

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

Minutes of the 51st General Meeting of the Animal Welfare Board of India held on 04.07.2023 at Chanderlok Building, New Delhi

The following members of the Board attended the meeting on 04.07.2023 at 11.00 a.m. physically at Chanderlok Building, New Delhi: -

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| 1. Dr. O.P. Chaudhary, IFS
Joint Secretary, (AWD) MoFAH&D | - | Chairman |
| 2. Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd.) | - | Member |
| 3. Shri Sunil Mansinghka | - | Member |
| 4. Shri Girish J. Shah | - | Member |
| 5. Shri S.P. Gupta, IAS (Retd.) | - | Member |
| 6. Prof. R.S. Chauhan | - | Member |
| 7. Ms. Anjali Gopalan | - | Member |
| 8. Dr. Hitesh Jani | - | Member |
| 9. Shri Ram Krishan Raghuvanshi | - | Member |
| 10. Shri Dhan Pal Singh | - | Member |
| 11. Dr. Vijay Kumar Teotia, R.O. AQCS,
New Delhi - Representative of
Animal Husbandry Commissioner, | - | Member |
| 12. Dr. P. K. Atul, Director I/c, NARF-BR
-Representative of Director, ICMR, New Delhi | - | Member |
| 13. Dr. S.K. Dutta, Joint Commissioner (AWD)
MoFAH&D | - | Secretary In-charge, AWBI |
| 14. Smt. Prachi Jain | - | Assistant Secretary, AWBI |

The Chairman welcomed the Members of the newly reconstituted Board in the 51st General Meeting of the Board present in the meeting. Thereafter, the Chairman requested the Secretary AWBI to present the agenda items.

Item No.1: Consideration of matter regarding constitution of Executive Committee and various other committees of the Board

Chairman, AWBI informed the Board members that the dog bites is now a nationwide issue. The Board must be aware of it and should take cognizance of it. The Board has to evolve some effective and creative manner for addressing this issue. He further stated that the Board to constitute a committee for addressing the matters pertaining to dog nuisance and the Board also need to prepare an SOP and Visuals / Models etc. to address the issue by utilizing / showcasing these means of controlling the over population of street dogs and to sensitize concerned administrative authorities / Municipal Corporations. Terms of Reference to be prepared for the committee. It was decided that the Board will constitute the committee

The Board after due deliberation on the matter constituted the Executive Committee and various other committees of the Board as given below: -

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Chairman AWBI
2. Shri Rajeev Gupta, Member, AWBI
3. Shri Girish J. Shah, Member, AWBI
4. Shri Sunil Mansinghka, Member, AWBI
5. Shri Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi, Member, AWBI
6. Shri S. P. Gupta, Member, AWBI
7. Dr. Hitesh Jani, Member, AWBI
8. Representative from the Ministry of Finance
9. Secretary, AWBI

ABC PROJECT RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

- (i) Chairman AWBI
 - (ii) Prof. Dr. R. S. Chauhan, Member, AWBI
 - (iii) Sh. Ram Krishan Raghuvanshi, Member AWBI
 - (iv) Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Member, AWBI
 - (v) Dr. H. R. Khanna, Joint Commissioner, DAHD
 - (vi) Dr. Abdul Vakil, Chief Veterinary Officer, GHMC
 - (vii) Dr. Sreenivasan, Additional Director, AHD, Karnataka
 - (viii) Dr. P. K. Atul, Director I/c, NARF-BR
 - (ix) Dr. Ansari, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
 - (x) Secretary, AWBI/ Asst. Secy., AWBI
- The Committee may co-opt one or more members as and when required.

ANIMAL ACT & RULES REVIEWING & LEGAL COMMITTEE

- (i) Chairman AWBI
 - (ii) Shri Girish J. Shah, Member AWBI
 - (iii) Dr. R.S. Chauhan, Member AWBI
 - (iv) Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Member AWBI
 - (v) Shri S.P. Gupta, Member AWBI
 - (vi) Smt. Manisha T. Karia, AoR, Supreme Court
 - (vii) Dr. Harsh Surana, AoR, Supreme Court
 - (viii) Adv. Rajesh K. Gonga, CGSC Delhi High Court
 - (ix) Shri Kamlesh Shah, Mumbai.
 - (x) Shri Abhay, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
 - (xi) Secretary, AWBI/ Asst. Secy., AWBI
- The Board may co-opt more members as and when required.

