



AWBI NEWSLETTER

The Animal Welfare Board of India is an umbrella of SPCAs/ AWOs and Animal welfare Workers. The Board encourages animal welfare activities, advises the Central and State Government on the issue relating to Animal Welfare, particularly the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and also helps to formulate animal welfare policies/ legislations.

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SUCCESS OF RABIES CONTROL PROGRAMME IN INDIA —ii

Rabies, which is a zoonotic disease, is widely prevalent in India. It is responsible for imposing a very heavy burden both in terms of loss of human / livestock lives as well as a huge financial expenditure on Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) vaccination of both human beings and animals exposed to dog bites. Dogs are the primary vectors of rabies transmission in India. As such, rabies remains a major public health problem in India.



A large number of human beings and animals die from rabies especially in rural India where dog bites in children go unnoticed and facilities for post-bite treatment are limited. Once the symptoms have set in, rabies is 100% fatal. However it is fully preventable by timely and appropriate post bite treatment. Control and elimination of rabies in human beings therefore requires control of the disease in dogs. As per World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines, 70% of the dog population (pet and stray) needs to be immunized and sterilized to control rabies and over-population of street dogs.

Mass sterilization of street dogs is also extremely important along with mass anti-rabies immunization as dogs are prolific breeders and unless their population is also controlled through an intensive humane sterilization programme, a new crop of pups will be added twice a year which will adversely affect the success of the National Rabies Control Programme (NRCP) if carried out in isolation i.e. with mass anti-rabies immunization only. Given the huge population of street / stray dogs (25 to 30 million in India) and the fact that they are prolific breeders, controlling their population through an intensive mass sterilization programme is considered an important tool towards rabies control besides mass anti rabies immunization of street / owned dogs.

Public awareness about benefits of ABC/AR Programme for controlling dog population and rabies and their support and participation are vital for the success of this programme. Similarly proper methods of garbage and solid waste management also need to be strictly enforced by the civic bodies in their respective areas where Animal Birth Control/Anti Rabies (ABC/AR) Programme is conducted.

The pilot programme of animal component of NRCP will include – the census survey of dog population, mass anti-rabies vaccination and sterilization of street dogs and will be implemented with the participation of two well known expert NGOs / AWOs of international repute - Humane Society International /India and Worldwide Veterinary Services (India).

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

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AWBI TAKES STRINGENT ACTION - medical students throwing a dog from the terrace OFFENDERS ARRESTED

CHENNAI : Two medical students who flung a dog from a rooftop in Chennai and filmed her hurtling several storeys to the ground have been suspended by their college and they were arrested on 6th July 2016. If one sees the video closely, the dog is not trying to flinch or escape as it trusts the man. This makes it evident that the dog knew the person. The video sequence of the man throwing the dog from the terrace. The video went viral on social media. Serves extreme punishment as he did something so horrific to a poor animal that trusted him. However, under provision of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has taken the stringent action against offender. The AWBI submitted the video and an official complaint to the Commissioner of Police and department of cyber cell of Chennai Police. Offender traced out and arrested by Chennai Police.

— AWBI/ AGENCIES



IS PCA ACT 1960 ENOUGH FOR PUNISHMENT : DR. S. CHINNY KRISHNA



The Vice-Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Dr. S. Chinny Krishna says that a draft of amendments to the PCA Act had been sent to the Government in 2011 which calls for a substantial increase in the penalties prescribed in the PCA Act, 1960. "He shall be punishable, in the case of a first offence, with fine which shall not be less than ten rupees but which may extend to fifty rupees and in the case of a second or subsequent offence committed within three years of the previous offence, with fine which shall not be less than twenty five rupees but which may extend, to one hundred rupees or with imprisonment for a term which may extend, to three months, or with both." The AWBI's draft not only expands the ambit of the Acts that count as cruelty under Sec. 17 of the draft but also suggests a minimum fine of 10,000 rupees and a maximum imprisonment of three years.

