

**ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA**

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
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No.:AC-02007/4/2025-AWBI

To,

The Chief Secretaries of States and UTs.

Subject: Constitution/Reconstitution of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at the district level in all the States and UT's-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the above cited subject, I would like to inform you that, the Central Government has enacted the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment and Regulation of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals-SPCA) Rules, 2001. According to Rule 3(1), each State Government is required to establish a society for every district in the State, which will serve as the SPCA for that district, by issuing a notification in the Official Gazette within six months from the commencement of these rules.

2. The District SPCA in each district is responsible for addressing issues related to animal cruelty, promoting animal welfare initiatives at the grassroots level, and assisting the AWBI in enforcing the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, along with the associated rules.

3. The Central Government and the AWBI has pursued this matter with all the States Govts. vide letter dated 16.09.2015, 18.12.2015, 16.05.2017, 16.06.2020, 30.06.2020, 23.08.2021 and 27.03.2023 urging them to establish District SPCAs at the district level and State Animal Welfare Boards at the State level.

4. The establishment of these district SPCAs aims to safeguard the rights, freedoms, and welfare of animals while protecting them from cruelty. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in W.P. (C) No. 440 of 2000, Geetha Seshmani v. Union of India & Ors. dated August 6, 2008, and W.P. No. (C) 881 of 2014, Gauri Maulekhi Vs Union of India & Ors. dated July 13, 2015, has also mandated that all State Governments to establish SPCA and State Animal Welfare Boards.

5. Additionally, it is important to note that, as per Rule 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment and Regulation of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules, 2001, every State Government shall provide adequate land and other facilities to the SPCA for the purpose of constructing infirmaries and animal shelter.

6. Therefore, it is requested to direct all the District Magistrate of your State to establish the DSPCAs and make them functional so that the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and its Rules are implemented effectively to prevent unnecessary pain or suffering to animals.

Yours Sincerely

(Dr. S. K. Dutta)
Secretary