

**MINUTES OF THE 123<sup>rd</sup> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF AWBI HELD ON  
23.08.2019 AT KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI**

**PRESENT**

- |    |                               |                 |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Sh. O. P. Chaudhary, IFS      | Chairman, AWBI  |
| 2. | Shri Girish J. Shah           | Member, AWBI    |
| 3. | Sh. Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd.) | Member, AWBI    |
| 4. | Sh. Vaidya Hitesh Jani        | Member, AWBI    |
| 5. | Sh. Ramakrishna Raghuvanshi   | Member, AWBI    |
| 6. | Dr. Neelam Bala,              | Secretary, AWBI |

The Secretary welcomed all the Members and started the meeting with the permission of the Chairman. All the members have requested to create a WhatsApp Group for Executive Committee to discuss the issues related to Animal Welfare Board. The agenda items discussed were as under :-

**Item No. 1: Discussion on the issues raised by Sh Rajeev Gupta, IAS(Retd.), Member, AWBI in his article "Miserable condition of Cattle - Causes and solutions".**

The article on "Miserable condition of cattle - causes and solutions" was discussed in detail. It was requested by Sh. Rajeev Gupta that a meeting may be conducted at Chairman Level to discuss the issues raised in the article with all the stakeholders like ICAR, Food Corporation of India, Departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Aayush, New and Renewable Energy, URBAN Development, Pandhayati Raj, Forests, Land Resources etc. The same was agreed by the Chairman.

**Item No. 2: Discussion on further action required on the part of AWBI and GoI in respect of the letter sent to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) about death of thousands of cattle in Barmer and neighbouring districts of Rajasthan by Sh. Rajeev Gupta, IAS(Retd.), Member, AWBI and the reply received from NDMA.**

It was briefed that natural calamity has also happened in Sangli, Kolhapur, Belgaum etc. in addition to Barmer and neighbouring districts of Rajasthan. It has been decided that the as a special case, an amount of Rs. 25.00 lakh may be demanded from the Ministry under Natural Calamity Scheme in addition to existing BE/RE for the welfare of animals. Further, it has also been decided to conduct a



meeting with the officials of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for ensuring welfare of animals during natural calamities by the Courts and district administration.

**Item No. 3: Discussion on the issues raised by Sh. Girish J. Shah, Member, AWBI.**

- (i) *AWBI has issued magnificent guidelines, instructions over a period of time. Those are very useful in various cases for submission in courts and for implementation of various animal welfare laws by respective law enforcing agencies such as Police, RTO, cattle markets etc... such instruction, guideline should be available on AWBI website. At present it is extremely difficult to search and obtain such documents for anybody. Due to this, NGO or individual are deprived and unable to use it in favour of animals. AWBI should immediately prepare a Compendium of all such instructions since its inceptions till latest advisories, instructions and guidelines in physical mode and also made it available on website. The hard copy in physical mode should sent to all the states Courts (library), Animal Husbandry Dept. thru' SAWBI and such copies should made available with SAWB and district officer of AWBI across India. In the mean time on AWBI website this can be loaded immediately.*

It has been decided that the all the Act, Rules, magnificent guidelines, instructions, advisories issued by AWBI over a period of time will be uploaded on the website of AWBI in a month time in a systematic manner so that law enforcing agencies such as Police, RTO, cattle markets etc. and NGOs or individuals are able to use them in favour of animals. Further, it has been informed to the members that Board is in the process of making a compendium of all such Acts, Rules, Instructions since its inception till latest advisories, instructions and guidelines. As suggested, the compendium will be sent through email to all the SAWB and district representatives of AWBI across India.

- (ii) *We have umpteen startling, powerful, landmark judgments from Supreme Court and various High Courts in favour of Animal Welfare. Reference of those judgments are highly useful in ongoing cases across country in various courts including Supreme Court. AWBI should create portal (On its website) and keep on loading such judgments on portal as*



***continual process. This shall be highly useful to serve animals with their dues.***

It has been decided that all the highlights of the judgment / direction of the Supreme Court and various High Courts in favour of Animal Welfare will be uploaded in the Website of AWBI in separate section.