COMMITTEE FOR FUTURE OPERATION & REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL WELFARE (NIAW)

- (i) Chairman, AWBI
- (ii) Prof. (Dr.) R. S. Chauhan, Member, AWBI
- (iii) Shri Girish J. Shah, Member, AWBI
- (iv) Shri Rajeev Gupta, Member, AWBI
- (v) Shri Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi, Member, AWBI
- (vi) Dr. Debalina Mitra, Assistant Commissioner, DAHD
- (vii) Member Secretary, CZA

- (viii) Director, Wildlife Institute
 - (ix) Secretary, AWBI/ Asst. Secy., AWBI
- The Board may co-opt more members as and when required.

COMMITTEE FOR HONORARY ANIMAL WELFARE REPRESENTATIVE

- (i) Chairman AWBI
- (ii) Shri Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi, Member, AWBI
- (iii) Dr. R.S. Chauhan, Member, AWBI
- (iv) Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Member, AWBI
- (v) Shri Girish J Shah, Member AWBI
- (vi) Secretary, AWBI/ Asst. Secy., AWBI

RECOGNITION AND GRANT COMMITTEE

- (i) Chairman AWBI
- (ii) Dr. Vaidya Hitesh Jani, Member, AWBI
- (iii) Shri Girish J. Shah, Member, AWBI
- (iv) Shri Sunil Mansinghka, Member, AWBI
- (v) Shri S.P. Gupta, Member AWBI
- (vi) Shri Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi, Member, AWBI
- (vii) Smt. Anamika Nigam, Under Secretary, Representative from Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, New Delhi
- (viii) Secretary, AWBI/ Asst. Secy., AWBI

PERFORMING ANIMALS COMMITTEE

- (i) Chairman AWBI
- (ii) Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Member, AWBI
- (iii) Shri Mahesh Kumar, Regional Officer, CBFC, New Delhi
- (iv) Representative from Wildlife Division, MoEF&CC
- (v) Dr. Lipi Saiirwal, Assistant Commissioner, Representative from Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, New Delhi
- (vi) Shri Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi, Member, AWBI
- (vii) Humane Education Officer, AWBI
- (viii) Secretary / Asst. Secretary, AWBI

COMMITTEE FOR INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTER HOUSES

- (i) Shri Ramkrishna Raghuvanshi, Member AWBI - Chairman
- (ii) Shri Sudhir Kumar Srivastava, Inspector General (Retd.), BSF, New Delhi
- (iii) Dr. Sandeep Jain, Ludhiana.
- (iv) Dr. S. K. Mittal, Mysore.
- (v) Shri Kamlesh Shah, Mumbai
- (vi) Shri J.P. Saxena
- (vii) Representative from the State Animal Husbandry Department of the concerned State
- (viii) Representative of the local bodies
- (ix) Representative from FSSAI dealing with the subject
- (x) Representative from APEDA in respect of inspection of APEDA registered slaughter houses

AWARD AND EVENT COMMITTEE

- (i) Chairman, AWBI
- (ii) Shri Rajeev Gupta, Member, AWBI
- (iii) Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Member AWBI
- (iv) Shri Girish J. Shah, Member, AWBI
- (v) Dr. R. S. Chauhan, Member AWBI
- (vi) Shri Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi, Member, AWBI
- (vii) Shri S.P. Gupta, Member AWBI
- (viii) Shri Dhan Pal Singh, Member AWBI
- (ix) Shri Mittal Khetani
- (x) Smt. Monica Arora
- (xi) Secretary, AWBI/ Asst. Secy., AWBI

The majority of the Members of the Board opined that Committee for Press and Public Relations and Committee for Monitoring of Jallikattu Events have to be dissolved for the time being and the Board dissolved these Committees accordingly. The Board further decided that the committees will be constituted as and when the need arise.

Shri S.P. Gupta, Member AWBI suggested that the Committee Members should not represent themselves as Member of the Board and if found so, the Committee Member to be removed from the concerned Committee immediately.