According to BBC : Two students have been arrested and released on bail for throwing a dog off a rooftop in the southern city of Chennai (Madras). There was massive social media outrage after a video they made of the incident went viral. The dog was found alive, injured and unable to walk but still wagging her tail, animal rights activist Mr. Shravan Krishnan told. The fact that the students have already been released has also caused anger. "Those criminals have come out on BAIL. This is how 'strong' the animal welfare laws are. With video evidence and so much of public outrage we couldn't remand them even for one day. We are extremely disappointed and it's a 'Black Day' for Animal Welfare in India," Mr. Krishnan posted on his Facebook page. However, the laws they have been charged under carry a maximum jail term of five years for "maiming or injuring" an animal.

(Source: July, 6. 2016 ; BBC- India)

India Bans Import of Dogs for Breeding

New Delhi: Animal lovers in the country are happy to know that the importing of dogs for breeding purpose has been banned by Govt. of India. The Director General of Foreign Trade has notified to take action in light of significant animal welfare concerns associated with not only the shipping but also with the importation of breeds of dogs which is not suitable for the climate of the tropical country such as St. Bernard's, Siberian huskies and Alaskan malamute. "We welcomed the Director General of Foreign Trade for this historic ban that will prevent the suffering of thousands of dogs. Our shelters are inundated with cases of abandoned imported breed dogs who are usually left out because the owners do not have a fair understanding of the breed's requirements. We now hope that the government complements this decision by enacting the pet shop and breeder regulations as recommended by the law commission of India, so that people only get their pets from shelters and responsible breeders." said Ms, Gauri Maulekhi Co-opted Member of the AWBI (Source : April 28, 2016/ HSI, nmukherjee@hsi.org)



**Hon'ble Chairman
& Vice chair-
man AWBI**

appreciates

All the Animal lovers,
AWOs, Volunteers, Media
personnel, & Chennai Po-
lice for such noble res-
cue work in the support
& service of homeless
animal.

*Secretary,
AWBI*

EXPORT OF DOGS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES WITHDRAWN

CHENNAI: The Animal Welfare Board of India was informed of a letter apparently written, or statement issued by Shri K.V. Satya Murty, Registrar, Indian Institute of Science Education & Research, Bhopal on 10.7.2015, to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, suggesting export of dogs from Kerala to foreign countries (that have a practice of slaughtering dogs for food) in order to 'reduce the menace' and manage the street dog population.

The Board was deeply concerned to learn that such a suggestion, which is against the laws of our land, had been made by a person in responsible office. Shri N.G. Jayasimha, Member, AWBI contacted Shri K.V. Satya Murty, and apprised him of the illegality of the suggestions stated to have been made by him. He advised him as to the likely repercussions, if his suggestions were actually to be taken seriously.

The Animal Welfare Board of India was informed that Shri K.V. Satya Murty Registrar has written to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala on 22nd July, 2016 and affirmatively withdrawn the suggestion regarding export of dogs. He has expressed his regret for the misconception caused, and requested all States and concerned agencies to stop the culling of dogs and adopt the Animal Birth Control programme under provision of Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001.-- AWBI



AWBI REQUESTS TO BAN ANIMAL SPORTS

CHENNAI: Jallikattu was banned by the Supreme Court of India on 7.5.2014 in its judgment given in SLP No.11686 of 2007 in the matter of AWBI Vs A. Nagaraja & Ors. as the event per se violates Sections 3, 11(1)(a) and 11(1)(m) (ii) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

The Animal Welfare Board of India has issued a letter on 15th May 2014 to all the State Governments and requested them to ensure that no bull or bullock cart races or the use of bulls in Jallikattu, or any manner of performances, or any animal fight, is allowed to take place in their State and that Section 11(1)(m)(ii) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 is not contravened by any person or entity and no one shall incite any animal to fight against a human being or another animal.