***(iii) Hundreds of cases are going on across India where AWBI is party and can play major role. AWBI should hire service of conversant advocates for welfare of animals.***

It has been decided that AWBI will create a panel of conversant advocates for welfare of animals across India to handle the legal cases for welfare of animals on pro-bono basis.

***(iv) AWBI need to coordinate with SAWB and SPCA instantly. SAWB and SPCA has no accountability as of now. Entire system and structure need to be revamped.***

It has been decided that whenever the meeting of Department of Animal Husbandry is being held with the Directors of Animal Husbandry of all the State(s) / UTs through video conferencing, the matter of functioning of State Animal Welfare Board (SAWB) in each State(s) / UT(s) and the establishment of District Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA) in each district will be discussed for welfare of animals. Further, it has been decided that Ministry may be requested to allocate the fund for establishment / functioning of State Animal Welfare Board (SAWB) @ Rs. 1.00 Cr. each as well as Ministry may be requested to notify the rules of State Animal Welfare Board at the earliest.

***(v) Kindly take update on Battery cage matter. Please kindly do the needful in this matter. Please note, AWBI should play pivotal role in this (Battery Cage) matter as AWBI was originator in 2012. It's AWBI who wrote official letter to all the states and UT in year 2012 to move out from Battery Cage by year 2017.***

It has been informed that the matter of battery cage is under process in the Ministry. Keeping in view of the poultry market across the Country and the welfare of animals, the rules are being framed.



***(vi) Please refer MoEF's letter written to AWBI referring the PMO's letter received to them (MoEF) on complaint related to various irregularities in Live stock export. AWBI was assigned to take action and take suitable measures to curb these irregularities and lawlessness. The documents prepared with great efforts to be submitted to PMO, MoEF's various concerned department's& to the complainant at earliest.***

It has been decided that the matter will be followed up with the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. The action taken by the Ministry will be forwarded to the members of the Executive Committee for their information. Further, it has also decided that all the reports / representation received in this matter will be forwarded to the members of the executive committee for their suggestion in the matter.

***(vii) This is the mandate of AWBI by supreme court WP (CO 881/2014 case. AWBI must take up this task. It will help great support to welfare of animals. Awareness campaign, training program, seminars in various states AWBI should do.***

It has been decided that the State level meeting cum training programme will be held in each state(s) for awareness on animal welfare. In the said training programme, a meeting is to be fixed with Chief Minister /Governor of the State/UT.

#### **General Discussion with the permission of Chair:**

Chairman has requested that the Rules which are not framed properly or difficult to implement may be revised as Pet Shop Rules, Dog Breeding Rules etc. Further, the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Rules 2001 may be reviewed / revised (if required). The matter may be referred to the Legal Committee of the Board.

Chairman has requested that the Regular Grant may also be given to those AWOs in which the number of animals are comparatively less as the organizations having large number of animals are already getting funds from other sources. All the members agreed to the same.

Sh. Girish J. Shah has informed that he has requested Hon'ble President of India to detach the word "Ahinsa" from the Lab Meat vide letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.

Sh. Girish J. Shah has stated that financial assistance of Rs. 50,000/- has been given by him through Samast Mahajan to the family of Late Shahid Sadhu who has died in the rescue of cattle at Siliguri, Border. It has been decided that after getting the authentic report from the State Government, the Board will award his family on the occasion of Prani Mitra Awards. It has also been decided that existing jury constituted by the then Chairman will be circulated to the members of the Executive Committee for their suggestion / revision of member (if any).

Sh. Girish J. Shah has requested to issue an advisory for the Paryushan Parv.

Sh. Girish J. Shah briefed about the Meat Complex, Goa. It was decided to get it inspected by Sh. Girish J. Shah alongwith Sh. Ramkrishna Raghuvanshi.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to Chair.

