



The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of the SPCAs / AWOs and animal welfare workers. The Board encourages animal welfare activities, advises the Central and State Governments on issues relating to Animal Welfare, particularly, the prevention of cruelty to animals, and also helps to formulate animal welfare policies / legislations.

AWBI Newsletter

Vol No. 8 Issue No. 11 Re.1/-

RNI No. TNBIL2003/10675

March -August 2012

Combined Issue

Message from Chairman

Putting ABC/AR Programmes In Right Perspective



Dear Friends (For all those who are implementing ABC/AR Programme),

As you may be aware that the Animal Welfare Board of India is striving hard to ensure that AWOs and Municipal Corporations in the country are provided access to ABC/AR Training Programmes for upgrading the professional skills of their staff engaged in Spay / Neuter programmes. The Training Programmes are being conducted in accordance with

international standards of animal welfare, asepsis and application of surgical skills. This is being done so that ABC/AR Programmes in the country can be carried out in a humane and professional manner with least trauma and pain to the operated dogs.

AWBI sponsored Training Programmes are being conducted in collaboration with proven international organizations such as Vets Beyond Borders, World Wide Veterinary Services and Humane Society International which are now available at several cities like Ooty, Gangtok in Sikkim and Jaipur for training of Vets / Paravets / Dog Catchers and Programme Managers. AWOs / Civic Bodies who would like to have their staff undergo the Training, have to send the applications to AWBI.

The Schedule of the Training Programmes and the application forms are available on the AWBI website (www.awbi.org). AWBI has taken care to ensure that the process of applying for the Training Programme and the processing of the application is easy, with no long waiting period. However, despite making provisions for easy access to quality Training Programmes, many Municipal Corporations and Animal Welfare Organizations are not sending their staff for training. Yet another unfortunate observation is that even after having undergone training, the upgraded skills are not being applied in the manner in which it has been taught during the training.

Lately, several complaints about the inadequacies in the ongoing ABC/AR Programme have been received by the Board including catching / trapping dogs in an inhumane manner causing intense pain and suffering to the dogs. There have been instances of operated dogs moving in the streets with abdominal viscera hanging and ear-notched female dogs with suckling puppies. These instances have put the ABC/AR programme in poor light. It is distressing to note that the AWBI guidelines outlined in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on ABC/AR Programme is not being followed in letter and spirit. It is incumbent for all AWOs engaged in ABC/AR Programmes to follow the guidelines contained in the SOP for carrying out Spay / Neuter Surgery.

To protect the street dogs of our country from torture, pain and suffering, I request all Animal Welfare Organizations and Municipal Corporations engaged in carrying out ABC/AR Programmes to be more responsible and committed and to ensure that the points listed below are scrupulously followed:-

❑ Conduct a proper dog census in the proposed area / ward that has been assigned to the AWO/MC. It has been observed that no proper Census / Survey on the population of street dogs is being undertaken by the Civic Bodies/NGOs before starting the programme so as to systematically plan the programme strategy as well as the outcomes.

❑ CNVR – (same day release) is not acceptable as the concept has not been approved by the Govt. of India as yet. AWBI will initiate action against NGOs / Civic bodies who are found engaged in CNVR-same day release programme.

❑ Stray Dogs for ABC/AR Programme are being caught / trapped in an inhumane manner in full public view causing intense pain and suffering to the dogs which shows the programme in poor light. Dogs should be caught using “Butterfly net method” which is humane. Civic bodies can avail the facility of AWBI training programme for Dog Catchers.

❑ To avoid post-operative complications and to ensure that minimum trauma is caused during Spay / Neuter Surgery, NGOs / Organizations implementing ABC/AR Programme must engage only experienced Veterinarians and Paravets and follow the 'Guidelines of the Standard Operating Procedures for Sterilization of Stray Dogs' issued by AWBI, in letter and spirit.

I do hope NGOs / Civic bodies will make full use of the excellent training opportunity arranged by AWBI so that the Spay / Neuter Programme is successfully conducted in a humane, scientific and sustainable manner and dogs are not subjected to unnecessary pain and suffering.

With best wishes,
Sd/-

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

AWBI Signs MOU With Vets Beyond Borders For Project Vet-Train



From right to left: Dr. Catherine Schuetze, VBB Founder and currently, VBB's NGO Liaison Officer, Maj. Gen. (Retd) Dr. R.M.Kharb, AVSM, Hon'ble Chairman, AWBI, Shri Anjani Kumar, Director, AWD, MoEF, Ms Jasjit Purewal, EC Member, AWBI, Dr. Helen Byrnes, Executive Officer, Indian Projects, VBB, Dr. Jenny' O Donnell, Executive Officer, VBB and Dr. Sonia Chawan, Project Manager, Project Vet-Train India.