It is brought to the notice of all concerned that the ban on Jallikattu, bullock cart races, cock fights/animal fights is still in force and any violation of such a ban will amount to a serious contempt of court. The law enforcement agencies are requested to ensure that the judgment of the Supreme Court of India is implemented strictly and in compliance with the directions given by the Supreme Court.-AWBI



NEW SECRETARY OF AWBI - SHRI M. RAVIKUMAR, IFS

CHENNAI: Shri M. Ravikumar, IFS has taken over charge as Secretary of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) on 14.03.2016. The Secretary position was vacant since last one year. He is on deputation for four years. Shri M. Ravikumar is from Indian Forests Services (IFS), 2007 Batch was working as General Manager with, Commerce & Industries Dept., Govt. of Sikkim prior to joining the AWBI. He believes in building of work culture for the progress through creation of scope to trap the abilities and creativities of the public/animal lovers. He wishes to function in very efficient and professional manner, particularly for enforcing and implementing of the PCA Act, 1960 in the field with ample opportunities for animal welfare activities. — AWBI

Prevent animal fights - A Supreme Court judgment

CHENNAI: In light of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 12th January, 2015, passed an order for maintaining of status quo while setting aside the Andhra Pradesh High Court order dated 29.12.2014 in P.I.L. No.320 of 2014 regarding cock fights during the Sankranthi Festival from 10.1.2015 to 16.1.2015. The Supreme Court has directed the Andhra Pradesh High Court to re-hear and pass detailed order in the light of the earlier landmark Supreme Court Judgment dated 7th May, 2014

was passed in the matter of Animal Welfare Board of India Vs A. Nagaraja & others. In the meantime, the status quo is to be maintained, and no cock fights can take place. The Board brought to the notice of all concerned that Section 11(1)(m)(ii) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 makes it a punishable offense if any person solely with a view to provide entertainment incites any animal to fight or bait any other animal. The Supreme Court of India in its Judgment dated 7.5.2014 in the matter of Animal Welfare Board of India Vs A. Nagaraja & others has directed that it has to be ensured that the provisions of the Section 11(1)(m)(ii) be scrupulously followed, meaning thereby, that the person in charge or care of the animal shall not incite any animal to fight against a human being or another animal. It is therefore brought to the notice of all concerned that the ban on cock fights is still in force and any violation of such a ban will amount to a serious contempt of court. - AWBI



PRESERVE INDIGENOUS COWS : SHRI SHANKER LAL



CHENNAI: Shri Shankar Lal, Akhil Bharatiya Gau Seva Pramukh visited Animal Welfare Board of India ON 4th April, 2016. Dr. S. Chinny Krishna, Vice-Chairman, Shri Doulat Jain, Member, AWBI, extended a warm welcome to him. He has highlighted the importance of the Indian Breeds of cows, the use of Gobar and Gaumutra for the use in medicines for human beings. He shared the various aspects related to the Cow, the various diseases cured by using the medicines prepared using by-products of cows for the benefit of the

Cattle and human beings.

He expressed the importance of the Cow including the native breeds to be preserved, the difference of the Indian Breed and Cross Breed. He briefed the members about the importance of cow dung and urine in relation to use as insecticides and pesticides for crop protection without any chemicals which is important for practicing organic farming and to protect environment.

He was informed of the cruelties inflicted on the animals in various field, especially when the animals were used as performing animals and during transportation of the animals. The meeting was also attended by Brig. S.S.Chohan, Member, AWBI, Smt. Nandita Krishna, Director, CPREEC, Smt. Radha Rajan, Animal Welfare Activist, Shri Damani, The Madras Pinjrapole, representative of Karuna International, Chennai, Shri Kalyan Singh, Co-ordinator, North Tamil Nadu Gauraksha Pramukh and the officials of the Board. -AWBI



IMPLEMENT ABC (DOGS) RULES, 2001: S.C.

