

F. No V-12/6/2023-Anlm_Dadf
Government of India
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying

Krishi Bhawan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,
New Delhi 110001
Dated: 2nd January, 2026

NOTICE

Subject: Amendment of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871-regarding

As all may be aware that the Cattle-Trespass Act, 1871 was enacted by the Imperial Legislative Council to control animals like cattle, buffaloes, sheep, lambs, goats, horses, mares, ponies, colts, fillies, mules, asses, pigs, camels, elephants, rams, ewes, geldings which were found to be causing great damage to crops, plantation, pleasure-grounds, roads, canals, drainage-works, embankments and the like by straying therein. The Act was enacted before the commencement of the Constitution of India.

2. However, after the commencement of the Constitution, the subject “Pounds and the prevention of Cattle Trespass” has been included in List II - State List as entry 16. After independence, States sought to enact their own laws tailored to local conditions (for example, the Karnataka Cattle Trespass Act, 1966 repealed the 1871 Act for its territory). More than 20 States has made either amendment in the Act or mentioned in their respective Panchayat and Municipal Act as per their local conditions e.g., the Cattle Trespass (Punjab Amendment) Act, 1952 modified definitions (e.g., excluding bulls let loose for stud purposes) and extended administrative powers.

3. Keeping in view of ease of doing business and living, the Central Government has considered appropriate to amend the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871 and decriminalise the Sections 24,25,26 and Section 27. Accordingly, the draft Cattle Trespass (Amendment) Bill, 2025 has been prepared and Annexed.

4. In view of the foregoing, the comments with regard to the amendment of the said Act may be sent to Dr. Muthukumarasamy B., Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Krishi Bhawan, Room No-190A, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001 or through email at js-nlm@dahd.nic.in **latest by 3rd February, 2026.**

TS 21/1/26
(Dr. Muthukumarasamy B.)
Joint Secretary to the Government of India

THE CATTLE-TRESPASS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

	A	
	BILL	
	further to amend the Cattle-trespass Act,1871.	
	BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows: -	
	1. (1) This Act may be called the Cattle-trespass (Amendment) Act, 2025.	Short title and commencement.
	(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification, in the Official Gazette appoint.	
1 of 1871.	<p>2. In section 3 of the Cattle-trespass Act,1871 (hereinafter in this Chapter referred to as the principal Act),-</p> <p>(i) before the expression “officer of police”, the following expressions shall be inserted, namely:-</p> <p>‘ “adjudicating officer” means the Sub-Divisional Magistrate or any other Executive Magistrate authorised by the State Government or the Union territory administration;</p> <p>“appellate authority” means the District Magistrate or the Additional District Magistrate authorised by the State Government or the Union territory administration, as the case may be;’;</p> <p>(ii) for the expression “local authority”, the following expression shall be substituted, namely: -</p> <p>‘ “local authority” means Municipal Corporation, Municipal Council, Municipality, Cantonment Board, Notified Area Committee, Gram Panchayat or any other authority for the time being vested by law with the control and administration of any matters within a specified local area;’;</p> <p>(iii) the expression “local fund” shall be omitted.</p>	Amendment of section 3.

45 of 2023.	3. In section 6 of the principal Act, for the words, brackets and figures 'the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860)', the words, brackets and figures 'clause (28) of section 2 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023' shall be substituted.	Amendment of section 6.
	4. Throughout the principal Act, for the word 'fines' wherever it occurs, the word 'penalty' shall be substituted.	Substitution of 'penalty' for 'fines'.
	5. In section 8 of the principal Act, for the words 'the animals', the word 'cattle' shall be substituted.	Amendment of section 8.
	6. In section 22 of the principal Act, for the words 'one hundred rupees', the words 'rupees five thousand' shall be substituted.	Amendment of section 22.
	7. In section 24 of the principal Act, for the portion beginning with the words 'shall, on conviction before a Magistrate' and ending with the words 'or with both', the words 'shall, on found guilty by the adjudicating officer, be liable to a penalty not exceeding rupees five thousand' shall be substituted.	Amendment of section 24.
	8. In section 25 of the principal Act, - (i) for the words 'Any fine imposed under the next following section or for the offence of mischief', the words 'Any penalty imposed under the next following section or for the mischief' shall be substituted; (ii) for the words 'the person convicted of the offence', the words 'the person found guilty of contravention' shall be substituted.	Amendment of section 25.
	9. In section 26 of the principal Act, - (i) for the words 'on conviction before a Magistrate, be punished with fine not exceeding ten rupees', the words 'on found guilty by the adjudicating officer, be liable to pay penalty not exceeding rupees five thousand' shall be substituted; (ii) for the words 'or as if the words "fifty rupees" were substituted for the words "ten rupees" or', the words "or as if the words "rupees five thousand" were substituted for the words "rupees one thousand" or' shall be substituted.	Amendment of section 26.