Vets Beyond Borders (VBB) is supported by teams of Veterinary Surgeons and senior faculty from internationally reputed Veterinary Colleges around the world who share their surgical expertise and clinical skills to provide Training Programmes of excellent quality, with care being given to maintaining international standards of animal healthcare and welfare. Besides support from the AUSAid grant, projects executed by VBB in India are financially supported by the Fondation Brigitte Bardot.

Other Major Projects In India include:

- ❑ Sikkim Anti-Rabies and Animal Health Programme (SARAH)
- ❑ Ladakh Anti-Rabies and Dog Management Project (LARDom)
- ❑ Bylakuppe Anti-Rabies and Dog Management Project
- ❑ Vanuatu ABC project

The Sikkim Anti-Rabies and Animal Health Programme (SARAH) is a fine example of VBB's work in India demonstrating excellent team spirit and dedication that has encouraged active participation from the community and strong support from the State Government of Sikkim.

Working in mountainous terrain like Sikkim and Ladakh can be extremely challenging. Braving tough climatic conditions, like freezing cold temperatures and strong mountain winds and, with very little access to resources and infrastructure, the VBB Team has been able to execute ABC Programmes very successfully in the state. Presently, the incidence of rabies in the state has been significantly reduced and, Sikkim is fast on its way to becoming India's first rabies free state. Besides projects in India, VBB has efficiently executed humane ABC Training Programmes and Animal Welfare Programmes in the Pacific Islands, Bali, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and China.

New Delhi: In an ongoing effort to ensure that staff of Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs) and Municipal Corporations (MCs) in the country are provided with an opportunity to build their skills in carrying out ABC surgery to world-class levels of competence, an MOU was signed between the Animal Welfare Board of India and Australian NGO, Vets Beyond Borders on March 24th, 2012.

The MOU was signed by Maj. Gen. (Retd) Dr. R.M.Kharb, AVSM, Hon'ble Chairman, AWBI and Dr. Helen Byrnes, VBB Executive Officer of Indian Projects. This initiative is being financially supported by an AUSAid grant received from the University of Queensland under the Australian Government's Public Sector Linkages Programme and will continue until May 2015.

The Training Programmes conducted under VetTrain aims to train and accredit animal health professionals in collaboration with AWBI, gradually transferring capacity building skills and expertise to Indian public sector personnel. The animal health professionals who have attended the VBB VetTrain Program, and met the assessment requirements, will qualify to meet the standards for AWBI accreditation.

With the signing of the MOU and support from the University of Queensland, Vets, Paravets and ABC Programme Managers in the country can continue to avail of the excellent Training Programmes provided by Vets Beyond Borders and develop their expertise to the level of becoming Master Trainers. Such dedicated and skilled Vets and supporting staff who qualify to be Master Trainers would then be empowered to successfully conduct the ABC/AR Training Programmes in different zones of the country.

The VetTrain Programme addresses the following India-specific needs:

- ❑ Enhancing Public Sector Effectiveness – building the capacity and linkages needed for conducting well coordinated ABC-AR programmes to humanely and efficiently control the street dog population in metros.
- ❑ Providing Improved Service Delivery in Education and Health – through education and training of animal health professionals, improving their effectiveness and efficiency in implementing quality ABC-AR programmes
- ❑ Getting university support – by developing linkages and bilateral relations with the University of Queensland in training, research and developmental activities.



About The VBB-AWBI VetTrain India Project

Project VetTrain was launched in India by Vets Beyond Borders in 2009 with two main objectives-

- To refine and develop the clinical skills of Indian veterinary graduates and ancillary personnel
- To improve and standardize the quality of veterinary services provided by animal welfare groups in India.

The Pilot phase of VetTrain's Training Programmes was conducted at the National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW), Ballabgarh, Haryana and was a collaborative initiative involving VBB, the AWBI & Animal Welfare Division of the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), Government of India. During six successful training sessions from Feb-July 2009, a total of 178 Vets, Paravets and animal handlers received training from VBB faculty. Since then, this excellent Training Programme supported by AWBI has been conducted regularly and hundreds of Veterinarians working in AWOs and Municipal Corporations have had the opportunity to refine their skills and competence in ABC surgery to international standards of excellence.



