



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 —III

Humane Society International (HSI) / India has since completed the census survey of the population of street and owned dogs in Haryana State and the total number of dogs (owned and street) in Haryana is over 25 lacs. There are approximately 10 dogs per 100 people in the State of Haryana which is much higher than the other parts of India, where there are only 3-4 dogs per 100 people. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana, Shri Manohar Lal Khattar officially launched the programme from Gurgaon on 13th March 2015 by flagging off the HSI / India's Anti-Rabies Task Force Convoy of specialized vehicles. The programme has commenced from Hisar Division of Haryana State. The programme will be implemented both in rural and urban areas. Worldwide Veterinary Services India (WVS India) will start implementing the programme in Gurgaon Division from July, 2015.



The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has initially identified a sum of Rs.30 Crores for implementation of animal component in Haryana State for mass vaccination and sterilization. A sum of Rs.100/- will be paid for catching, marking and anti rabies vaccination and Rs.700/- for surgical sterilization and vaccination of each dog (both male and female). However, for successful implementation of this challenging programme the two implementing agencies are also being provided with necessary assistance from Haryana Govt. Like 1.) Civic bodies and Panchayats – to provide infrastructure lodging facilities for the teams and vehicles to bring street dogs to the Animal Birth Control Centre for sterilization and releasing them back after sterilization to their original habitats and 2) Dept. of Animal Husbandry – to provide infrastructural help of their Veterinary Hospitals for establishing street dog sterilization centres. For complete transparency in the implementation, the programme will be monitored and coordinated by the officials of Govt. of Haryana .

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

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Post Box No. 8672
13/1, Third Seaward Road, Valmiki Nagar,
Thiruvanniyur, Chennai - 600 041.
E-mail: awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in, Website: www.awbi.org
Phone:044-2457 1025; 2457 1024/Fax: 2457 1016

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AWBI ASKED REPORT

Jallikattu held in Pudukkottai - police claim they prevented the event-

TRICHY: Despite a Supreme Court ban on the sport, Jallikattu was held at Narangiyampatti village near Ponnamaravathi in Pudukkottai district on Aug. 2, 2016. However, the police claim that they prevented the event as they had received information that it was being planned. The Animal Welfare Board of India asked the district administration to submit clarification on the reported event. As per report, over 200 bulls were reportedly brought from the Pudukkottai, Sivagangai districts and Manapparai in Trichy district to the village. The event started at 9 am and went on till 12.30 pm as part of the Aadi festival organised by a closed group of people. Sources at Ponnamaravathi say Jallikattu organisers use this as an advantage to escape action as the police often pass the buck over jurisdiction. "Though 50 police personnel were deployed at the venue, none dared to stop the event," said a villager who attended the event. Meanwhile, a senior police officer from Pudukkottai said no such event took place in Pudukkottai district. (Source: [K. Sambath Kumar](#) | TNN | Aug 2, 2016) – AWBI/ Agencies



ANDHRA PRADESH BANS MANJA- A VICTORY

Hyderabad: Government of Andhra Pradesh bans deadly manja during Makar Sankranti and other occasions in the State. Honourable Chief Minister, the Environment Minister and the Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh calling for a ban. In the letters, PETA India pointed out that manja kills thousands of birds every year, including those who are endangered and also kills or injures numerous children and other people. Taking into account the severe damage caused by manja to humans, birds and infrastructure, many states and district administrations in India have already banned or restricted the sale and use of manja – including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Chennai, Amritsar, South West Delhi and the Gandhi Nagar subdivision of East Delhi. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also issued an advisory urging the state governments to address the manja menace and the Animal Welfare Board of India has written to all states and union territories encouraging them to ban manja. (Source: [PeTA](#) ,May 6, 2016)