Item No.2: Budget Estimate allocated by the Ministry to the Animal Welfare Board of India for the current financial year 2023-24

The Board approved the allocation of the Budget by the Ministry for the financial year 2023-24 and made few changes in allocation of the Budget. The allocation of the budget for the year 2023-24 is as per the details given below: -

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	Schemes	BE Allocation 2023-24	Allocation of BE allotted by Ministry 2023-24	Remarks / Reason
1	Grant in Aid Salary	330.00	300.00	Pay & allowances of AWBI staff and Salary of outsourced staff
2	Grant in Aid General (Admin & Office Expenses)	250.00	250.00	Website Cloud Storage charges, Lease line rental, e-office charges and other admin. expenses, including procurement of Assets, Meeting expenses etc.
3	Regular Grant	400.00	310.00	Regular Grants to AWOs
4	Provision of Shelter House	150.00	150.00	Shelter Grant to AWOs

5	Provision of Ambulance Services	50.00	50.00	Priority will be given on urgent need basis in each district
6	Animal Birth Control (ABC) Scheme	15.00	45.00	-
7	Natural Calamity Relief to Animals	5.00	5.00	-
8	Minor Works (Repair and Maintenance)	-	90.00	For renovation of Buildings
	Total Budget	1200.00	1200.00	

Item No.3: Consideration of matter regarding renovation of buildings of NIAW Campus

The matter pertaining to the renovation of various buildings i.e. Academic Block, Guest House, Director's Bungalow, Boys and Girls Hostels, Staff Quarters and parking areas which are in wear and tear conditions, was placed before the Board for consideration.

Chairman, AWBI observed that the Board in its earlier meetings has decided to renovate these building through CPWD but the same could not be done as the CPWD has not assessed the feasibility of renovation of these buildings. Chairman AWBI stated that Hon'ble Minister has asked to keep the buildings in good shape and well maintained therefore the renovation of the buildings is mandatory and has to be done on priority. The Board has allocated an amount of Rs.90.00 lacs for renovation work during the current financial year. Chairman further stressed that the Board need to renovate the Academic Block, Guest House and Hospital Building on priority basis and necessary approval etc. may be sought from the Ministry.

Dr. S. K. Dutta, Secretary, AWBI informed the Board that the work could not be carried out so far due to unavailability of feasibility of repair of the building from the CPWD. However, he further informed that under GFR Rules, Rs.30.00 lacs expenditure for repair and maintenance could be made by the office.

Chairman, AWBI stated that the Board should carry out the work of repair and maintenance in three phase incurring expenditure under Rs.30.00 lacs every time.

Shri Rajeev Gupta, member AWBI stated that the Board should appoint some retired experienced person well verse with the knowledge of civil works and ready to work for the welfare purpose either on honorary basis or on a suitable payment of Rs.50,000 or so. Chairman AWBI and all other members agreed for the same and it was unanimously decided to engage one person who shall look after the repair maintenance of campus buildings.

Item No.4: Ratifications of the minutes of the Board Meetings and Committee meetings

i) **Ratification of the Minutes of the 50th General Meeting of the Board held on 23.02.2023.**

The minutes of the 50th General Meeting of the Board held on 23.02.2023 were placed before the Board for ratification and same was ratified by the Board.

ii) Ratification of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Board held on 23.02.2023

The minutes of the 125th Executive Committee Meeting of the Board held on 23.02.2023 were placed before the Board for ratification and same was ratified by the Board.

iii) Ratification of the Minutes of the Honorary Animal Welfare Representative Committee Meetings of the Board held on 23.02.2023

The minutes of the meeting of Honorary Animal Welfare Representative Committee of the Board held on 23.02.2023 were placed before the Board for ratification and same was ratified by the Board.

iv) Ratification of the Minutes of the Performing Animals Committee held from 15.02.2023 till date

The details of the 24 meetings of the Board for Performing Animals Committee meetings held from 15.02.2023 to 08.06.2023 in which 208 Pre-shoot Permissions and 314 No Objection Certificates were issued to the concerned after approval of the Chairman, AWBI were placed before the Board for ratification and same was ratified by the Board.