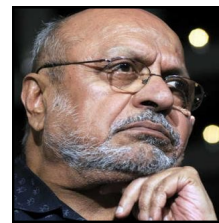
CHENNAI: The Supreme Court of India has passed an interim order in the stray dogs

matters listed before it applicable to all States and Union territories. Several petitions were listed before a bench presided by Justice Dipak Misra, & tagged with the lead case filed by the Animal Welfare Board of India in 2009. Vide their order passed today, the judges have directed all local authorities, gram panchayats, and other civic bodies in all States and Union territories to strictly follow the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001 framed under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, & the provisions of the Act itself; and no indiscriminate killing of dogs is allowed. The States and Civic Bodies are responsible to set up adequate infrastructure for implementing the animal birth control programme for stray dogs, and fund it in the manner provided for by the Rules. Since implementation will principally be through animal welfare organisations, and the Indian Constitution and law mandate compassion and absence of cruelty, AWBI guidance and opinion is to be provided. These Rules provide that stray dogs can only be sterilized and immunized, and have then to be returned back to the very location that they were picked up from, as provided for by Rule 7(6), once they recover after the animal birth control surgery. Only with respect to irretrievably ill or mortally wounded dogs, the humane euthanasia, or mercy killing in the manner prescribed in Rule 9, is to be resorted to by Vets. (and none else). For dogs suspected to be rabid, the procedure in Rule 10 is to be followed, i.e. any such dog is to be isolated because if a dog is indeed rabid, it dies a natural death within a few days. - AWBI



MONITOR THE PERFORMING ANIMALS : SHRI SHYAM BENEGAL COMMITTEE

CHENNAI: A meeting held of the Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting headed by Shri Shyam Benegal, the Veteran of Indian Film Industry consisted of 6 members including officials from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Shyam Benegal Committee had an interaction with Animal Welfare Board of India on 30.6.2016 for reviewing the procedure of granting Pre Shoot Permission (PSP) and NOC the performing animals used in Films/Ad Films/ Documentary/ Serials etc so as to simplify the process of issuing the No Objection Certificate (NOC) to CBFC to avoid any unnecessary delay in processing the documents. The Chairman, AWBI, Maj. Gen.(Dr.) R.M. Kharb, AVSM, Dr. S. Chinny Krishna, Vice-Chairman, AWBI briefed the Committee Members on the procedures followed by AWBI in implementing the Performing Animals (Registration) Rules, 2001 for Pre shoot permission and issuance of NOC from AWBI for performing animals used in films. The Committee suggested that the present procedure to be further revamped by monitoring the performance of animals at the time of filming and to avoid any delay involved in issuing NOC and to simplify the process as far as possible. The Committee also suggested that the training should be given to the wranglers/animal suppliers to minimize the unnecessary pain and suffering to animals during shooting of films and requested the Board to give suggestions for the graduation of performing animal scenes in Films, if the Government adopts no cuts policy in Films. It was suggested in the meeting that a directory of the AWBI film inspectors be prepared and be circulated amongst all the concerned so that they could be contacted to oversee the shooting to avoid any delay in issuing the NOC and also to ensure that no cruelty, unnecessary pain and suffering is caused to the animals during the time of shooting. It was discussed to enhance the registration fee for performing animals and a suitable fee for the inspection & issue of NOC for AWBI be also fixed and also suggested to redefine the definition of performing animals. Shri K. Sanjay Murthy, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (IB) suggested that the measures proposed by the Committee for simplifying the process of certification be examined by AWBI. - AWBI





