble cause of animal welfare. I wish AWBI all success in its noble endeavor. I convey my warm felicitations to the Chairman and Staff of AWBI. I conclude with the words of Smt Rukmini Devi Anandale, “True shall win and as we perform those actions that promote the religion of the soul, ahimsa, we shall be victorious, not merely for bringing happiness to humanity but bringing it to all living creatures that merely ask for our love and protection.”

At AWBI, It Has Always Been Animals & People

Dr Chinny Krishna, Hon’ble Vice-Chairman, AWBI while giving the Vote of Thanks said, “His Excellency, Governor, Dr Rosaih, our very special Minister, Smt Jayanthi Ji, this is much more than just a vote of thanks. For all of us at AWBI, it has never been about animals or people, it has always been animals and people. When a child is trained in justice and fair play for animals, that child will grow up to be a morally upright and unceasingly human being, fair in his or her dealings with other people, and demonstrating a great deal of compassion in all aspects of his or her behaviour, lifestyles and values. My special thanks to the Hon’ble Minister for taking time out from her hectic schedule to attend as a Special Guest. In fact, I am touched by her promise and commitment, She said, “Any Day, the Governor gives the date, I will make sure to come”. I thank all our sponsors - Shri Narender, Indian Overseas Bank and Max Foundation for sponsoring this event. I thank the representatives from Humane Society International and World Society for the Protection of Animals. I also thank CPREEC for bringing out Animal Citizen in a record time of 72 hours.”

The Welfare of Working Equines

For race horses, there is another issue of grave concern that needs corrective action – the rampant use of anabolic steroids. With appropriate intervention and action taken by different turf clubs, specially the RWTC, we have been able to prepare a performance enhancement drug. Recently, a very reputed trainer had used anabolic steroids and it was detected...increment...animal action was taken against the trainer. Use of horse steroids for rainbow point that I would like to draw attention is to the urgent need for good farriers. In our country, we do not have a sufficient number of well trained farriers. We also do not have enough horse doctor for horse care. The essential specialty is needed. In most of the developed countries, farriers undergo extensive training. Just like vets, they undergo intensive training for four years, and only then they are considered qualified to practice as farriers. There is also strong licensing for the farriers.

Another important area that needs to be looked into is the “Code of Conduct” with regards to the welfare of sport horses. An unfortunate fact is that most vets who graduate out of the Veterinary colleges in our country do not have any exposure to equine practice. In the Indian Army, there is an extensive three month internship program where all Veterinary students are given to all Veterinarians to help them become adequately familiar with understanding how to provide good equine veterinary care. Unfortunately, in India, we have some of the best Animal Protection Laws but there is almost complete lack of enforcement of the same.”

ABC In India

Dr. Chinny Krishna gave an excellent overview of the ABC programme in India and began his talk with a brief history of the ABC Programme saying that, “Way back in 1996, the Chennai Corporation was one of the earliest Municipal Corporations in India and probably in the world too to implement the ABC Programme”. Talking about the responses to the stray dog issues in India, he explained how it happens if we ignore the stray dogs. Logic would dictate that the number of animals will keep increasing since dogs and cats are prolific breeders. In reality, numbers and population of stray dogs in India and many others countries are not increasing. This is because of the fact that most of the municipalities are taking up the “Sheltering/Spaying” programme and only in the urban areas. Therefore, the number of stray dogs is decreasing. The way to control the stray dog population is by indicating the details of the location, age and sex of the animal to the nearest shelter. If we kill, there is an immediate drop in the numbers. However, the remaining animals will have a much higher survival rate and will cause more problems. Numbers will level off once the holding capacity is reached”.

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Jayanthi Ji Promises New Animal Welfare Law Will Be Passed Soon …

All species are interdependent on one another. To cite an example, talking about the birds and the wilderness, the paddy fields are used to find food for their babies. The droppings from the nests are fed on by other birds and insects. Interdependence, I also believe, means that if one species is going to disappear, other species will also perish with it. Animals is not a society that reflects compassion, the very fibre of what makes one a human being.

Talking about the animal-human conflicts, she said, “I want to say a word about the human-animal conflicts. The incidents of bear attacks are becoming more – why? The bears have lost their natural habitats and so they have now starting coming out of their habitats...the hatred that humans have for animals has now become so extreme. The entire village clapped while they set fire to a bear. This is atrocious...the most gruesome and savage act of barbarity being applauded by an entire village. There should have been control exercised by the State government. Similarly, an old and infirm tiger was shot dead. The Act was justified by the District Administration. This incident was reported in the media. We must have much better understanding demonstrated by both the general public as well as the State Government agencies. In both the cases, if only the State Government and the villages and communities had acted in a more humane manner, how well the two catastrophic scenarios that I have narrated could have been avoided.