BCCC Issues Advisory For Animal Cruelty Free TV Broadcasting

New Delhi: The Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC) has issued an Advisory dated 19th July, 2012 that prohibits TV channels from telecasting content that depicts the harming and exploitation of animals. The Council is headed by former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, Shri A.P. Shah. Referring to the Advisory, Gen Kharb said, “Since it is for the welfare of animals, we welcome this Advisory and hope that many other agencies will come forward and show compassion to help animals institutionally”. Notable among Animal welfare groups that have been actively campaigning on this issue are FIAPPO and PFA.

Referring to some of the objectionable TV content telecast by some channels, the BCCC Advisory states, “Many of the general interest entertainment channels, in particular those airing reality shows, are exhibiting content that is extremely harmful to animals. Not only are animals hurt and killed before, during and post filming, in many cases animals, especially reptilian and wild mammalian, are depicted as cruel and fearful, when in fact they are placed in unnatural environments, and their natural behavior is repressed. Wrong impressions are thus created and unfortunate myths spread.

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A monthly newsletter of the
ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA
(Min of Environment & Forests, Govt of India)

Published by
ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

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Printed by C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre. www.cpreec.org

BCCC Advisory on Cruelty Free TV Broadcasting

For instance, live insects are eaten to show courage in a manner that is distasteful and not conducive to health. A few channels have a reality show in which animals are killed week after week and animal parts such as sheep eyeballs and worms eaten in order to show bravery. What is disturbing is that some channels rope in popular movie stars in serials in which animals are depicted, and project their being stalked, teased, tails being pulled at, food being pulled away, etc, i.e. veritable torture of animals as an act of bravery.

Animals must not continue to be exploited for human entertainment especially when we live in an enlightened age that recognizes the value of all species in a universal ecosystem. Responsible television content can and must go a long way in depicting animals and the environment that is healthy for the planet.

Television channels are hereby advised not to produce, support the production of, purchase and broadcast content that is in any way harmful to the health and well being, as well as the depiction, of any animal species. It is hereby affirmed, that all such content, IS NOT SUITABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING because it is at variance with:
❑ Point 10 of Theme 6, continued in Chapter 3 of the IBF's Content Code & Certification Rules 2011, which specifically stipulates that, “The subject-matter treatment of any program under all categories shall not in any manner: glamorize, promote, encourage such activities & sports, which encourage ecological imbalance and hurt animals.” Moreover, unrestricted depiction of wild animals in serials may also encourage the possession of wildlife as trophies, and consequently, would be at variance with:

❑ Point 9 of Theme 1, contained in Chapter 3 of the IBF's Content Code & Certification Rules, 2011, which specifically stipulates that, “While the overall theme, storyline and characterization may justify one or more specific scenes of crime or violence, the subject-matter treatment of such content under all categories shall not: encourage the possession of wildlife as trophies.

❑ Moreover, 'depiction of cruelty to animals', which is defined in Clause(j.) of Chapter 1 of the IBF's Content Code & Certification Rules, 2011 as “physical or mental pain or distress or trauma caused to a human being or an animal by mistreatment”, may promote the willful infraction of animal protection laws, and the breach of the fundamental duty cast upon every citizen of India by Article 51 A(g) of the Constitution of India, to show compassion for living creatures. It is therefore hereby required that the depiction of animals that is resorted to, may be such as does not denigrate or detract from the ideal of co-existence, and respect for all forms of life.

We also suggest that the code of conduct for advertising agencies and film production prescribed by the Animal Welfare Board of India pertaining to the use of performing animals is also applicable to broadcast media. These rules govern the manner in which performing animals should be treated during training, during the actual shoot, and during retirement. These rules also require special permission to be obtained, and or furnished as evidence, before using animals, and apply to imported content and foreign location as well.”

Ms Maneka Gandhi's valuable inputs have been acknowledged with a line that states, “The BCCC records its appreciation of Ms Maneka Gandhi, MP, whose valuable suggestions helped in the preparation of this Advisory.” As many as 250 TV Channels are members of the Indian Broadcasting Foundation. To regulate the quality of content, IBF has established the Content Code & Certification Rules, 2011. Complaints can be addressed to BCCC for any objectionable content or failure to comply by the above mentioned rules. Complaints can be addressed to The Secretary, BCCC, C/o Indian Broadcasting Foundation, B-304, 3 rd Floor, Ansal Plaza, Khelgaon Marg, New Delhi – 110049. The complaint form can be downloaded at http://ibfindia.com/forms/Complaint_Form.pdf and emailed at ibf@ibfindia.com Complaints must be sent within 14 days of the date of the first telecast of the programme.