WE MUST HAVE ELEPHANT RESCUE CENTRES :SMT. MANEKA GANDHI



NEW DELHI: Union Women and Child Development Minister and animal rights activist, Smt. Maneka Gandhi is moved by the appalling evidence of elephant torture and trauma brought out by "God in Shackles", a critically acclaimed documentary exposing the abuse of Kerala's captive elephants. She says elephant rescue centres were the need of the hour. "Gods in Shackles", directed by Canada-based Ms. Sangita Iyer, portrays stories behind the veil of Kerala's prestigious temple festivals. The film was screened for public at PVR Rivoli read a statement. Smt. Maneka Gandhi said: "Over 800 elephants have died in the last two years of beating and starvation in Kerala. To say that elephant is thriving in India, it is not. There are less than 20,000 left, of which Kerala is killing as many as it possibly can. Begging elephants must get off the road. We must have elephant rescue canters. The Kerala Government has to take a decision now -- to keep killing these endangered species or take action to rescue them." She added: "We have strong laws in place. Wildlife Act is a strong law but if Kerala Government chooses to ignore it, what can we do. It is because of the strong stance that the Atal Bihari Vajpayee led BJP Government took to rescue and rehabilitate bears that they are finally off the road." The documentary has been nominated by the International Elephant Film Festival at the United Nations General assembly and has won seven international film festival awards including the Los Angeles Cinefest Award, Hollywood International Independent Documentary Film Festival Award, The IMPACT Docs - Award of Merit, Golden Award at the World Documentary Awards.

(Source: [Indo-Asian News Service](#) | July 17, 2016)



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP HELD IN MEGHALAYA

SHILLONG: A workshop on Animal Welfare issues, especially aiming at changing the way the animals are treated has been conducted by the Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Govt. of Meghalaya on 16th July, 2016. "Very few State Government in the country have taken initiatives to set up State Animal Welfare Boards(SAWB)," said Dr.S. Bharat Kumar, Humane Education Officer of Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) in the gathering. The AWBI official was delivering presentation on 'Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' at a workshop organized by the Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department. Through the workshop, the department aimed at involving all stakeholders for their support and cooperation towards activating the SWAB and SPCAs in the state for effective implementation of the PCA Act. Traditional headmen from different localities of the city, officials of various departments including police and animal rights activists attended the workshop, which is a first of its kind held in the State. In Meghalaya, the SWAB was first constituted in 2009 and reconstituted in 2013. Despite SPCAs having already constituted in all 11 districts of Meghalaya, they are yet to start functioning. Parliamentary Secretary in-charge, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Dr. Kennedy C Khyriem said, "Animals are all living things God created and their rights have to be protected." Stating that there was a close relationship between man and animals during the Neolithic age, he said. "Over the years, human tend to break that bond and resort to cruelty to animal." Dr. Khyriem also said the issue relating to whether it is a question of welfare to keep animals in a cage or zoo with limited rights is something which has also to be discussed at such platform. Earlier in her speech, Commissioner & Secretary in-charge of the department, Dr. MHK Marak said the workshop aims at changing the way we care about the animals. (Source: Guardian News Bureau, Shillong, 17.07.2016)



Couple dedicates life for animals

Kangara : Young couple, after leaving their jobs in the United States, is serving for ailing and injured animals in Dhanotu village located in Shahpur Tehsil of Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh. Shri Robin Singh and his wife Mrs. Shivani had a passion to serve and feed stray animals since childhood but left to the US in 2003. Shri Robin said that it took him a decade to realise that he himself should serve the injured animals instead of seeking help from others. He said it was in 2013 that he decided to move back to India and work for the rights and welfare of animals. In December, 2014, they built a "Peepal Farm" which had a cow shed, a clinic and a few environment-friendly rooms for injured animals. "Injured stray cows, dogs and mules are given treatment here unless we can find a home for them." Robin said, "Rescue work is like running on a treadmill. We also focus on solutions which can help address the issue of animal rights." For dogs, we were encouraging adoptions and had coined the term "Desi log-Desi Dog", he added. There is no consumption of any animal product, including milk, in the farm. The couple is instead growing soya beans and making "tofu" which is healthy, low-fat, high-protein, cheaper and cruelty free alternative to cheese. For financial sustainability, they were working on "cow dung pots". Once we are successful in creating awareness about these pots, we can encourage farmers not to abandon their "unproductive" cows and bulls and instead sustain them by making and selling pots from cow dung. The couple has sought help from the government to help them set up a Gaushala. (Source: The Tribune, August -2, 2016)



A Stray Dog Rescued from A Deep Well

Udaipur: Sunny, a female stray dog was successfully rescued from a deep well in a village located a few kilometres from Udaipur. The Animal Aid Unlimited(AAU), an organization that works for street animals took quick action as soon as the team came to know about her situation and brought her back to safety. She had been stuck in the open well for five days. Villagers in the area came to know about Sunny only when they heard her crying from inside the well. The locals could not descend and rescue her because the walls of the well are very unstable and it would have been dangerous. They wanted to help her and they informed AAU and two rescuers from the team reached the spot. Ganpat and Kalu Singh saw the well and realised that it was not in the condition for anyone to climb down. So they arranged for a crane, used it to descend, and finally rescued Sunny. (Source: <http://www.thebetterindia.com/Tanaya Singh/ July 29, 2016>)