Mentioning the lack of involvement from Animal Welfare Organizations in communicating with her Ministry, Smt Jayanthi Ji said, “About 2900 Animal Welfare Organizations are registered with the Animal Welfare Board of India, however, in matters pertaining to animals, the greatest number of phone calls I get today is from animal film circles! Complementing the Board on the yeoman service rendered by AWBI, Hon’ble Minister Jayanthi Ji said, “With the limited funds available, I must say that the Anna University of India has done a remarkable work. The Training Programmes for the ABC-AR Programme as well as the Programmes for Gaushalas and Gaumata are the best examples of the Board’s role in animal welfare outreach”.

Narrating about the recent incident in Palakkad, Kerala, where a company had imported 70 Beagle pups as pets only to conduct research experiments on them, Jayanthi Ji said, “I was horrified to know that we actually allow these animals to be imported and that they are bred for the purpose of research. There are 1600 labs in our country. The experiments are conducted on pups that are between 4 and 5 months old and at the end of the experiment, all the pups are killed. It was shocking for me to know this. I will ensure that laws are passed in letter and in spirit to prevent such wanton suffering on the helpless animals. I would like to congratulate all the activists for pursuing this matter and bringing it to my notice so that we could take swift action”. Referring to the apathy on the part of the Government in setting up Animal Welfare Divisions in Police Stations, Jayanthi Ji said, “Unfortunately, none of the State Governments have shown adequate interest in setting up Animal Welfare Divisions in the Police Stations. There is a provision for every State Government to have a Police Officer in each district for the protection of animals. She ended her talk by saying, “Whether it is protection of our forests, of our fauna or of our street dogs, it is a sign of a civilized society to acknowledge the suffering of the helpless beings. The suffering of the helpless living beings like the farm animals who are used by human beings and the wild animals and birds with whom we share this planet. If we keep on destroying our forests for our "FP interest" gradually, what kind of democracy and what kind of country will we have”.

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...from page 1

Hon’ble Chairman, AWBI Dr S.Chinni Krishna

The image contains text that is not clearly visible or legible. It seems to be a page from a book or document, but the content is not fully discernible. The text appears to be a mixture of words and symbols, possibly due to scanning or printing issues.
AWBI Trained Humane Educators Do Successful Campaign

Training Programmes for Master Trainers

Smt Amala Akkineni, Hon’ble Board Member, AWBI in her talk titled, “Animal Welfare: A Global Issue” focused on the urgent need for awareness to be created among the public on a range of animal welfare issues, from cruelty to farm animals and street dogs, to the impact of factory farming of animals on climate change and the need for adopting climate friendly land and lifestyle choices. She informed the delegates that in the Golden Jubilee Year of the Board, Humane Education had been selected as a subject that would be taken forward actively by the Board. She also announced that the Board was currently accepting applications from individuals who wish to be Board Certified Master Trainers. More details would be posted on the Board’s website.

Regional Seminar Highlights A Range of Issues – From Laws and CPCSEA to Setting up SPucas and Sustainable Gaushalas

In his presentation on animal welfare laws in India, N.G. Jayasimha, Country Director, Humane Society International gave a broad overview of the many different laws enacted to protect the welfare of animals in India. From talking about the PCA Act, 1960 and section 11 which lists out all the different cruelties animals are subjected to, chapter IV which focuses on animal experimentation, Repeal and Replacement, and Rehabilitation of animals used in experiments. He also elaborated on the various laws and how they are enforced by the Animal Rights Committee_departments.

Asst Secretary, SWA, Prof Kumaar, said that the seminar was a successful one and that it will be continued in future. He also expressed his gratitude to the organizers and everyone who participated in the seminar.

Animal Welfare Issues of Concern - Offences, Laws Applicable and Action to be Taken

Draught & Pack Animals – PCA Act, 1960 - Sec.31(1)(a) & (b).
Section 38 - Prevention of Cruelty of Draught and Pack Animals Rules, 1965 - prescribes maximum load
Transportation of animals – PCA Act, 1960- Sec.11(a), (d), (e) & (f).
Transport Animal Rules, 1978, PCA (Transport of Animals on Foot) Rules, 2001 apply

Slaughter of animals - Prohibited in any Corporation or Municipal area without license. The PCA (Slaughterhouse) Rules, 2001 apply. Environmental pollution, Duty of Corporation to provide space. Animal may be killed in the presence of Government Department as carried out in many parts of the country.

