डॉ. ओ.पी. चौधरी Dr. O.P. Chaudhary



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भारत सरकार
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन एवं डेयरी मंत्रालय
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कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली—110001
Joint Secretary
Government of India
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

D.O. No. F.No.V-11/12/2020-Admn-6

Dated, 16th June, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

As you all may be aware that as per the revision of Allocation of Business Rules, the subject matter related to Animal Welfare has been transferred to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying. Accordingly, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 is administered by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

Since after the transfer of subject, the Department is implementing the PCA Act, 1960. It has been noted that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P.(C) No.440 of 2000, Geetha Seshmani Versus Union of India & Others dated 6.8.2008 and in W.P(C) No.881 of 2014, Gauri Maulekhi Vs Union of India & Ors dated 13.7.2015 has directed all the State Governments to make the State Animal Welfare Board functional at the State level and District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) at District level to address animal cruelty matters, to promote animal welfare programmes at the grass root level and to assist AWBI in implementation of the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and the rules made there-under.

The matter related to functioning of State Animal Welfare was discussed in the Regional Review Meetings held during November to January at various regions. Many states have their State Animal Welfare Boards but the same is not functional. The Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Environment, Forest and Climate Change letter D. O. No. 27/1/2016/AWD dated 16th May 2017 addressed to Hon'ble Chief Minister of the concerned States / UTs and Animal Welfare Board of India vide letter No.9-3/2018-19/PCA dated 16th September 2015, 18th December 2015, 05th March 2018, 1st October, 2018, 19th December, 2018 and 19th March, 2019 requested the States to make the State Animal Welfare Board functional to comply with the Direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

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The main reason for the functioning of the State Animal Welfare Board to look into the matter of Cruelty happening on animals in the States and to implement the programmes of Animal Welfare Board of India through the State Animal Welfare Board in the respective State.

In view of the above background, I would, therefore, request to establish the State Animal Welfare Board, if not established and made it functional in order to comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely,

(O. P. Chaudhary)

All the Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary of State Animal Husbandry Department of all the States and Union Territories