Item No.5: Consideration of the matter pertaining to the demonstration of online portal of the Board for receiving all types of applications

The Board was briefed about the online system for receiving and processing all applications pertaining to Recognition, Renewal of recognition, submission of Annual Activity Report alongwith Audited Accounts, submission of application for Project recognition of ABC and submission of application seeking financial assistance under various schemes of AWBI such as Regular & Rescue Cattle Grant, Shelter Grant, Ambulance Grant, Natural Calamity and Animal Birth Control Grant, Registration of performing animals under PARR, 2001 such as registration of Animal Owner providing their animals in Films/ Ad-films etc., registration of circuses, registration of race horses, issuance of pre-shoot permission and No Objection Certificate, submission and processing of application of Colony animal care taker, Honorary animal welfare representatives, filling of complaints of Cruelty to animals and other grievances. The Board noted the same.

Item No.6: Consideration of matter regarding Awards Function 2022 of AWBI (PraniMitra and Jeevdaya Awards)

The matter pertaining to the Awards function was placed before the Board and the Board decided that the Jury for the Awards Function to be finalized with 8 Nos. of Jury Members only as no confirmation has since been received from Smt. Hema Malini, Hon'ble Member of Parliament as below:

SI.No	Name of Jury Member	Remarks
1	Shri Dipak Mishra, Former Chief Justice of India	Confirmed
2	Shri J R Mirdha, Former Chief Justice of High Court, Delhi	Confirmed
3	Shri Tarun Shridhar, Former Secretary, DAHD	Confirmed
4	Dr. Suresh S. Honnappagol, Former Commissioner, DAHD	Confirmed
5	Dr. Ashish Kakkad, Dentist/ICMR	Confirmed
6	Shri B.S. Bonal (Retd.)	Confirmed
7	A representative from Border Security Force/CRPF (Shri N.N. Dubey)	Confirmed
8	Dr. Nem Singh, Director,(Retd.) IVRI	Confirmed

The Board further decided that the Awards Function of the Board to be organized during the month of October, 2023 or preferably on 4th October, 2023 on the day of World Animal Day as per the availability of Hon'ble Minister of FAH&D.

Item No.7: Consideration of the matter pertaining to the functioning of Regional Office of AWBI situated at Chennai

The matter pertaining to the office premises of Animal Welfare Board of India situated at Chennai, Tamil Nadu was placed before the Board along with two request proposals received from the State Animal Welfare Board of Tamil Nadu to allow the SAWB of Tamil Nadu to utilize its office premises at Chennai free of cost for the purpose of Animal Welfare and another request from the office of Pollution Control Board of Tamil Nadu to take the office premises of AWBI at Chennai on rent respectively.

After due deliberation on the matter, the Board decided that the Office premises of the AWBI situated at Chennai is to be given to both the State Animal Welfare Board of Tamil Nadu and to the office of Pollution Control Board of Tamil Nadu at Chennai on rent. The agreement for renting out the Building premises is to be prepared in a fool proof manner to avoid any complications in future.

The Board further decided that Dr. R. Sumathy, Veterinary Surgeon of the Board and other employees of the Board posted at Chennai to be called back to the AWBI Hqs. at Ballabgarh as the AWBI Hqs. is facing acute shortage of man power to deal with its day to day affairs and the Board is hiring Veterinary Surgeon and other employees on contractual / outsourced basis and incurring a huge amount for the same.

Item No. 8: Consideration of the matter pertaining to amendment of Animal Welfare Board (Administration) Rules, 1962

The matter pertaining to the amendment of Animal Welfare Board (Administration) Rules, 1962 which are very old and does not serve the purposes for functioning of the Board and were also challenged by the C&AG Audit and Internal Audit conducted by the Administrative Ministry as DFPR mentioned in these rules are limited to very less amount and requires updation. These rules were submitted to the Ministry in 1991 and again in October 2003 and January 2017 for amendments but could not be amended so far.

The Board decided that the draft amended AWB (Admin) Rules 1962 are very lengthy and could not be considered and to be finalized during the Executive Committee Meeting of the Board proposed to be held during the first week of August, 2023.

Item No. 9: Consideration of the matter pertaining to Memorandum of Agreement for training of man-power working in different organization for carrying out the Animal Birth Control Programme.