ANIMALS RESCUED FROM GLOBAL CIRCUS

Madurai: Tamil Nadu Following a complaint filed against Global Circus which was recently camped in the Madurai District of Tamil Nadu by Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) authorised inspectors, the circus management relinquished all 3 dogs in its possession to the AWBI immediately for rehabilitation and pledged to become an animal-free, human based performance only. The Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO) facilitated the rescue effort. The animals have been moved to a sanctuary run by People for Cattle in India (PFCI) Chennai, where they will be cared for and given treatment for their injuries. Global Circus also signed an affidavit promising never to use animals again. The inspection team established that the circus was using animals in direct violation of the Performing Animals (Registration) Rules, 2001, since AWBI had not issued the Performing Animal Registration Certificate to the circus, which is mandatory to use animals for shows. This prompted the AWBI to write to the Madurai Deputy Commissioner requesting action. (Source: 28 May, 2016 / <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>)



Successful training for ABC/ AR Program in A. P.

Hyderabad: Government veterinarians of the AP State has concluded a spay/neuter training program during the month of April 2016 and emphasized on the practical surgery training and the team treated 1,865 dogs from different locations of Hyderabad by sterilizing them and vaccinated them against rabies. The intense two-week program included hands-on training in the surgical procedure humane handling of the animals and program management. The program aims at capacity building by diffusing high-quality skills in spay/neuter right down to the district level and in turn, improve the reach of enriched animal care. HSI/India, Blue Cross of Hyderabad and Andhra Pradesh Animal Husbandry Department collaborated on the training. Smt. Amala Akkineni, Chairperson of Blue Cross of Hyderabad adds, "It has been an honour and privilege to partner with HSI/India and Government of Andhra Pradesh to train 113 veterinarians in the spay/neuter techniques. The results are already visible as hundreds of animals are benefited in the districts. The feedback is overwhelming and the vets believe they have progressed 20 years ahead. Dr. Sanjay, Dr. Anubhav and all the trainers were extraordinary in their efforts. We look forward to providing this service to Government of Telangana and others in future." Dr. Jagdishbabu, veterinarian from the first batch of the program said, "This is the first time in my 18 years of Government service that we were trained on spay/neuter surgeries with such solemnity. (Source:)



Let's Rescue Snakes This Nag Panchami

Hyderabad: As the month of August begins, so do Nag Panchami preparations, which include capturing snakes. Snakes are captured in suffocating bags, kept in tiny boxes and starved. Their teeth are violently yanked out, and many snakes' mouths are painfully sewn shut before the animals are brought into cities. The snakes' venom ducts are often pierced with a hot needle, which causes the glands to burst. Some snakes go blind because the "tikka", which is applied to their hoods during pooja, trickles into the snakes' eyes. The State Forest Department may be approached, any one see a snake for rescue, or you can contact the police and file a complaint under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 as well as the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.



Contact details of the State Forest Department can usually be found easily on the Internet and accordingly, the Animal Protection Laws and Animal Welfare Laws/ Rules can be found on the website of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests. According to the Wildlife Protection Act 1972, it is a crime for snake charmers to catch snakes, exploit them for business purposes or even own them. Under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, it is illegal to torture or cause unnecessary pain or suffering to an animal. (Source: PeTA, August 2, 2016)

An agreement for animal welfare studies

NEW DELHI : An agreement was signed between the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and the National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW) to start a course on animal welfare at the JNU with 200 students for the first year. The agreement was signed in presence of Hon'ble Union Environment Minister and Hon'ble HRD Minister. "This course will help in preparing competent manpower to man various posts in zoos, municipalities, slaughter houses and veterinary hospitals. Such courses are offered in countries like Australia and New Zealand and now will be conducted by JNU in NIAW campus," Minister MoEF & CC said. Hon'ble Minister added that 100 days' time has been given to complete all the procedures to begin the courses. The NIAW, set up to meet the education and training needs of the animal welfare sector, had already launched short-term courses in 2005 and has so far trained more than 1,000 personnel.

