

**MINUTES OF THE 118<sup>TH</sup> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA HELD AT NEW DELHI ON 18-05-2012**

**PRESENT**

1. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM	-	Chairman
2. Dr. S. Chinny Krishna	-	Vice Chairman
3. Shri Hem Pande, IAS	}	E.C. Members
Joint Secretary, MOEF	}	
4. Shri Guljarilal Soni	}	
5. Ms. Jasjit Purewal	}	
	}	
6. Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS	}	Members of the Board & Invitees
7. Brig S.S. Chohan, Rep. of MCG	}	
8. Shri Anjani Kumar	}	Special Invitee
Director, AWD, MoEF, GOI.		
9. Shri S. Vinod Kumaar	}	Assistant Secretary, AWBI

Dr. J.C. Kochar and Smt. Anjali Sharma, Members AWBI requested for leave of absence and the same was granted.

Hon'ble Chairman extended a warm welcome to all the Members of the Board and invitees for its 118<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting.

The Chairman informed the Members about the start of the Vet Train Programme for Veterinarians, Para Vets, Dog Handlers / Catchers and Shelter Managers. He also informed the Board about his visit to Agartala where a Seminar on Animal Welfare was convened by Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary College Agartala where more than 200 vets participated. Chairman appraised them about the Schemes being implemented by the AWBI and Animal Welfare issues. Chairman appraised the Members about his visit to Bhubaneswar last month and his discussions with the Senior Government Officials to expand the scope of ongoing ABC in Bhubaneswar. The shelter and ambulance provided to PFA Bhubaneswar is to be used now by the local body for the ABC programme. The Orissa Government have sent six Veterinarians and four ABC Managers for training under the Vet Train Programme at Gangtok (Sikkim). He informed the Members about his Gujarat Tour where he attended a Seminar on Gaushala at Anand and held discussions with the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation about starting the ABC Programme. Four NGOs have since started the ABC Programme now at Ahmedabad to address the over population of stray dogs and Rabies.

Chairman appraised the Members about his meeting with Ms.Ambika Soni, Hon'ble Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, about issues pertaining to NOC for Performing Animals. It was conveyed by the I&B Ministry that a Nominee of I&B should be included as a Board Member of AWBI. Chairman informed them that

the Ministry of Environment and Forests takes the decision about nomination of members as per PCA Act. The Chairman AWBI requested the Hon'ble Minister that an AWBI nominee should be appointed in all the Censor Board Centers which was agreed to by the Hon'ble Minister.

Chairman apprised the Members that some slaughter house inspection reports have been received from 5-6 States but many States are not moving forward. Chairman also informed the Board about his participation in a Kurukshetra Gurukul Gaushala Seminar wherein new methods of making organic fertilizers were informed to over 150 delegates from Haryana who participated in the Meeting.

Chairman informed the Board about his visit to Punjab and meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab about the issue of stray cattle and stray dogs. He informed the Members that the Hon'ble CM was convinced about ABC / AR programme and directed the Officials in Punjab to start the Programme in five local bodies as a Pilot Programme which should be a sustainable and an intensive programme. Chairman informed the Punjab Govt. officials about the ongoing Vet Train programme and the desirability of training their Vets / Paravets and Dog Catchers etc.

Chairman informed the Members that Director NDRI, Karnal had agreed to conduct a Gaushala Training Programme at NDRI, Karnal, Haryana.

**ITEM NO.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 117<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting held at New Delhi on 13.1.2012.**

The Minutes of the 117<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting held on 13.1.2012 were confirmed.

**ITEM NO.2: Report on action taken on the 117<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting of the Board held on 13.1.2012.**

The action taken report on the 117<sup>th</sup> ECM was noted.

**ITEM NO.3: Consideration of the matter relating to Inspection of Slaughter Houses.**

The EC decided that the inspection reports received from the various States on Slaughter Houses be forwarded to the concerned State Government / Municipal Authorities for taking remedial action and seek action taken report from the concerned State Government/Municipal Authorities.

The EC also noted that in the Slaughter House Rules, issues pertaining to Animal Welfare should be identified so that Slaughter House Rules could be amended accordingly for slaughter house inspections. Board to write to Animal Welfare Division on this issue as soon as possible.

**ITEM NO.4: Consideration of matter relating to important Court Cases at various Courts.**

The matter relating to important court cases was noted.

**ITEM NO.5: Discuss issue of proposed AWBI Golden Jubilee celebration, connected matters and fund raising.**

Vice-Chairman informed the Members that Hon'ble Minister of State, Independent Charge, MoEF, has given 6<sup>th</sup> December / 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012 as probable dates for Golden Jubilee Celebrations in New Delhi.

