



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

भारतीय जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड

(Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India)
(पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) Dr. R. M. KHARB, AVSM
Chairman

4th August, 2001

- To
1. Chief Secretaries of all State Governments
 2. Directorate General of Foreign Trade
Udyog Bhawan, H-Wing, Gate No. 2,
Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110011
Tel. (EPBAX No.): 011-23061562
 3. Indian Pest Control Association
Flat No. 11, 1st Floor (Alishan Banquet Complex)
40, D.L.F. Industrial Area
Kirti Nagar
New Delhi - 110 015

Circular

Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is a statutory body of the Government of India established in 1962 under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960. At present AWBI is working under the aegis of Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI. This statutory body has been constituted by the Government of India for promoting animal welfare in general and for the purpose of protecting animals from being subjected to unnecessary pain and suffering in particular.

While the control of pests is desirable in the overall interest of the country, the methods employed for this purpose have to be in tune with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and rules there under. If the employment of a humane method can serve the purpose, then there is no logical reason as to why an extremely cruel method needs to be adopted. Hence, this circular is being issued to address the use of glueboards / sticky traps being used for trapping of rats.

Glue traps, also known as glueboards or sticky traps, are a type of non-lethal or restraining rodent traps used mostly to trap rats. The traps are extremely sticky with non-drying adhesive on one side of its rigid flat surface so that small animals get stuck to the glue boards by their feet or by their fur when they attempt to run across them. Once captured on a glue trap an animal is unable to free itself from the adhesive, while struggling to free itself, it brings additional body parts in contact with the adhesive. Glue traps do not in themselves kill rodents, although trapped animals will eventually die from exposure, dehydration, starvation, suffocation, predation or are killed by humans. Animals can also die from injuries or blood loss as they try to chew their own body parts in an attempt to escape from the trap.

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Available evidence clearly suggests that the use of glue traps causes unnecessary pain and suffering to the rodents and is against the spirit of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 specifically section 11 that deals with cruelty to animals generally, while there are many humane methods available to control the population of rats.


Therefore, the use of glue traps for controlling rats / rodents is in contravention of the provisions contained in the PCA Act 1960. Use of Glue traps is a cruel practice as such must be discontinued in favour of other humane methods / non invasive methods such as regulation rat traps.

I request the Director General of Foreign Trade to issue appropriate directions to ban the import of glue traps.

All State/ Union Territory governments are requested to issue appropriate directions to prohibit the manufacture, sale and use of Glue traps for catching rats.

The Indian Pest Control Association may also issue appropriate advisories to its members.

Yours Sincerely



(Dr. R.M. Kharb)
Maj. Gen. (Retd.), AVSM
Chairman, AWBI