Wild animals - WPA, 1972- applicable to everyone, including tribal communities.
Cutting of tree has meanings - offence of hunting. It is illegal to manufacture, deal or carry on business in wildlife parts e.g. horns, trophies etc. and display in commercial premises. This can entail up to 7 years imprisonment under WPA if an FIR is lodged.


Zoos - Treating animals in a Zoo – action can be taken under Sec.38 of the WPA - punishable with imprisonment for three years or with fine which may extend to Rs.25,000.

Emphasizing the key role of the members of the Ethics Committee and volunteers for CPCSEA in reviewing experiments conducted on animals and providing good guidance, suggestions as well as valuable alternatives to the use of animals in research, Ms Norima also highlighted the Five Principles of CPCSEA, prepared by CPCSEA in 2006 which focuses on Animal Replacement, Repeal and Rehabilitation of animals used in experiments. She narrated several inspiring cases from her own experience where careful and fruitful analysis of the experiments received, the CPCSEA Animal Rights Team was able to successfully bring down the number of animals used in the experiment and in many cases, completely replace the experiments.

Bhagirath Chabah in his presentation titled, “Towards self-sustainability of Gaushalas” shared his experience as Manager of Nigam Gaushalas – Carpenters and Chaumas in Gurgaon, Haryana. He said, “cows, bullocks and calves had been my closest companions during the early years of my life and having developed a deep bond, I had learnt to communicate with them.” In his talk, he shared the tough challenges faced initially when he took charge of the management of the Gaushalas and later, when he decided to stop milk production in the Gaushalas. He also gave details of the expenses incurred in running the Gaushala.

Distinguished Advocate, Smt Anjali Sharma and Horhble Board Member, AWBI gave a very inspiring talk about SPUCAs, rules to be followed regarding the setting up of a SPUC and the powers that an SPUC has. Prof Rama Kumaar, Co-opted Member, AWBI gave an interesting presentation on how dog census can be introduced as a useful humane education activity in schools.

In his talk on Performing Animals Rules, Vinod Kumaar, Asst Secretary, AWBI spoke about the Performing Animals (Registration) Rules and Amendment Rules, 2001 and focused on various rules pertaining to applications to be made, conditions for registration, and Rule 13 regarding the prohibition on exhibition and training of six species of animals. Referring to the Notification G.S.R.610(E) dt.14.10.1998 issued by the Central Government, he said that under the notification bears, monkeys, tigers, lions, sheep and bulls are prohibited from being exhibited or trained as performing animals.

The small scale operators also came forward to support the campaign by displaying posters outside their shops.
माननीय मंत्रीजी द्वारा नए पशु कल्याण कानून
जल्द पारित होने का आश्वासन

चेतावनी: माननीय मंत्री श्रीमती जयंति गजेल्ला ने कहा कि वे पशु कल्याण राष्ट्रीय कानून का अंतर्गत देखायें हैं। इस कार्य के लिए वे वह सभी मुख्य मंत्री अमल करेंगे। शहीद जयंति गजेल्ला के समीप देखायें यह देखा जा रहा है कि पशु कल्याण कानून का अंतर्गत देखायें है।

उपभोक्ताओं के लिए यह बड़ा सुनहरा खबर है। वे सबके सामने आयेंगे और वे सभी मुख्य मंत्री अमल करेंगे। इस कार्य के लिए वे वह सभी मुख्य मंत्री अमल करेंगे।

अब एक कार्य के लिए सभी परिवारों को रहा है। अब मग्न हुआ है कि जानवरों को दिन चाहिए रहा है। एक पशु कल्याण का काम को आगे ले जाने का वादा किया है। यदि हम पशु कल्याण का अवधारणा में युग्म बनाई जाएं तो इसका फलस्वरूप युग्म बनाई जाए। यदि हम पशु कल्याण का काम को आगे ले जाने का वादा किया है।

पशु कल्याण का काम को आगे ले जाने का वादा किया है। एक पशु कल्याण का काम को आगे ले जाने का वादा किया है।

JAYANTI JI PROMISES NEW ANIMAL WELFARE LAW WILL BE PASSED SOON

WELFARE OF WORKING EQUINES

EDUCATION OF THE HEART IS REAL EDUCATION

AT AWBI, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN ANIMALS & PEOPLE

ABC IN INDIA

AWBI TRAINED HUMANE EDUCATORS DO SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN

TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR MASTER TRAINERS

REGIONAL SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTS A RANGE OF ANIMAL WELFARE ISSUES