Hon'ble Chairman, AWBI, Maj. Gen.(Retd) Dr. R.M.Kharb, AVSM in a meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Shri Parkash Singh Badal and other senior officers of the Ministry

'We Care Srinagar' Launched

Srinagar: To save Srinagar's street dogs from senseless killings, FIAPO has launched a media initiative in collaboration with Kashmir Images called, 'We Care Srinagar'. The campaign will educate the community about how to avoid conflict with street dogs and humane ways to control the dog population in the city through a weekly column by FIAPO. To know more about the Campaign, log on to www.fiapo.org. You can help the street dogs of Srinagar by writing to Mr. Bashir Manzar, the Editor of Kashmir Images at kashmirimages@hotmail.com and appreciate this initiative taken by him.



Photo Credit: www.fiapo.org

Board Holds 118th Executive Committee Meeting

New Delhi: The 118th Executive Committee Meeting of the Board was held on 18th May, 2012 at the Board's office in New Delhi. Maj. Gen. (Retd) Dr. R. M.Kharb, AVSM, Hon'ble Chairman, AWBI, presided over the meeting which was attended by Dr. S. Chinny Krishna, Hon'ble Vice Chairman, AWBI, EC Member, Shri Hem Pande, IAS, Joint Secretary, MoEF, Shri Anjani Kumar, Director, AWD, MoEF, Shri Guljarilal Soni and Ms. Jasjit Purewal, EC Members, Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS, Member, AWBI, Brig S.S. Chohan, Rep. of MCG and Shri S. Vinod Kumaar, Assistant Secretary, AWBI. Hon'ble Chairman informed the Board about his participation in a Gaushala Seminar organized by Kurukshetra Gurukul, where new methods of making organic fertilizers were shown to over 150 delegates from Haryana who participated in the event. During his visit to Agartala where a Seminar on Animal Welfare was convened by Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary College, Agartala, Hon'ble Chairman spoke about AWBI's role in preventing cruelty to animals, and the key animal welfare issues of concern in India. The event was attended by over 200 Veterinarians. Hon'ble Chairman also mentioned that during his visit to Gujarat, a Seminar on Management of Gaushalas had been organized at Anand and, during his visit to Bhubhaneswar, he noted that plans are on to expand the ABC/AR Programme.

Sharp Drop In Deaths Due to Rabies

New Delhi: While reporting about deaths due to different diseases in the Parliament on April 29, 2012, Shri Gulam Nabi Azad, Hon'ble Minister of Health noted that just 233 deaths due to rabies were reported in 2011. The revised data on rabies deaths was based on observations made by the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases – ProMED, an organization set up in 1994 with a peer review mail network of over 40 000 public health professionals in 185 countries. For AWBI Chairman, Gen. Kharb who has pledged to make India rabies free, this news reaffirms his views, that the actual number of deaths due to rabies in the country is much lower than the official estimates made by WHO and other health organizations. Until this new data was obtained, India's annual death rate due to rabies had been erroneously estimated at figures varying from 20 000 – 35 000 deaths each year, accounting for 36%-63% of all global deaths due to rabies. Says Dr Chinny Krishna, Vice-Chairman, AWBI and veteran of the ABC Program in India "For at least 25 years, I fought the claim of 35 000 rabies deaths in India yearly". According to Dr Chinny Krishna, the previously estimated figure of 35 000 cases yearly is due to a combination of inadequate case tracking, faulty diagnostic work, and official projections based on obsolescent and erroneous assumptions about how rabies spreads.

AWBI Calls For Halt to Surat's ABC Surgery

Surat: The Board has called for a temporary halt to the ABC Program in Surat after reports that dogs in Udha were bleeding and dying due to opening up of the stitches after faulty ABC Surgery. In a letter to Surat Municipal Corporation Commissioner, Manoj Das, Assistant Secretary, Shri S Vinod Kumaar called for an immediate suspension in ABC Surgery, being carried out by Surat Municipal Corporation.

Caution! All Vets & AWOs Engaged In ABC/AR Programmes

In case any Animal Welfare Organization in India that has been granted recognition from the Board and is also getting grants from AWBI, under the ABC Grants sanctioned under Central Sector Scheme, does not follow the Guidelines drawn in the Animal Welfare Board of India's SOP ABC Manual in letter and in spirit, then the Animal Welfare Board of India will take strict action against the erring Animal Welfare Organization by derecognizing the Animal Welfare Organization and immediately stopping all financial assistance to the said Animal Welfare Organization and further, the name of the erring Animal Welfare Organization will be blacklisted by AWBI and displayed on the Animal Welfare Board of India's website.