Hon'ble Minister MoEF & CC said that the Ministry of Environment has sought JNU as an academic partner to help the institute in developing academic programmes according to national needs and global standards in the field of animal welfare. The government had estimated the net cost of the project at around Rs. 88 lakh for the first year and would enrol students for diploma and certificate courses. "JNU is a university that has name and credibility in academic activities and launching of this course is a good beginning for expanding its academic activities, Hon'ble Minister HRD said "

(Source: IANS, New Delhi | Published: 29th June, 2016)





FUTURE PROSPECTIVES OF GOSHALA ORGNISATIONS

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. R M. Kharb , AVSM , Chairman , Animal Welfare Board of India

The Cattle rearing, as it exists today in India at the subsistence farming level, is quite financially unviable. As long as the cow is in milk, the farmer is willing to maintain her, but once she becomes permanently dry, the scenario changes. So is the case with bullocks which become aged and infirm. Male cow-calves are often sold at very young ages, with the farmer-owner knowing full well that the calve he is selling will definitely land under the butcher's knife. The answer lies in the harnessing of all cattle by-products such as cattle dung and urine for various purposes. It is also possible to increase the profitability of the ventures by increasing the unit size and using current technologies, thereby generating wealth and employment. The proportionate contribution of livestock sector (4.8 – 6.5%) to total Gross Domestic Product Growth (GDP) has remained constant, its contribution to agricultural GDP has gone up over the years. This however does not include animal power, which is valued at between Rs 4,000/- and Rs 9,500/- crores in terms of fuel equivalent. According to the Economic Survey of India , 2001-2002, the contribution of milk and milk products alone, (Rs 1,01,990 crores) was higher than wheat (Rs 47,091 crores) and sugarcane (Rs 27,647 crores).

Status of Goshala in India

- We have approximately 4000 Gaushalas and the number is increasing due to large stray cattle population.
- Their strength varies from 500 to 10000 cattle.
- No. of AWOs recognized by AWBI in 1988-89 were very few Gaushalas .
- The number raised to 439 in 1998-99 and few hundred Gaushalas were recognized by the Board. Today, the Board has recognized more than 1800 Gaushalas in the Country. The awareness for the protection of cows and its progeny has increased in many fold during the last two decades and the organizations are established all over the Country .
- Gaushalas needs to be made as Centre of Excellence the rural development and the use of by-products/ biomass like cow dung, urine , milk etc. produced from Cattle and its progeny
- Well trained institutions are to be established in each state for mass awareness and making the rural people to be economically self-reliant by using the Bio-mass for community development.

Using the full potential of the Biomass (cow dung/ cow urine) :

- To empower Gaushalas to act as farmers training and demonstration centre for organic farming
- To act as centers of local native breed improvement and conservation
- To meet the rural energy requirement
- Farmers capacity building to utilize the local resources through Gaushala platform
- To develop marketing strategies for Gaushala produce
- To gainfully utilize the animal and agricultural waste in Gaushala .
- To make Goshalas self sustainable
- To empower Goshalas as a tool for holistic and sustainable development in rural areas

Training to Goshalas personnel is being imparted in the following disciplines: -

- Production of Bio-Gas and Methane Gas - Generation and bottling of methane gas by splitting the biogas, which is used as vehicular / cooking gas.
- Production of dry ice from carbon dioxide obtained by splitting the biogas.
- Production of Biogas by recycling huge quantity of energy rich cow dung available in Gaushalas through the medium of Gobar gas plants of various capacities viz., 25, 35, 45, 60, 85 Cu.m. AWBI has established 75 I.B.P's in many gaushalas all over country.
- Using diesel engine the biogas is converted into electricity (20% diesel:80% Biogas) which is gainfully utilized as domestic power.
- Electricity is generated to charge a set of six batteries with the help of a simple device which is activated by utilizing draught power/ Bullocks for two hours. The charged batteries provide adequate power for lighting for 24 hours in a domestic unit.

Pilot Projects to generate 400 KW electricity from Biomass :

- With subsidy provided by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on AWBI initiative - 5 pilot projects are being established in 5 Gaushalas sheltering more than 3000 cattle.
- The project is being put up by an entrepreneur M/s. Shri Krishna Captive Energy Pvt. Ltd. from Bangluru with Holland technology.
- The project will also include a silage preparation / storage plant to produce 5000 tons of enriched fodder every year for Gaushalas at marginal cost.
- Project will also produce stabilized compost (500 tons) for Gaushala at marginal cost.
- Copy of Project document is available for guidance.

PRODUCTION OF VERMI-COMPOST/BIO FERTILISERS

- Cow dung is gainfully utilised for production of excellent quality of bio fertilizers(vermi compost) with the help of earth worms.