WELFARE CONCERNS OF WORKING EQUINES IN INDIA

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

Chairman, Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India

The horse has been man's main beast of burden and means of transportation since its domestication around 4000 BC. During the last 6000 years the horse occupied the central place in the Animal Welfare. Horse Cavalry played a decisive role in the outcome of conflicts / battles. For centuries horse brought fame, power and glory to those that used it well. Initially used to pull chariots and then with the invention of saddle, the stirrup and horse shoe the mounted soldier got a stable platform on horse back from which he could use bow and arrow or use sword or a lance effectively. We are familiar with the important role played by horse power in the Army's of Genghis Khan, Attila the Hun, Napoleon, Shivaji and Maharana Pratap. India has rich traditions and cultural heritage linked to horses. We have our own well known indigenous breeds of horses such as Marwari, Kathiawari, Manipuri, Zanskari and in Laddakh we have wild horses known as Kiang. The run of Kutch in Gujarat still has wild donkeys. The horses are extremely intelligent and loyal to their masters. We all know that a mortally wounded Chetak carried his master the valiant Maharana Pratap to safety in the battle of Haldighati.

Contribution of Working Equines in India

The horse family totaling approximately 1 Million (including ponies, mules and donkeys) are playing an important role in India's economy by sustaining the livelihoods of the rural community as source of draught power, in generating employment, in research, experimentation and in producing life saving sera and vaccines for human health. India has a well established thoroughbred (pure/pedigree) breeding and racing industry which is generating appreciable employment and revenue for the Government. Working equines are also making a significant contribution in the Police, Army and the Paramilitary forces as force multipliers. India is the only country where we still have a full-fledged Horse Cavalry Regiment and a ceremonially mounted unit, The President's Body Guards.

Horses are also used for pleasure riding and in equestrian sports such as Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing, Tent pegging and Polo. The charismatic game of Polo originated in India in 1859 when some British officers had set up the first Polo Club in Bangalore followed by establishment in 1862 in Calcutta, the oldest active Polo Club in the World.

Equine Welfare Legislations in India

In order to address the welfare concerns and prevent abuse of equines the Govt. of India has formulated rules mentioned below under:

- The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960.
- Transportation of Animal Rules (Equines) 1978 by Road, Rail and Sea
- Performing Animals Rules 2000-2001
- Race Horses, Equines used in Films, Circuses etc.
- Licensing of Farriers Rules 1965
- Prevention of Cruelty to Draught and Pack animals Rules 1965

Five freedoms for equine welfare

- Freedom from hunger
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from pain, injuries & diseases
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from fear & discomfort

Welfare Concerns with Working Equines

Working equines in the rural sector in India are mainly utilized by small and landless farmers to carry loads, pull horse / mule carts and *tongas*. The following problems are associated with these animals:-

- Incorrect fitting of harness and saddlery leading to physical trauma to the animal such as saddle and girth galls
- Inappropriate care of hoof and shoeing resulting in lameness and damage to the hoofs
- Lack of properly trained and skilled farriers
- Inadequate nutrition which leads to poor health and sickness
- Inadequate preventive health care leading to sickness and diseases
- Overloading and lack of observance of draught and pack animals rules 1965 where the limits for carrying back as well as wheeled vehicle pulling loads have been laid down
- Excessive whipping of working animals leading to pain and suffering to the animals
- Lack of proper Equine Veterinary health care in the rural sector
- Inadequate enforcement of Animal Protection Laws



Welfare Concerns of Performing Horses used for Racing and Equines used in Circuses and Films

Horses used in Racing, and performances in Circuses and Films fall under the category of Performing Animals as such are governed by the Performing Animals Rules 2000 / 2001 to ensure that they are not subjected to any abuse / cruelty and their welfare concerns are considered paramount. All these horses are required to be registered with Animal Welfare Board of India as performing animals. These animals many a times are subjected to ill treatment during the course of training, Racing and shooting of films etc. Their performance are periodically monitored by the Board and necessary action taken / advisories issued as and when required. The main welfare concerns of performing equines are tabulated as under:-

Government of India has appointed AWBI as the prescribed authority for enforcement of Performing Animals Rules.