Strict action will be initiated by the Animal Welfare Board of India against Veterinarians involved in the Animal Birth Control Projects who do not adhere to the Clinical, Surgical and Anesthetic Protocols listed in the SOP-ABC Manual. The names of the erring Veterinarians will be sent to the Veterinary Council of India and a Letter of Warning will be issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India and the Veterinary Council of India to the erring Veterinarians. If they fail to take immediate corrective measures within four weeks of receipt of the letters, the names of the Veterinarians will be blacklisted and displayed on the website of the Animal Welfare Board of India along with their photographs.

Govt of India Bans Use of Live Animals in Education

New Delhi: The Ministry of Environment & Forests has banned the use of live animals in education. Guidelines have been sent to UGC, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Pharmacy Council of India and the Medical Council of India to discontinue dissection and experiments with live animals in universities, colleges, research institutes, hospitals and laboratories where alternatives like computer simulation may be used.



Photo Credit: IMSI Cliparts

Punjab to Sign MOU with AWBI For ABC Surgery

Amritsar: In a meeting with Maj. Gen.(Retd) Dr. R. M. Kharb, AVSM, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Shri Parkash Singh Badal announced that the State Government of Punjab would sign an MOU with AWBI for ABC Surgery in the state. Regular Training Programs for veterinarians, paravets and municipal staff would be conducted to upgrade their skills for the application of humane ABC surgery and better dog welfare.

Bhutan Bans Battery Cages

Thimphu: On August 2nd, 2012, during the launch of the second phase of the National Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Project, a joint project between Government of Bhutan and HSI, Minister of Agriculture & Forests (MoAF), Hon'ble Lyonpo (Dr.) Pema Gyamtsho, officially declared Bhutan as a country that would practice Battery Cage Free Poultry Farming.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tashi Dorji, Chief Livestock Officer, said, “it is important to maintain the bird's natural habitat and it is not right to treat birds like they are some kind of egg producing machine, cramping them in a small space. He added that when birds have no space to move freely, they are more prone to diseases and metabolic dysfunction.” The event was attended by Secretaries from MoAF and Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, Mayor, Mr.Thimphu Thromde, Maj. Gen. (Retd) Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM, Chairman, AWBI, Mr. Rahul Seghal, Director, HSI, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Pandey, Royal Government of Bhutan-HSI Project Coordinator and senior officials from MoAF and other Non-Governmental Organisations.



Photo Credit: website of Royal Govt of Bhutan

Hon'ble Lyonpo (Dr.) Pema Gyamtsho, Minister of Agriculture & Forests (MoAF), Government of Bhutan and Major General (Retd.), Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM, Hon'ble, Chairman, Animal Welfare Board of India, launching the 2nd Phase of NDPM & RCP and Declaration of Battery Cage Free Poultry Farming in Bhutan

The Plastic Cow Project

Where, When and How Did the Plastic Cow Project Begin?

Puttaparthi: Explaining how this Project came into being, Ms Clementien Pauws, President, Karuna Society for Animals and Nature, says, “In December 2010, Karuna Society for Animals and Nature at Puttaparthi received 36 stray cattle from Anantapur town for permanent custody. Soon after arrival one of the cows died. The post mortem conducted by our veterinary surgeon revealed that the animal’s rumen was full of plastic. After examination of all the animals, he advised us to start surgeries to remove plastics from their rumens and save their lives. We at Karuna, having realized that cows on Indian roads that forage from garbage bins are full of plastic, sent an appeal on the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisation (FIAPO) network. Philip Wollen responded immediately and he told us to continue the rumenotomies with the assurance that the Kindness Trust would fund 100 surgeries as a pilot project. Till date, 56 surgeries have been done. So, that was how the Plastic Cow Project was started. Pradeep Nath from VSPCA has also organized for the surgeries and he has over 1000 rescued cattle. The education and awareness part of the Project has been initiated in Jaipur and New Delhi. Hopefully, many more such initiatives in other cities of the country will be launched”.