WORLD RECOGNITION OF CATTLE DOMESTICATION

Bos Indicus or Zebu cattle breeds which are the humped cattle, found in the Indian sub-continent are thought to be the world's oldest domesticated cattle. There are differing views about the exact origin of the Indian cattle breeds and as to whether or not they were brought into India by the Aryans or existed in the country even prior to that. According to some historians, the abundant remains of humped bulls in every stratum of the archaeological site at Mohenjodaro, indicate that " the Indus Valley must have been specially rich in this fine breed of cattle .- NCC Report



- Vermi-compost rejuvenates the fertility of the soil and is also eco-friendly.
- Vermi compost is far superior compared to the chemical fertilisers and it is used in organic farming.

PANCHGAVYA MEDICINES

The panchgavya medicines are made by using cow milk, curd, butter, ghee and cow urine along with the local herbs. These medicines have been found extremely useful in treating several diseases in human beings. Their use is getting more and more popular by the day. Several cosmetic items such as soap, shampoos and creams are also prepared by using panchgavya items.

Panchgavya medicines are affordable by the rural community.

PROMOTING USE OF BULLOCK DRIVEN TRACTOR FOR AGRI USE

- Bullock driven tractors are being efficiently used by model Gaushalas for ploughing their fields for production of food and fodder.
- These are improved agricultural implements promoting use of bullock power.
- Male calves of Cows progeny are thus gainfully utilized for agricultural operations.

Others

- Generating Electricity from Bio-gas
- Production of Vermi compost / Organic Bio fertilizers
- Use of draught power for energy generation and agricultural operations
- Utilisation of cow urine and local herbs for making Bio-pesticides, Bio-growth, Bio-phenyl, mosquito repellent coils and pahchgavya products for ayurvedic treatment
- Indigenous Breed improvement and conservation through gene pool and germ plasm .
- Training in Veterinary First Aid and disease prevention
- Organic farming and water harvesting

Serious problems faced by most of Gaushalas :

- Mismanagement due to unskilled manpower
- Traditional outlook to survive on public charity/AWBI/State Grants
- Paucity of funds and lack of infrastructure
- Lack of knowledge on exploitation of local resources
- Lack of marketing strategies for their produce
- No proper breeding concept / policy
- No proper Animal waste management .

WHY THE COW IS KNOWN FOR LOVE & PROSPERITY OVER THE CENTURIES

The land produces plant life, which in the form of food grains, oil seeds, vegetables and crop residues, as well as legumes, green fodder, grasses serves as feed and fodder for cattle. While milch animals give milk and milk products for human consumption, draught animals serve as an invaluable source of power for agricultural operations, ploughing the fields, drawing water from the well and extracting oil from oil seeds etc., as well as for transportation of goods and people, especially in the rural areas. During the productive life of the animal, whether milch or draught cattle, as well as after the productive life, cattle give dung, which is an invaluable input for producing organic manure, which is put back in the land for enrichment of the soil in terms of restoring the nutrients. Dung is also used as fuel in the form of dried cakes for cooking and heating as well as for production of bio-gas. Slurry, which is a by-product of bio-gas is an eminently rich source of manure and is, in turn, usable for enrichment of the soil. Cow urine is also of immense medicinal value. Research in cow urine is gaining immense significance in cure of some diseases like cancer, renal failure and so on. Cattle urine is also a powerful natural pesticide and, if used properly can save human beings from the harmful effects of pesticide residues in every thing he eats and drinks. After dying a natural death, carcasses of cattle can be utilised for hides / skins and other by-products, at the same time providing employment to rural poor, who are traditionally engaged in this trade. The present discussion is only to high-light the inter-dependence of human beings, cattle and land resources.