1. Excessive Whipping - For race horses Air Cushioned whips are only to be used on quarter and forehand of horse and that too not more than 8 times in a race. However, it has been observed that the whipping rule is not strictly implemented by the turf authorities. AWBI has issued guidelines to the turf authorities to enforce the penalties prescribed for the jockeys to address the malpractice of excessive whipping during racing as it constitutes a serious offence in the PCA Act 1960.
2. Abuse of Anabolic steroids / hormones and performing enhancing drugs. Several instances have come to the notice of AWBI of misuse of Boldenone, an Anabolic steroid in race horses. The turf authorities have taken serious view and awarded punishments such as suspension of license of the trainer. Considering the seriousness of the issue the Chairman AWBI held a meeting with the Veterinary commission and senior Vets of the turf clubs and issued detailed directions so that there is drug free racing. It was also stressed that no food additives be used atleast 48 hours before the race. The concerned clubs were also instructed to report the matter of use of prohibited substances in racing horses to AWBI after a confirmatory lab report is received. The turf clubs are also advised to have a uniform code of practice for abuse of drugs / prohibited substances in race horses.
3. Chairman AWBI also addressed the race horse trainers to ensure that the training and handling of horses under training should be humane and they must avoid over training of young horses as they prone to musculo- skeletal injuries.
4. For transportation of performing horses the AWBI has issued detailed directions to implement the transportation rules for equines in letter and spirit to ensure safe transportation of equines.
5. To check abuse / cruelty to equines used in entertainment in Circuses and Films - periodic inspections are carried out by AWBI reps. to monitor their welfare concerns.
6. AWBI has projected its concern to the turf authorities for rehabilitation of horses retiring after racing to ensure that they are not subjected to neglect.

Code of Conduct for welfare of sporting Horses

1. Welfare of Horse must be considered paramount in all equestrian events
2. The well being of horse shall be above the demands of breeders, trainers, owners, dealers, organizers, sponsors and officials.
3. All handling must be humane and Veterinary treatment must ensure health and welfare of horses.
4. Highest standard of nutrition, health, sanitation and safety shall be encouraged and maintained at all times.
5. During transportation adequate provision must be made for ventilation, feeding, watering and adequate space allowances as prescribed in rules.
6. All training and riding methods must not subject the horse to any kind of abuse.
7. Adequate monitoring mechanism should be in place to ensure that the welfare of horses is respected.
8. Medication control mechanism should be in place to prevent abuse of banned substances to ensure that horses compete on their own merits.

Conclusion:

1. Working equines are playing an important role in sustaining the livelihoods of people .
2. Adequate nutrition and good health are essential to good welfare and efficient work output.
3. Correct type of harness and line gear is important to good welfare and efficient work output of working equines.
4. Proper care of feet and hooves and appropriate shoeing is required for good equine welfare.
5. Legislation for equine welfare must be respected and implemented to protect them from injury, pain and suffering.
6. All Animal Welfare Initiatives finally result in Human welfare. —AWBI

बेसहारा पशुओं की जान बचा रहा है मैजिक कॉलर

विनय कुमार

अँधेरे से भी एक अलग जंग होती है। कई बार गलती हमारी नहीं होती बल्कि अँधेरे की गिरफ्त में आकर अनजाने में ही हम किसी की जान ले लेते हैं। अनजाने में की गयी इन गलतियों का अफ़सोस हमें जिंदगी भर कचोटता है। ऐसा आपके साथ भी कई बार हुआ होगा कि रात में सड़क पर लेटे या अचानक से सामने आये जानवर से टक्कर में उसकी जान चली गयी हो। और गलती न होते हुए भी आपको नुकसान भुगतना पड़ा हो। भारत में तकरीबन पांच लाख जानवर ऐसे हैं जो दिन-रात यूँ ही खुले में घूमते रहते हैं। इन्हीं में से कई जानवर रात के अँधेरे में तेज चलते वाहनों की चपेट में आ जाते हैं और ऐसे हादसों का शिकार हो जाते हैं जिसमें उन्हें अपनी जान तक गवानी पड़ती है। रात में सड़क पर अचानक से गाड़ी के सामने आकर जानवर बेमौत मर जाते हैं। इन हादसों के शिकार जानवर ही नहीं बल्कि खुद गाड़ी में बैठे लोग भी हो जाते हैं। ये हादसे इतने अचानक होते हैं कि अक्सर ड्राइवर की भी कोई गलती नहीं होती। अचानक ही करीब दो चार सेकेंड में गाड़ी के सामने आ जाने से अनियंत्रित टक्कर हो जाने से इन जानवरों की जान चली जाती है और गाड़ी चलानेवाले को अफ़सोस भर रह जाता है कि काश थोड़ा पहले से पता होता तो ये जिंदगी बचाई जा सकती थी। इसी काश को उम्मीद में बदला है चेन्नई की