The matter pertaining to the MoA for training of man-power working in different organizations for carrying out ABC programme for implementation of Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 notified by the Central Government vide G.S.R 193(E) dated 10th March, 2023 under Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 and after superseding the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001 was placed before the Board. As per the Rule 3 (1), the local authority may engage the service of the Animal Welfare Organization duly recognized by the Board for Animal Birth Control and which has the requisite training, expertise and human resources for conducting the Animal Birth Control Program as per the extant policy of the Board.

In the past, it was observed that the ABC Programme is implemented by the local bodies through the AWOs/ individuals who are not recognized with the Board. Further, it has been noted that the organization who are running ABC Programme does not have trained manpower. The Veterinarians working in the ABC Centre don't pose degree in surgery and don't have adequate training for catching, maintaining the kennels, surgery, infrastructure etc.

After due deliberation on the matter, the Board agreed and decided that the Board will provide Rs.1000 per person for training of Veterinarians, Rs.500 per person for training of Paravets and Rs.300 per person for training of Dog Catchers for practical session of training to be conducted by three organizations namely (i) Lucknow Municipal Corporation, (ii) Dehradun Municipal Corporation and (iii) Worldwide Veterinary Services, Ooty for imparting training to the Man-power of the various Animal Welfare Organization for carrying out the ABC programme. The above organizations will provide the infrastructure for the training programme as detailed in the agreement.

The Members also suggested that Tinku Memorial Trust Vapi may also be included as training institute for ABC. Therefore, the Committee, after deliberation, decided to include Tinku Memorial Trust, Vapi in the list of Training institutes along with the proposed list of institutes.

The Draft Memorandum of Agreement (Annexure-VII) prepared for conducting training on Animal Birth Control Program in collaboration with the above-mentioned local bodies was perused and agreed by the Board.

Chairman, AWBI was of the opinion that if all Board Members agree then the Board should conduct a Certificate Course at AWBI premises for training the man power for handling the Dogs, Snake and Monkeys catcher.

Item No.10: Consideration of the matter pertaining to the report of Task Force constituted by NITI Aayog on Production and Promotion of Organic and Bio Fertilizers with special focus on improving economic viability of gaushalas

The report of Task Force constituted by NITI Aayog on Production and Promotion of Organic and Bio Fertilizers with special focus on improving economic viability of gaushalas, received from Dr. Neelam Patel, Senior Advisor, National Institution for Transforming India, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India, New Delhi was placed before the Board for appraisal and the Board appreciated the report.

Shri Girish J. Shah, Member AWBI suggested that the Board Members and Board to put efforts to sensitize the AWOs about this report and as a result the stray cattle issue could be addressed through it and the AWOs could be self-sustainable.

Shri Girish J. Shah and Chairman AWBI suggested that all advisories, important letters etc. issued by the Board should be brought to the notice of the Board Members on priority through WhatsApp Group of Members or through emails for its maximum utilization.

Item No.11: Consideration of matter pertaining to the representation received from Karnataka State Animal Welfare Board regarding Boarding Kennels

The matter pertaining to registering Boarding Kennel Operators under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding and Marketing) Rules, 2017 received from Karnataka Animal Welfare Board was placed before the Board for consideration as many boarding kennels are being operated in Karnataka State.

The Board after due deliberation on the matter agreed for the same and suggested that the concerned committee of the Board may amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding and Marketing) Rules, 2017 accordingly.

Item No.12: Consideration of matter pertaining to the representation received from Rajasthan State Animal Welfare Board seeking permission to deal with the ABC Project permissions to the AWOs / NGOs of Rajasthan

The request letter of the State Animal Welfare Board to recognize the Animal Welfare Organisations implementing the Animal Birth Control programme under Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 in the State to provide authorization was placed before the Board.

After due deliberation on the matter, the Board did not agree for the same.

Item No.13: Consideration of matter regarding review of status of Recognized Non-Functional AWOs and renewal of recognition of multipurpose AWOs / NGOs in every five years

The status and details of the recognized organization, received from the AHD functioning in the States was placed before the Board for its appraisal.