It was decided that a fresh Brochure about AWBI be made on the lines, as was prepared for Parliamentary Committee visit, with recent updates, it should be prepared immediately. Chairman requested all the Members to give their inputs within a week's time about the National Seminar at New Delhi and five Regional (Zonal) Seminars. It was also decided that the Board should write to the State Animal Welfare Boards to organize small scale Seminars on animal welfare in their Region. **The EC authorized the Chairman to write a letter to the Minister on the fund raising issue and the sponsor(s).** After getting Minister's approval, the Ministry may write to PMO for getting clearance / approval in respect of the people who are likely to share the dias with Hon'ble PM.

**ITEM NO.6: Discuss emerging issue of creating Dog Pounds for community / stray dogs by civic bodies.**

The EC resolved that the ABC/AR Committee is to be expanded to include Dr.Chawla of HSI, Shri Rahul Sehgal of Animal Help Foundation and Dr. Chariar from Maharashtra to discuss possibility of adopting Fast Track ABC / AR techniques.

The EC decided that there should not be any ambiguity about the places where dogs are to be kept for post-operative treatment after the conventional ABC surgery. There should be no mention of dog pounds in the ABC (Dogs) Rules 2001 as it creates doubts in the minds of people and the Board shall take up the issue with the Ministry about the need to replace the word "dog pound" presently being used in ABC (Dogs) Rules, 2001.

The ABC/AR Committee shall suggest the required changes in the ABC (Dogs) Rules 2001 which shall be communicated to the AWOs/LBs doing ABC for their time bound reply with suggestions and to the State Animal Welfare Boards to provide inputs.

**ITEM NO.7: Discuss ways and means of activating of SAWBs and District SPCAs.**

Chairman informed the EC about addressing another recent letter to all the State Governments to activate the SPCAs and the State Animal Welfare Boards for effectively addressing animal welfare issues.

**ITEM NO.8: Discuss the issue of Castration of Male cattle / young Bulls in Gaushalas to stop breeding of scrub animals – letter written to President VCI.**

The EC noted the matter. Chairman informed the EC that he has replied to the VCI that the advisory sought by AWBI is within the VCI's mandate.

**ITEM NO.9: Discuss latest position of starting ABC/AR programme vis-à-vis culling of street dogs in Srinagar.**

The EC noted with satisfaction about the latest position regarding the start of ABC/AR Programme of street dogs in Srinagar as informed by Board Member Ms. Jasjit Purewal and complemented her for her commitment and dedication.

**ITEM NO.10: Vet Train Programme for empowering Training of Vets / Paravets / Dog Catchers in collaboration with Vets Beyond Borders at Delhi and Gangtok.**

The EC noted about the start of the Vet Train Programme at Gangtok in Sikkim from May 2012, the next phase of the Programme is to start at in New Delhi on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

**ITEM NO.11: Discuss issue of Fumigation of Aircrafts using live rats and advisory issued in this regard by Chairman AWBI and response received from Central Warehouse Corporation.**

The matter was noted by the EC.

**ITEM NO.12: Discuss the matter pertaining to the meeting held with WSPA and Joint Secretary (AW) MoEF and WSPA's proposal to support AWBI's ABC/AR programme.**

The EC authorized the Vice-Chairman to interact with WSPA to speed up the WSPA's support for AWBI's ABC/AR Programme etc.

**ITEM NO.13: Discuss the initiative taken by Animal Welfare Society Doctor's Forum, Gurgaon regarding celebration of World Veterinary Day from 24<sup>th</sup> April to 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012.**

The matter was noted by the EC.

**ITEM NO.14: Discuss matter pertaining to junk mails which are flooding our PC's to create misinformation about Animal Welfare.**

The matter was noted by the EC.

**ITEM NO.15: Ratification of grants sanctioned and released under Humane Education.**

The EC ratified the grants sanctioned and released to the organizations under Humane Education Programme.

**ITEM No.16: Consideration of the matter relating to ratification of grant-in-aid sanctioned/released under Regular Grant and CSS Schemes to AWOs during the year 2011-12.**

The EC ratified the grants sanctioned and released to the organizations under various schemes implemented by the Board during the year 2011-2012.

**ITEM NO.17: Consideration of the matter regarding release of funds through State Animal Welfare Boards (SAWBs) from the year 2012-13.**

The EC noted the undue delay in release of the allotted Grants-in-aid to the Board from the Ministry during the year 2011-2012 and observed that it was only due to timely processing of files by the AWBI Office which ultimately enabled the Board to utilize the grants released to the Board. The EC also noted that the Board has informed the Animal Welfare Organizations applying for regular grant to forward their applications through the State Animal Welfare Boards to AWBI. In order to ensure that the Animal Welfare Organizations looking after the welfare of the animals are not put to further hardship on account of delay in release of financial assistance to them. However, the EC strongly recommended, as suggested by the Joint Secretary, AW, MoEF, that status quo regarding funding of AWBI grants to AWOs be maintained by the Ministry till the new Animal Welfare Act is enacted to avoid hardships to AWOs.