एक गैर सरकारी संस्था 'पीपल फॉर कैटल इन इंडिया' ने। इस संस्था ने एक सर्वे कराया जिसमें पता लगा कि नब्बे फीसदी गाड़ी चलाने वाले इन जानवरों को देख ही नहीं पाते और अचानक से सामने आये पशुओं पर गाड़ी चढ़ जाती हैं। न देख पाना एक बड़ी समस्या है और अगर सड़क पर जानवर समय रहते दिख जाँएँ तो उन्हें बचाया जा सकता है। कहते हैं कि एक छोटी सी पहल कई जिंदगियां बचा सकती है। इस समस्या का समाधान इतना साधारण और सस्ता है कि आप भी इसे अपना कर इन बेजुबानों के साथ-साथ लोगों की भी जान बचा सकते हैं। एनजीओ. पीपल फॉर कैटल इन इंडिया ने इन मासूम जानवरों को बचाने के लिए इस समस्या का समाधान ढूँढ निकाला है जो ना सिर्फ सस्ता है बल्कि कारगर भी है। इस एनजीओ ने ऐसे जानवरों के गले में 'रिफ्लेक्टिव कॉलर' लगाये हैं जो सड़क पर दूर से गाड़ी की लाइट पड़ते ही चमक जाते हैं। इस से ड्राइवर को पता चल जाता है कि सड़क पर कोई जानवर है और उन्हें सँभलने का वक़्त मिल जाता है। ऐसे हादसे दुपहिया वाहनों के चालको लिए भी जानलेवा साबित होते हैं। "ये हादसे मोटर साइकिल चालकों के लिए बेहद खतरनाक है क्योंकि जानवरों से टकराने के बाद मोटर बाइक सवार गिर पड़ते हैं या जानवरों को बचाने की कोशिश में फिसल कर किनारे की खाइयों में गिर जाते हैं", पीपल फॉर कैटल इन इंडिया के संस्थापक अरुण प्रसन्ना ने टाइम्स ऑफ़ इंडिया को बताया। संस्था ने हाल ही में 300 'रिफ्लेक्टिव कॉलर' कुत्तों और गायों को लगाए है। ये कॉलर रिफ्लेक्टिव कपड़ों और सुरक्षित नायलोन टेप से बने हैं। अरुण प्रसन्ना कहते हैं कि, "हमने इन कॉलरों को जमशेदपुर, पुणे और बेंगलूर में कुत्तों के गले में प्रयोग किया है और इस प्रयोग से उनकी जान बचाने में हमें बड़ी सफलता मिली है इसीलिए अब हम इसे अन्य पशुओं के लिए भी प्रयोग करने वाले हैं।" इस पहल को पशु प्रेमियों का समर्थन ही नहीं आर्थिक सहयोग भी मिल रहा है। ये पहल न सिर्फ मासूम जानवरों की जिंदगियां बचा सकती है, बल्कि हमारे लिए भी रात में सड़कों को सुरक्षित बना रही है। आप भी इस पहल से जुड़े और अपने शहर को रात में अँधेरे में भी सुरक्षित बनाएँ। मैजिक कॉलर के बारे में अधिक जानकारी के लिए आप 098840 71136 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

(Source : <http://www.thebetterindia.com/contact@thebetterindia.com>)

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.

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