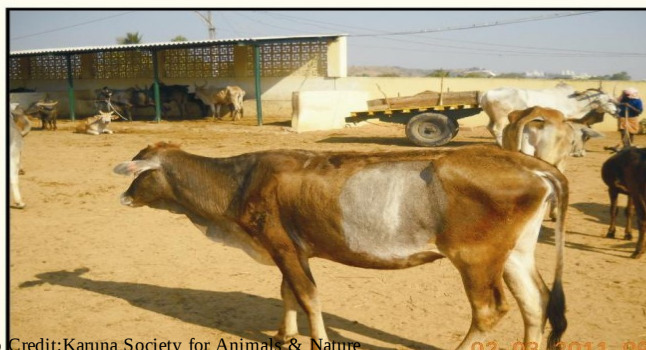


Photo Credit: Karuna Society for Animals & Nature

Better Welfare for Stray Cows in Punjab With New Law & Rehab Support

Joga (Mansa): Punjab will have better cattle welfare soon, if Chief Minister, Shri Parkash Singh Badal's orders are executed. Instead of a Cow Welfare board, the state will have a proper Cow Welfare Commission empowered with authority to punish individuals engaged in cow slaughter or causing any harm to cows in the state. Besides, the Commission would also help in rehabilitating stray cows. Under the new Punjab State Government Law, any individual engaged in causing injury to cows, can face up to 10 years of imprisonment. Shri Badal has also ensured that long term follow-up and care for stray cows will be provided by issuing directions that Municipal Corporations sign MOUs with local Gaushalas for protection and maintenance of stray cows. The announcement was made by Shri Badal on June 10th, 2012 after his visit to Joga where the dead bodies of slaughtered cows were seen.

Mumbai's Sick Horses to Be Spared the Carriage Drive

Mumbai: In a petition filed by Animals and Birds Charitable Trust and the Animal Welfare Board of India, Chief Justice Mohit Shah and Justice Nitin Jamdar at the Mumbai High Court have issued an order prohibiting Mumbai's horse carriage owners and drivers from using horses to pull carriages, without a fitness certificate issued by a registered Veterinarian. Of the 371 horses examined by the BMC, 196 were found to be in poor health.



Photo Credit: Samabhava

Flex Your Creative Neurons!

Send In Your Best Idea, Save Animals, Pitch & Win A Prize

New Delhi: The Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO) is inviting applications for the most unique idea on an animal welfare project. What would you do if you had a million rupees to do Animal Welfare work. Think about it. Who knows, your idea may well be the breakthrough one? The competition, known as Dragon's Den will be conducted during the India for Animals Conference on from November 16 to 18, 2012 in Goa. The final event involves presenting to a panel of 4 Judges for 10 minutes. Mail in your best ideas for animal welfare to ifa@fiapo.org. To know more, check out www.fiapo.org.

Arunachal Pradesh Bans Battery Cages

Nirjuli: In a circular dated, 18th June 2012, notification no AHV/SAWB/10/2011-12, the Arunachal Pradesh State Animal Husbandry Departments has banned the use of battery cages made of steel wire or local made baskets that do not allow birds to spread their wings and allow other natural behavior such as nesting, dust bathing, perching and foraging. All poultry farmers in the state have been prohibited from using battery cages. As per Section 11 (1) {e} of the PCA(1960), the confinement of any animal in a cage that does not allow an animal reasonable opportunity for movement, exercise and natural behaviour is forbidden.

IVS Vegan of the Year!



Byndoor: Himani Shetty who leads FIAPO's work on vegan outreach in Mumbai, has won the Indian Vegan Society's IVS Vegan of the Year 2012 Award. Congratulations! Himani and keep the good work happening.

How You Can Help

Here's a Six Step Action Plan to Start the Plastic Cow Project in Your City

Step 1: Identify the place and cow owners and count the number of cows affected. Talk to the cow owners and find out what their problems are, why they are leaving the cows on the streets. Make sure you have photographs of the cows eating garbage from the areas surveyed.

Step 2: Download the Plastic Cow Film. Create a presentation and poster. Print copies of the poster and distribute it in your community.

Step 3: Network with other AWOs, NGOs and like minded people in the community and persuade them to join you in the campaign to make your neighbourhood a zero-waste zone. Make sure that you involve key opinion leaders in your community, who can mobilize support in large numbers.

Step 4: Give talks and screen the Plastic Cow film to members of your community and run a signature campaign. Contact the Municipal Commissioner of your city and persuade him or her to ban the use of plastic bags and also support your campaign.

Step 5: Get sponsorship and organize sensitization programs for the small dairy farmers as well as try to help them by arranging for supply of fodder.

Step 6: After consultation with senior and experienced Veterinary Surgeons and, if facilities are available for conducting large animal surgery, you can explore the possibility of organizing a surgery camp for the cows to remove the plastic from the cows' rumen after proper tests. Invite dignitaries, media and the community. Show them the plastic that has been obtained from the cows. For those cows that have no owners, try to find out people in the community who will adopt the cows.