The Board after perusal of the matter decided that the status of all Organizations recognized by the Board is must for implementation of online system for the processing of

all kind of applications in the Board and to have a data base of the organizations. The Board decided that the Board Members responsible for concerned States / UTs need to follow up the Administrative Authorities of States / UTs so that the Department of Animal Husbandry of the concerned State /UT could update to the Board about the current status of all Organizations recognized by the Board and about the organization where inspections are pending for consideration of new recognition, renewal of recognition, financial assistance etc.

The Board has decided to look into the issues of the following States by the concerned Board Members as below:

Shri Girish J. Shah:	Andhra Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar, Dadar & Nager Haveli, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.
Ms. Anjali Gopalan:	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura
Shri Sunil Mansinghka:	Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal
Shri Ram Krishan Raghuvanshi:	Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Odhisha
Shri S.P. Gupta:	Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab
Shri Rajeev Gupta:	Uttrakhand and Uttar Pradesh

The Board further decided that a D.O. letter from the Chairman of the Board to be issued to the Chief Secretary of the States / UTs informing them about the Board Member in-charge for the States / UTs so that due recognition and weightage is given to the Board Members in the States / UTs for following up the matter.

Item No.14: Consideration of matter pertaining to review of status of Gaushalas / Animal Welfare Organizations / NGOs who have received Shelter House / Ambulance grant from the Board / Ministry

The matter pertaining to review the status of the Shelter House / Ambulance of the Gaushalas / Animal Welfare Organizations / NGOs to whom the Board / Ministry has released the financial assistance was placed before the Board. The office has issued 240 letters to the Director, Animal Husbandry Department of the concerned State / UTs for seeking status of these AWOs but the inspection / status reports are awaited.

The Board noted the matter.

Item No.15: Consideration of matter pertaining to amendment of various rules made under PCA Act, 1960

The matter pertaining to the amendment of various rules which were notified by the Central Government under PCA Act 1960 and need amendment for effective implementation for prevention of cruelty to animals were placed before the Board for consideration and approval for their amendment namely: -

- 1) The Prevention of Cruelty to Draught and Pack Animals Rules, 1965
- 2) Licensing of Ferries Rules, 1965
- 3) Performing Animals Registration Rules, 1973
- 4) Cattle Premises Rules, 1978
- 5) Application of Fine Rules, 1978
- 6) Capture of Animals Rule, 1979
- 7) Transportation of Animals Rules, 1978
- 8) Transportation of Animals on Foot Rules, 2001
- 9) Slaughter House Rules, 2001
- 10) Performing Animals Registration Rules, 2001, amended in 2002
- 11) Regulation of Livestock Markets Rules, 2017

The Board recommended that the matter may be referred to the Animal Act and Rules Reviewing and Legal Committee for doing the needful.

Item No.16: Consideration of matter pertaining to issue an Expression of Interest (Eoi) for selection of Subject Matter Experts (SME)

The matter pertaining to the Eoi for creating a data base of SMEs was placed before the Board as the Board is receiving various contentious and legal issues related to Animal Welfare. Sometime, the Board is also receiving various representation on man-animal conflicts and public representation on various issues such as dog bites etc. The Ministry also refers many issues and representation. These issues need to be addressed suitably. Presently, the Board do not have subject matter specialist who may be contacted for advice on such matters. Hence, the proposal is placed before the Board to take decision on the matter for considering draft Eoi to invite applications / Bio-data for making comprehensive list of subject matter expert who are well verse with the Animal Welfare Laws and also served as resource person in sensitization workshops or trainings etc.

After due deliberation on the matter, the Board approved the proposal pertaining to the SMEs who are willing to serve on honorary basis and to register themselves in the data base of SMEs of the Board and suggested to revise the Eoi accordingly.

Item No.17: Consideration of matter pertaining to discussion on status of Regulation on those Animals which are removed from the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

The matter related to few animals such as monkey, white pigeon etc. which have been removed from the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and will be considered as domestic animals, was placed before the Board.

Shri Rajeev Gupta, Member AWBI suggested that a meeting with the Wildlife department to be organized to decide the roadmap on the matter pertaining to these animals such as monkey, white pigeon etc.