— NCC Report

जॉन हिक्स की अंतिम विदाई - एक यादगार

-नोर्मा अल्वारेस

सदस्य - भारतीय जीव जंतु कल्याण बोर्ड

कोई भी वास्तव में ऐसा नहीं चाहता है जिसे ऐसा फोन मिले जो मुझे आज मिला। आज मैं दिल्ली में हूँ। गोवा के एक मित्र ने बताया कि एनिमल राइट एक्टिविस्ट जिन्होंने गोवा को एडाप्ट किया था, उन जानवरों के लालन-पालन के लिए जो पहले बेसहारा थे। उन पशुओं या वन्य जीवों को अपना परिवार मानने वाले माननीय महोदय-जॉन हिक्स को तेज दिल का दौरा पड़ा है, तत्काल उन्हें अस्पताल ले जाया गया। जहाँ उन्हें डॉक्टरों ने मृत घोषित कर दिया है। यह खबर मेरी आत्मा को झकझोर दिया। मैं एक गहरे सदमे में हूँ। जॉन पशुओं के एक महान दोस्त थे। वे लगभग दो दशकों से पशु कल्याण के मुद्दों पर हमारे एक अति प्रिय सहयोगी थे। सच है कि उनका स्वास्थ्य अच्छा नहीं था। लेकिन मैं मुश्किल से एक सप्ताह पहले उसके साथ बात-चित की थी और हम लोग "एआईआर" के भावी योजनाओं पर विचार-विमर्श कर रहे थे। उस दिन वे थे वह प्रसन्नचित थे। आज बिना विदाई के वे हमारे बीच से अचानक चले गए। न कोई कोई बात-चीत और न कोई खोज-खबर-बस सिर्फ अलविदा..... जॉन को पशु कल्याण योजनाओं की काफी पैठ थी। उनके लिए पशु सेवा ही सब कुछ था जो अब नहीं है। अधिकांश लोगों को लोगों यह जानकारी थी कि जान इंटरनेशनल एनिमल रेस्क्यू-गोवा के संस्थापक निदेशक तथा अध्यक्ष रहे हैं जो अस्सगो में स्थित है। लेकिन अब इस तरह का यहाँ कोई आदमी नहीं है जो इतना प्रतिभावान व्यक्ति हो और जानवरों के लिए बेहतर आशियाना बनाए। जहाँ पर कुत्ते, बिल्ली, बन्दर आदि सभी चैन से रह सके। जॉन का जन्म यूनाइटेड किंगडम में हुआ और वे सबसे पहले ब्रिटिश रॉयल आर्मी के वेटेनरी कार्प में शामिल हुए। उस समय उनकी उम्र कोई 17 साल की थी। वे वहाँ पर एक पशु प्रशिक्षक तथा हैंडलर थे। फिर देखते ही देखते जाने-माने कैनाइन एक्सपर्ट हो गए। जहाँ दवाओं को जानना-पहचानना सीखा तथा विस्फोटक सामग्रियों को कुत्तों से जांचने का काम कराने लगे। उनके सिखाए हुए जानवर बड़े ही वेलफेयर चालू हो गया। जॉन हमेशा पशुओं द्वारा शिकार करने की चलन के खिलाफ थे। इस आंदोलन में कूद पड़े। इस उन्होंने प्रकार पशु कल्याण को अपने जीवन का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा बना लिया। जिसमें उनकी पत्नी भी शामिल हों गयी और सहयोग देने लगी। इस प्रकार लगभग 35 सालों तक ब्रिटेन में जीव जंतु कल्याण का काम किया। जॉन का समय बदल बदलता गया। वे एक प्रभावशाली एनिमल एक्टिविस्ट हो गए और जीवन के अंत तक यह कार्य करते रहे। "हंट सर्वोटर्स एसोसिएशन" के चेयरमैन के रूप में उन्होंने एक गोरिल्ला तरीका विकसित किया जिससे शिकार के लिए बनाई योजनाओं को रद्द किया जा सकता था। डायरेक्टर के रूप में वे "लीग अगेंस्ट क्रुएल स्पोर्ट्स" का सञ्चालन करते हुए पशु शिकार के प्रतिबंध का अभियान चलाया जहाँ उनकी अपील को न्यायालय ने बेड़े गंभीता से सुना - न्याय भी दिया। जॉन अपने जीवनभर पर शिकार से सम्बन्धी सामन बेचने वाले लोगों तथा उनका क्रय - विक्रय करने वालों का विरोध किया। इसी प्रकार जॉन ने सड़क प्रदर्शन, धरना देना, शिक्षा में जानवरों का प्रयोग रुकवाना या जानवरों पे अनुसंधान का विरोध उनकी दिनचर्या थी। कई बार इसके लिए मारा-पीटा भी गया - जख्मी में हुए और प्रताड़ित भी किये गए। लेकिन उन्होंने पशुओं के ऊपर हो रहे अत्यचारों का विरोध हमेशा विरोध किया। जान ने वर्ष 1975 में "इंटरनेशनल एनिमल रेस्क्यू" नामक संस्था का स्थापना किया तथा 1985 में उन्होंने 2 मिलियन पौंड का दान देकर "आईएआर" की नींव रखी और बड़े पैमाने पर एक सेंचुरी बनाई। जिसमें घोड़े, गधे, गायें, भैंस आदि अपना जीवन यापन कर सके। आज एक पशुओं के लिए सेंचुरी बन गयी है। जब वे गोवा आये थे तो अपने मन से यह फैसला किया कि गोवा के प्रतिभाओं को एकत्र कर एक रेस्क्यू सेंटर बनाएँ जहाँ लावारिस कुत्तों का टीकाकरण एवं बन्ध्याकरण करेंगे। उनके आते ही "आईएआर" में स्थायित्व आया। तभी उन्होंने लंगूर प्रजाति के पशुओं का पुनर्वास की व्यवस्था आरम्भ कर दी। इसके लिए वे स्थानीय गाँव में जा-जा कर उन्हें लाते और पालते। कई बार गाँव वाले विरोध भी करते या पत्थर मारते। लेकिन उन्होंने इसका कभी परवाह नहीं किया। उनका तमाम बचाव कार्य ऐसा किया था जहाँ लावारिस बंदरों के बच्चों को लाना पड़ा। उन्हें बड़े ही लगन से लाते और पालते थे। उनका सम्बन्ध आसपास के फारेस्ट ऑफिसर्स बहुत अच्छा था। बचाए एवं स्वस्थ हुए जंगली जानवरों को जंगल में वापस छोड़ देते। जान बड़े अनुशासित थे, तुरंत जवाब देते थे और बहुत दयावान थे। इसी कारण वह बहुत लोकप्रिय हो गए। वे बहुत ही सफाई प्रिय थे। सफाई न होने पर अक्सर कर्मचारियों को डांट बैठते थे और खुद सफाई में लग जाते थे। जान की सबसे बड़ी दीवानगी थी पशु सेवा। गोवा की तमाम तंग गलियों में जानवरों को बचाने की जिम्मेदारी में कभी देर नहीं करते थे। स्थानीय लोगों को खूब जानते थे और उनसे मदद भी लेते थे। वे अक्सर अपनी पत्नी के साथ काम करते थे। वे हमेशा सुर्खियों में अपने आप बने रहते थे जहाँ उनका स्वरूप होता था एक बढ़िया सैनिक का, ट्रेनर का तथा एनिमल एक्टिविस्ट का। लेकिन वे एक आंदोलनकारी के रूप में खूब जाने जाते थे। उनका दया भाव बहुत ही उच्च कोटि का था। जॉन एक बहुत बड़े इन्सान थे। पशु प्रेम के अलावा उनके पास और कोई दूसरी पहचान नहीं थी और न तो कोई उनका धर्म, देश या भाषा की दिवार थी जो उन्हें किसी बंधन में बाँध सके। वे सारे दुनिया के थे और सारी दुनिया उनकी थी। हालांकि वे एक अंगरेज थे लेकिन उनकी सोच और पसंद तथा आत्मा की सच्चाई या गहराई विल्कुल गोअन थी। वे अपना सुबह पशुओं के साथ आरंभ करते थे और रात देर तक उसी में समाप्त करते थे। उनके लिए भारत और विलायत में कोई अंतर नहीं था। अगर कोई अंतर था तो अपनी जीवन यात्रा के अंतिम क्षण का समर्पण ही था जो गोवा में आ कर ठहर गया - गोआ निवासी के रूप में जहाँ उन्होंने अपने यात्रा की अंतिम सांस ली - फिर विदा हुए - हमारे बीच से हमेशा-हमेशा के लिए चले गए। उनका ऐसे जल्दी से हमारे बीच से चला जाना बहुत ही दुःख है और एक अपूर्ण क्षति भी। जिसकी पूर्ति नहीं की जा सकती। यह क्षण दिल को गहराई तक चीरते हुए असहनीय पीड़ा दे रहा है। आज उनकी यादें भर अब हमारे साथ हैं जो हम सबको पशु कल्याण में हमेशा-हमेशा प्रेरित करती रहेगी।