	<p>10. In section 27 of the principal Act, for the words 'be punished, on conviction before a Magistrate, with fine not exceeding fifty rupees. Such fines', the words 'on found guilty by the adjudicating officer, be liable to pay penalty, not exceeding rupees five thousand and such penalty' shall be substituted.</p>	Amendment of section 27.
	<p>11. After section 27 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely: -</p> <p>'27A. (1) The State Government or the Union territory administration, as the case may be, for the purposes of determining the penalties under the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, may authorise the Sub-Divisional Magistrate or any other Executive Magistrate, as the case may be, having jurisdiction, to be the adjudicating officer to hold an inquiry and impose penalty, in the manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.</p> <p>(2) The adjudicating officer may summon and enforce the attendance of any person acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case to give evidence or to produce any document, which in the opinion of the adjudicating officer, may be useful for, or relevant to, the subject-matter of the inquiry, and if, on such inquiry, he is satisfied that the person concerned has failed to comply with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, he may impose penalty:</p> <p>Provided that no such penalty shall be imposed without giving the person concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard.</p>	Insertion of new sections 27A, 27B, 27C and 27D. Adjudication.
	<p>27B. (1) Whoever aggrieved by the order, passed by the adjudicating officer under section 27A, may prefer an appeal to the District Magistrate or the Additional District Magistrate specially authorised in this behalf by the State Government or the Union territory administration, as the case may be, to be an appellate authority, within sixty days from the date of receipt of the order, in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.</p>	Appeal.

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	<p>(2) An appeal may be admitted after the expiry of the period of sixty days if the appellant satisfies the appellate authority that he had sufficient cause for not preferring the appeal within that period.</p> <p>(3) The appellate authority may, after giving the parties to the appeal an opportunity of being heard, pass such order as he may think fit.</p> <p>(4) An appeal under sub-section (1) shall be disposed of within sixty days from the date of filing.</p>	
	<p>27C. Where any person fails to pay penalty imposed under the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder within ninety days of such imposition, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to twice the amount of the penalty, or with both.</p>	Imprisonment for non-payment of penalty.
	<p>27D. The penalties provided under the provisions this Act shall be increased by ten per cent. of the minimum amount of penalty specified therefor after the expiry of every three years from the date of commencement of this Act.'</p>	Revision of penalties.
59 of 1960.	<p>12. For section 28 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely: -</p> <p>'28. (1) Where an adjudicating officer imposes penalty under the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the amount of said penalty realised shall be credited to the Fund of the Animal Welfare Board of India constituted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.</p> <p>(2) The Board referred to in sub-section (1) shall utilise the amount realised through penalty under sub-section(1) for the implementation of the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.'</p>	<p>Substitution of new section for section 28.</p> <p>Remittance of Penalty.</p>
	<p>13. In section 29 of the principal Act, for the words 'suing for compensation in any competent Court', the words 'making a complaint for compensation to the adjudicating officer' shall be substituted.</p>	Amendment of section 29.

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	<p>14. In section 30 of the principal Act, -</p> <p>(i) for the words 'convicting Magistrate', the words 'adjudicating officer' shall be substituted;</p> <p>(ii) for the words 'such suit', the words 'such complaint' shall be substituted.</p>	Amendment of section 30.
	<p>15. After section 31 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be added, namely: -</p> <p>'32. (1) The Central Government may, by notification, make rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, to carry out the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely: -</p> <p>(a) the manner of authorising the adjudication officer under sub-section (1) of section 27A;</p> <p>(b) the manner and form of appeal under sub-section (1) of section 27B; and</p> <p>(c) the manner of utilisation of penalty amount under sub-section (2) of section 28.</p>	Addition of new sections 32 and 33. Power of Central Government to make rules.
	<p>(3) Every rule made under this Act, shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in said rules or both Houses agree that the rules should not be made, the rules shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.</p>	

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	<p>33. (1) The State Government may, by notification, make rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, to carry out the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) Every rule made under this Act, shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before the legislature of the State.'</p>	Power of State Government to make rules.
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