Additional Agenda Points

Additional Item No.1: Consideration of matter related to Regulations for recognition of Animal Welfare Organizations

The matter pertaining to Animal Welfare Board of India (Recognition of Animal Welfare Organization) Regulations, 2023 for providing recognition to the Animal Welfare Organizations registered as charitable non-profit organizations under the Indian Societies Act 1860, Indian Trust Act, Co-operative Societies Act, Gaushala Act, GosevaAayog Act etc. and working primarily for the welfare of animals including Gaushalas / Panjrapoles and who have completed three years of registration in their respective States / UTs was placed before the Board. The recognition is considered on receipt of the relevant documents and a favorable inspection report from the authorized inspection agencies of the concerned State Governments / State Animal Welfare Boards.

The Board approved the Animal Welfare Board of India (Recognition of Animal Welfare Organization) Regulations, 2023 and suggested to forward the same to the Administrative Ministry for its approval.

Additional Item No.2: Consideration for suspension of the recognition for non-receipt of clarification on the show cause notice issued by the Board.

The matter pertaining to the non-receipt of the reply to the show cause notices or any other correspondence made to the faulty organizations was placed before the Board, where the Board doesn't receive replies from such organizations even after two reminders. The Board suggested that such organizations which failed to submit clarification on the show cause notice issued by the Board, may be processed for suspension of its recognition with the Board.

The Board agreed to the proposal for suspension of such organizations.

Additional Item No.3: Consideration for exemption of registration fees for the Circuses who have already registered with the Board.

The matter pertaining to the One Time waiver of Registration fees of five Circuses which are registered by the Board under Performing Animal (Registration) Rules, 2001, was placed before the Board. As the circuses are already registered and the Board has requested to re-register the animals of the circuses in the online portal, the proprietors of the Circuses has requested to wave off the registration fees during the meeting held on 12.06.2023 for demonstration of the online portal.

The Board agreed for the proposal for one-time relaxation of registration charges of only 5 circuses which are already registered with the Board for streamlining the online registration. It is further decided that the application fees of Rs.5000/- will be applicable for registration of new circuses or in case of any additional animals is to be registered by them.

Additional Item No.4: Consideration of matter regarding constitution of monitoring committee for inspection of horses / ponies in Kedarnath

The representation received from the petitioner in case WP No. 79 of 2022 pending before Hon'ble High Court of Uttrakhand regarding equines used in hilly / mountains terrain for tourist and Pilgrimages across the state of Uttrakhand was placed before the Board where the Equines are subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering and incidences of death of several ponies enroute the Kedarnath Shrine has been reported through media reports.

The Board after due deliberation on the matter decided to constitute a Committee consisting of the following members to look into the matter and visit Kedarnath and to submit a detailed report regarding the welfare issues: -

1. Shri Girish J. Shah, Member AWBI
2. Shri Ramkrishna Raghuvanshi, Member AWBI
3. Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Member AWBI.
4. Mrs. Prachi Jain, Assistant Secretary, AWBI

Additional Item No.5: Consideration of matter regarding conducting of HAWR from NALSAR, Hyderabad

The matter pertaining to the meeting held with the Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, MoFAH&D on 09.03.2023 wherein it was discussed that NALSAR University of Law to be identified as the Nodal centre for training on Animal Welfare for various types of training such as Honorary Animal Welfare Representatives, ABC Training, Police Officers training etc. was placed before the Board.

The Board after due deliberation on the matter decided that initially 5 batches of HAWR training will be conducted at NALSAR and thereafter the Board will switch to start the trainings with the help of NSGC. The draft MoU was agreed by the Board.

Additional Item No.6: Consideration of matter regarding points raised by AWBI Members

The points raised by the following members of the Board were deliberated:

1. Shri Dhan Pal Singh, Member AWBI – The Points raised by member are given at **Annexure – XIV** were discussed.
2. Shri S.P. Gupta, IAS (Retd.), Member AWBI – The Points raised by member are given at **Annexure – XV** were discussed.
3. Shri Sunil Mansinghka, Member AWBI – The Points raised by member are given at **Annexure – XVI** were discussed.
4. Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd), Member AWBI – The Point raised by member are given at **Annexure – XVII** were discussed.

The meeting ended with the thanks to all the members and Chairman.