श्रीमती नोर्मा अल्वारेस का परिचय : श्रीमती नोर्मा अल्वारेस मैडम भारतीय जीव जंतु कल्याण बोर्ड की एक तेज-तर्रार सदस्य है। साथ ही भारत सरकार के अधीन कार्यरत सीपीसीएसईए की भी सदस्य और फेडरेशन फॉर इंडियन एनिमल्स प्रोटेक्शन ओर्गनाइजेशन (एफआईएपीओ) की अध्यक्ष हैं। उन्हें पशु कल्याण के क्षेत्र में उल्लेखनीय योगदान के लिए वर्ष भारत सरकार द्वारा पद्म श्री से सम्मानित किया जा चुका है। साथ ही पर्यावरण संरक्षण, महिलाओं तथा सामाजिक न्याय के सशक्तिकरण आदि के क्षेत्र में हमेशा सक्रिय रही हैं। वर्ष 2001 में उन्हें महिलाओं के सशक्तिकरण के लिए यशदामिनी पुरस्कार और वर्ष 2000 में सामाजिक न्याय के लिए विन्सेंट जेवियर पुरस्कार से भी सम्मानित किया जा चुका है। वर्ष 1999 में उन्हें पर्यावरण संरक्षण तथा सामाजिक न्याय के लिए गोवा पुरस्कार से सम्मानित दिया गया था। मैडम नोर्मा जी तथा उनके पति डॉ. क्लाड अल्वारेस, अदर इंडिया बुकस्टोर पब्लिकेशन्स में प्रकाशक और आर्गेनिक फार्मिंग एसोसिएशन आफ इंडिया के अध्यक्ष हैं। यह प्रकाशन अतिलोकप्रिय है। मैडम नोर्मा अल्वारेस अपने पति के साथ गोवा में रहती हैं। उनसे संपर्क करने के लिए - pfagoa@gmail.com पर संपर्क किया जा सकता है।