Founding Members of the Plastic Cow Project include:

- Ms Clementien Pauws, President, Karuna Society for Animals and Nature, Puttaparthi. www.karunasociety.org
- Mr. Pradeep Nath – President, VSPCA, Vishakapatnam. www.vspca.org
- Mr Philip Wollen -Founder, Kindness Trust, Australia. www.kindnesstrust.com
- Ms Rukmini Sekhar -writer and animal activist. ruki.sekhar@gmail.com

AWBI's Advisory Brings In Reforms for Bull Castrations

New Delhi: Maj. Gen.(Retd) Dr. R. M. Kharb, AVSM, Chairman, Animal Welfare Board of India has issued an advisory to the Veterinary Council of India on April 4th, 2012 mandating that all bulls in the country be castrated humanely. The Board has made it mandatory that bull castrations done by State Animal Husbandry Departments be carried out only by registered Veterinary Surgeons with proper use of anesthetics and pain-killers.

The Advisory states, “It has been brought to the notice of AWBI that in many veterinary polyclinics, hospitals and dispensaries in India, the castration procedure in large animals, specially male cow calves is performed by casting the animal on the ground and then using a Burdizzo castrator to crush the spermatic cord. This crude method of restraint and castration is often carried out without the use of sedatives, analgesics or anesthetics and causes the animal to experience immense pain, fear and stress, which amounts to cruelty to animals as per the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, and is therefore a punishable offence.

Statistics indicate that castration of Bull calves using the Burdizzo castration is one of the most commonly practised animal-husbandry procedures in India. Animals exhibit acute pain responses both during and after castration, including struggling, kicking with hind legs, tail swishing, foot stamping, head turning, restlessness, reduced activity, increased recumbency, abnormal standing posture and reduced grazing. The testes and scrotum are richly supplied with nerves, and any damage to them causes immediate and prolonged pain. Findings suggest that pain persists for several weeks following castration. Castration as now commonly performed is, in fact, considered to be one of the most stressful livestock experiences. Blood cortisol concentrations have been studied as indicators of physiologic stress in animals, and these concentrations are found to increase following the current procedure of castration.

When used correctly, analgesics, sedatives and anesthetics reduce or even eliminate fear and pain during castration. Options for anaesthesia and pain relief include short-acting local anesthetics that will have an effect for approximately 45 to 90 minutes or longer-acting pain-relief drugs that will last for several hours. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs can also aid in pain relief. Since castration causes not only severe pain but also highly elevated levels of fear, distress and anxiety, a combination of anesthetics and analgesics is recommended for use for castration from an animal welfare point of view.”

Samabhava Saves 27 Year Old 'Biscuit' With Special Book Exhibition



Photo credit: Krupa Animal Shelter

Bengaluru: In an interesting book exhibition organized at the Alliance Française de Bangalore on 21st-23rd July, 2012, Samabhava, reported a record sale of over 700 books. The fund raising event was organized to save a 27 year old horse named 'Biscuit' who is currently being taken care of by Samabhava at the Krupa Animal Welfare Shelter in Bengaluru. Samabhava is the only AWO in the city exclusively dedicated for the welfare of working equines. The organization regularly carries out health camps for working equines. To know more, check out www.samabhava.org.

कानपुर गौशाला से बैल चालित जनरेटर और गोमूत्र से लालटेन

श्री पुरुषोत्तमलाल तोषनीवाल

महासचिव

कानपुर गौशाला सोसाइटी

55/112, जनरल गंज, कानपुर - 204001

बिना बिजली/ लालटेन/ मोमबत्ती में पढ़ने वाले नौनिहालों के लिए अनुपम भेंट-गौज्योति

इसका टेस्ट एन. आई. टी. रायपुर तथा स्कूल आफ एनर्जी इन्व्हायरमेंट, राजीव गांधी

प्रौद्योगिक विश्वविद्यालय भोपाल में हुआ है उसकी छायाप्रति आपके अवलोकनार्थ संलग्न है।

