



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-02017/22/2025-AWBI

CIRCULAR

Subject: Strict compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No. 5 of 2025, In Re: City Hounded by Strays, Kids Pay Price, the Standard Operating Procedures issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India dated 27.11.2025 and the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023.

Sir/Madam,

The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) invites the attention of all State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, Local Authorities and other implementing agencies to the judgment dated 19.05.2026 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No. 5 of 2025, In Re: City Hounded by Strays, Kids Pay Price (copy enclosed), whereby comprehensive directions have been issued for strengthening and expediting the implementation of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme across the country.

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has, inter alia, directed all States and Union Territories to ensure effective, coordinated and time-bound implementation of the Animal Birth Control Programme by:

- (i). strengthening the infrastructure required for sterilization and anti-rabies vaccination;
- (ii). establishing at least one fully functional Animal Birth Control Centre in every district with adequate veterinary infrastructure, trained manpower, surgical facilities, logistics, monitoring mechanisms and proper record management;
- (iii). undertaking capacity building through training of veterinarians and field personnel, augmentation of sterilization and anti-rabies vaccination programmes, and creation of adequate sheltering facilities; and
- (iv). ensuring uninterrupted availability of Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) and Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG) in Government health facilities along with effective public health response mechanisms for dog-bite management.

3. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has further directed that all authorities shall strictly comply with the provisions of the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**, the **Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023**, and all directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court from time to time.

4. In this regard, attention is also invited to the **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) dated 27.11.2025** issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India for effective and uniform implementation of the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 (copy enclosed). The Hon'ble Supreme Court has taken note of the said SOPs while issuing its directions. Accordingly, all concerned authorities are advised to ensure strict adherence to the SOPs while implementing the Animal Birth Control Programme.

5. All State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, District Administrations, Local Bodies, Urban Local Bodies, Panchayati Raj Institutions and other concerned Departments are, therefore, advised to take immediate and necessary action to ensure effective implementation of the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, the AWBI SOPs dated 27.11.2025 and the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their entirety.

6. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Chief Secretaries and the Secretaries of the concerned Departments of all States and Union Territories to file updated affidavits of compliance before the respective jurisdictional High Courts on or before **07.08.2026**. All concerned authorities are, therefore, requested to initiate necessary action well in advance so that complete and timely compliance is ensured.

7. In view of the importance attached by the Hon'ble Supreme Court to the effective implementation of the Animal Birth Control Programme, the Animal Welfare Board of India requests the personal intervention of the Chief Secretaries and Heads of the concerned Departments to ensure coordinated, time-bound and effective compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the statutory provisions governing the Animal Birth Control Programme.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. M.K. Chauhan)
Secretary

Enclosure(s): As above.

Copy To:

1. The Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories.
2. The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, Department of Animal Husbandry of all States and Union Territories.
3. The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, Urban Development Department of all States and Union Territories.
4. The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, Panchayati Raj of all States and Union Territories.
5. The Commissioners/Chief Executive Officers of all Urban Local Bodies.
6. All recognized Animal Welfare Organizations.
7. The Members and Co-opted members of the AWBI.