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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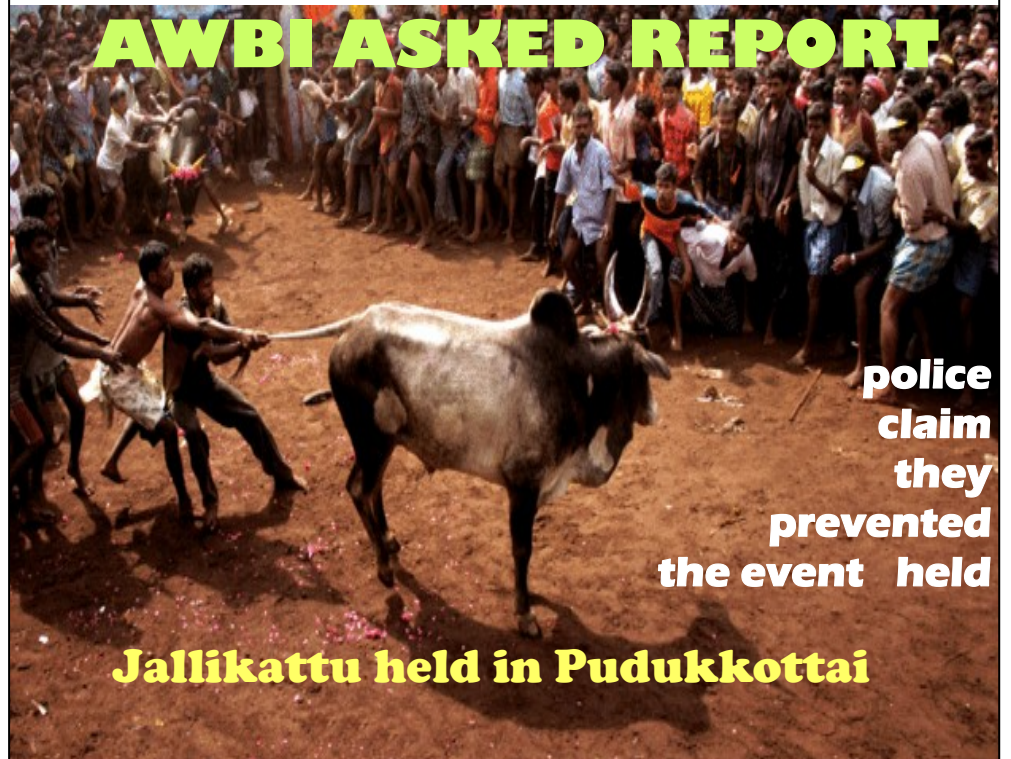


ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA
(Ministry of Environment , Forest & Climate Change , Govt of India)
13/1, Third Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar,
Thiruvanniyur, Chennai – 600 041
Tel: 044-24571024/ 044-24571025
Fax: 044- 24571016Email: awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in

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(Ministry of Environment , Forest & Climate Change , Govt of India)

13/1, Third Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar,

Thiruvanniyur, Chennai – 600 041

Tel: 044-24571024/ 044-24571025

Fax: 044- 24571016Email: awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in