विशेषताएं :-

- यह गौज्योति बैट्री मात्र चार सौ ग्राम गोमूत्र से चार सौ घण्टे तक जल सकती है। उसके बाद गोमूत्र बदलने पर स्वतः रिचार्ज हो जाती है। किसी तरह के रिचार्ज की आवश्यकता नहीं है।
- इस बैट्री में चार सौ घण्टे जलने के बाद आधा घण्टे से एक **Solution** डालकर सफाई हो जाती है तथा पुनः यह गोमूत्र भरने पर जलने लगती है।
- एल. ई. डी. का बल्ब तीन वाट का है जो पूरा प्रकाश देता है उसके फ्यूज होने की जल्दी संभावना नहीं है। इसी प्रकार इसमें तीन वाट का टंग्स्टल लैम्प लगा है जिससे पढाई लिखाई आदि काम किए जा सकते हैं साथ ही प्लग प्वाइन्ट लगा है जिससे कोई भी मोबाइल रिचार्ज किया जा सकता है।
- छार्च के नाम पर सिर्फ गोमूत्र है जो भगवान की कृपा से आज अभी तक सारे देश में किसी भी कोने में सुगमता से उपलब्ध है। गोमूत्र में किसी प्रकार के बदलाव की आवश्यकता नहीं है क्योंकि सीधा गाय से प्राप्त होने वाला गोमूत्र इसमें डाल दिया जाता है।
- आंधी, पानी व तूफान में तंजाब की बैट्री तथा लालटेन, मोमबत्ती के प्रयोग से आग लगने आदि अन्य खतरों की गुंजाइस है इसमें किसी तरह की गुंजाइस नहीं है।
- सेलफोन आज आम आदमी के लिये फेशन नहीं जरूरी हो गया है जहां बिजली नहीं है वहां चार्ज कराने की परेशानी रहती है। इस बैट्री से वह समस्या भी दूर हो जावेगी।

आज देश में करोड़ों बच्चे मोमबत्ती, लालटेन, ठिबरी आदि के सहयोग से पढ़ते हैं तथा उनकी झोपड़ी में भी रोशनी का साधन नहीं है इसकी जगह यह सुलभ साधन जिसमें कोई खर्चा नहीं है। प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। सरकारों की तमन्ना है कि हर गरीब से गरीब को रोशनी उपलब्ध कराई जाए। गौमाता का यह चमत्कार उसे शुलभ करा सकता है। इससे गाय की उपयोगिता भी सिद्ध होगी।



गौवंश की उपयोगिता बढ़ाने हेतु बिजली संयंत्र-बैलचालित जनरेटर:-

कानपुर गौशाला सोसाइटी द्वारा पशुशक्ति का उपयोग कर उसको स्वावलम्बी बनाने के उद्देश्य से बैलचालित जनरेटर का निर्माण किया है जो निम्न है:-

- यह पशुशक्ति से संचालित है।
- बैल भैंसा, ऊँट, छाचर किसी से चलाया जा सकता है।
- अमूमन बैलों का आर.पी.एम. डेढ़ से दो (प्रतिमिनट चक्कर) होता है। उसको गियर बाक्स द्वारा अठारह सौ से बाईस सौ के बीच किया गया है तथा उससे डायनमो संचालित होता है और बैट्रियां चार्ज होती है।
- साढ़े तीन घण्टे में बारह वोल्ट की दो बैट्रियां आराम से चार्ज हो जाती है उससे बीस घरों में बिजली आराम से दी जा सकती है।
- रोजगार के रूप में बैट्री चार्जिंग का काम आराम से किया जा सकता है। गांवों में रोजगार का साधन हो सकता है, विवाह, शादी तथा अन्य आयोजन बैट्री के माध्यम से होते हैं।
- सरकार की गांव-गांव को रोशन करने की योजना को सार्थकता मिलेगी।

The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of the SPCAs/AWOs and Animal Welfare Workers. The Board encourages Animal Welfare activities, advises the Central and State Governments on issues relating to Animal Welfare, particularly the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and also helps to formulate Animal Welfare Policies / Legislations.

PRINTED BOOK

Registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India under No.RNI No TNBIL2003/10675

AWBI NEWSLETTER

(Monthly)

Official Publication of the Animal Welfare Board of India

To



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(Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt of India)
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AWBI Newsletter

Vol No. 8 Issue No. 11 Re.1/-

RNI No. TNBIL2003/10675

March -August 2012



- ❑ Board Signs MOU with Vets Beyond Borders for Project Vet-Train
- ❑ BCCC Issues Advisory on Animal Cruelty Free TV Broadcasting
- ❑ Reforms for Humane Bull Castrations
- ❑ Govt of India Bans Use of Live Animals in Education
- ❑ Arunachal Pradesh Bans Battery Cages
- ❑ The Plastic Cow Project
- ❑ Kanpur Gaushala Society's Bullock Energy Driven Generator & Lantern From Cow Urine

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