**ITEM NO.18: Consideration of the matter relating to latest status report of utilization certificate under Regular Grant and CSS.**

The latest status report of UCs pending under Plan and CSS Schemes were noted by the EC.

**ITEM NO.19: Consideration of the matter regarding Regular Grant criteria**

The EC approved the proposal to reduce the Regular Grant by 50%, as against the last year's criteria, taking into consideration the fund constraint in the AWBI Plan account as under: -

Category - I

The criteria for sanction of Regular Grants under AWBI Plan Scheme for both large and small animals (Approved for the year 2012-13) are as under:-

Number of animals sheltered	Grant for Small animals in rupees		Grant for large animals in rupees	
	Approved for 2012-13		Approved for 2012-13	
Below 25	Nil		Rs.600/animal	
26 to 50	Nil		18,000/-	
	Proposed for 2012-13		Proposed for 2012-13	
51 to 100	6,000/-		24,000/-	
101 to 200	12,000/-		30,000/-	
201 to 300	18,000/-		36,000/-	
301 to 400	24,000/-		42,000/-	
401 to 500 (and above for small animals)	30,000/-		48,000/-	
501 to 750	-do-		60,000/-	
751 to 1000	-do-		75,000/-	
1001 to 1250	-do-		90,000/-	
1251 to 1500	-do-		1,10,000/-	
1501 to 1750	-do-		1,20,000/-	
1751 to 2000	-do-		1,35,000/-	
2001 to 2500	-do-		1,50,000/-	
2501 to 3000	-do-		1,80,000/-	
3001 to 3500	-do-		2,10,000/-	
3501 to 4000	-do-		2,40,000/-	
4001 to 4500	-do-		2,70,000/-	
4501 to 5000 and above	-do-		3,00,000/-	

Category 2 - The criteria (Approved for the year 2012-13) for animals rescued/treated and the Regular Grant to be sanctioned under AWBI Plan Scheme is as under: -

Number of animals rescued/treated	Grant in Rupees	
	Approved for 2012-13	
Upto 100	Nil	
101-500	3,000/-	
501 to 1000	6,000/-	
1001 to 1500	12,000/-	
1501 to 2000	15,000/-	
Above 2001	18,000/-	

The minimum and maximum grant to be sanctioned to the AWOs by the Board under Regular grant will be respectively Rs.3,000/- and Rs. 3,00,000/-.

Subject to furnishing of the bond, pre-receipt pending documents and Utilization Certificates for previous grant, if any of the AWOs, the grants will be released in one / two installments as indicated hereunder:

Grant amount upto Rs.1,50,000/-	- In one installment
Grant amount above Rs.1,50,000/-	- In two installments

**ITEM NO.20: Discuss the request made to the Ministry for their suggestions regarding fresh applications for Jallikattu received following the notification banning bulls as performing animals.**

The EC decided that the Board shall not register the bulls as performing animals, including for Jallikattu, under the Performing Animals (Registration) Rules, 2001 in light of the Notification dated 11-7-2011 issued by the Govt. of India specifying that Bulls shall not be exhibited or trained as Performing Animals. The Board shall seek advise of the Legal Advisors appearing for the Board in the Jallikattu case about informing the Supreme Court of the notification of the Govt. of India dated 11-7-2011.

**ITEM NO.21: Any other matter with the approval of Hon'ble Chairman.**

**Additional Item No.1 Consideration of the matter relating to e-mail received from Shri Ganshyam Tewari, Deoria regarding Protection of Cow.**

The EC noted that the Board is already implementing the scheme for Provision of Shelter House for looking after Animals wherein financial assistance is given to Gaushalas for construction of Shelter Houses etc. Also the Board is also implementing another scheme for the provision of Ambulance Services for animals in distress where financial assistance is given to AWOs including Gaushalas to purchase Ambulance vehicle for the animals in distress. This may be informed to the applicant. The EC noted that the rest of the points of representation pertain to issues that were dealt by other Departments / Ministries and are not within the purview of the AWBI.

**ITEM NO.2: Consideration of the matter relating to inspection of slaughter houses in Andhra Pradesh**

The EC Noted the communication received and authorized the Chairman to write to the Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh on the matter relating to inspection of slaughter houses in Andhra Pradesh.

**Item No.3: To consider and approve and adopt the Annual Accounts of the EC for the year 2011-12.**

The EC approved the Annual Accounts of the Board for the year 2011-12 and the CPF Accounts for the year 2011-12 and approved for giving it to the Audit authorities for further necessary action.

**ITEM NO.4: Ratification of confirmation of appointment of Shri S.Vinod Kumar to the post of Assistant Secretary on successful completion of probation period of 2 years.**

The EC ratified the decision taken by the Chairman, AWBI approving the successful completion of the probation and confirmation of Shri S.Vinod Kumar to the post of Assistant Secretary in AWBI.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

\*\*\*\*\*