

**MINUTES OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA HELD AT CHENNAI ON 8<sup>TH</sup> & 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2010.**

**PRESENT**

- |   |   |                 |
|---|---|-----------------|
| 1. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM     | - | Chairman        |
| 2. Shri Doulat Jain                           | - | Vice-Chairman   |
| 3. Shri Hem Pande, I.A.S.                     | } |                 |
| Joint Secretary (AW) MOEF                     | } |                 |
| 4. Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS                     | } |                 |
| 5. Shri Shailja Kant Misra, IPS               | } |                 |
| 6. Shri Hiranmay Karlekar                     | } | Members         |
| 7. Dr. Brahmachari Omswarooparya              | } |                 |
| 8. Shri Guljarilal Soni                       | } |                 |
| 9. Shri Vadilal Kamdar                        | } |                 |
| 10. Lt.Col.(Retd) Dr. J.C. Khanna             | } |                 |
| 11. Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum                   | } |                 |
| 12. Dr. Md. Saleem Aslam                      | } |                 |
| 13. Ms. Norma Alvares                         | } |                 |
| 14. Smt. Amala Akkineni                       | } |                 |
| 15. Dr. Pradeep Malik                         | } |                 |
| Prof. & Head, Dept. of WHM                    |   |                 |
| Rep. of Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun |   |                 |
| 16. Shri D. Rajasekar, IFS                    | - | Secretary, AWBI |

The Joint Secretary (AW), MOEF also represented DGF & SS, MOEF in addition to his Membership. The Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Dr. Amaresh Chatterjee, Rep. of Municipal Corporation Delhi and Municipal Corporation Shimla could not attend the meeting.

Hon'ble Chairman extended a warm and hearty welcome to all the Members of the Board to its 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting.

Hon'ble Chairman informed the Members that Shri Hem Pande, I.A.S., Joint Secretary (AW), Ministry of Environment & Forests, GOI has been nominated as Member of the Board by the Central Government and has been co-opted as Member of Executive Committee of the Board and he welcomed him to the AGM. The Chairman informed the Board Members that Shri Hem Pande's induction in the Board shall facilitate the smooth functioning/co-ordination of AWBI & MOEF as an important link in the Ministry. He expressed hope that important pending issues will be resolved now.

Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum, Member expressed his objection about the nomination of Shri Hem Pande, I.A.S., Joint Secretary (AW) as Executive Member of the Board by the Central Government which is not in accordance to the extant Rules. The Chairman informed the members that the proposal for nominating JS as Executive member was agreed by majority of the Board Members against existing vacancy in the Board. It will help for better coordination, the same has been approved by the Board.

The Chairman briefed the Board Members about the necessity for carrying out amendments to the PCA Act as per the decisions taken in the earlier Board meetings. The fines / punishments for violations of the Animal Protection Laws prescribed in the existing Act are very meager. The Board had a number of Legal Sub Committee meetings in this regard and he thanked Ms. Norma Alvares and other Members of the Legal Sub Committee for contributing valuable inputs for amendments to the PCA Act. The Board has forwarded the revised PCA Act to the Ministry of Environment & Forests for approval by MOEF and further necessary action at an early date.

[Action: HEO]

The Chairman informed the Members about the useful awareness material compiled for the Humane Education Programme which is one of the mandate of the Board to send a message of compassion and love for animals. The Chairman congratulated Smt. Amala Akkineni and other Members who contributed to bring out CDs on Humane Education programme for School children, Police personnel, Government Officials and general public for sensitizing them for Animal Welfare. The Board wishes to introduce Animal Welfare as a subject for children for which discussions are in progress with CPR Foundation, Chennai so that some basic things can be introduced in the syllabi of schools. The issue will be taken up with the MOEF and Ministry of HRD and State Boards of Education.

[ Action: HEO ]

The Chairman also informed the Members that after a lot of deliberations and efforts, for the first time the Board has prepared the SOP for ABC programme which was released by Shri Jairam Ramesh, Honb'le Minister for Environment & Forests (Independent Charge), GOI on 10.7.2009. The copies of SOP were circulated amongst all AWOs/Local Bodies/Govt. agencies who are carrying out ABC programme and we have asked them to follow up the Spay / Neuter procedure as per SOP for ABC programme.

[ Action: GC-I/HEO ]

He also informed the Members that Animal Welfare is now being included in the syllabus in Veterinary Colleges. The Board had written to the VCI to introduce animal welfare in the syllabus of Veterinary Colleges and the Chairman had made a presentation to the VCI about this issue.

[ Action: HEO ]

The Chairman briefed about the participatory ABC programme implemented by the Board with the Local Bodies with the result that the area and number of sterilization has increased compared to that of the previous year. He expressed concern about the tender/contract system of ABC programme for stray dogs being awarded to persons on a higher rate by few local bodies in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Board has taken this issue with the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and Greater Mumbai Corporation to stop awarding contract to persons without verifying the facilities of infrastructure, and trained manpower available for carrying out ABC programme as per SOP for ABC as without that they are causing huge cruelties to animals. The Chairman informed that in Hyderabad all the NGOs involved in Animal Welfare or ABC programme participated in a two days seminar/workshop arranged by Blue Cross of Hyderabad and a separate training programme for dog catchers was also conducted.

[ Action: GC-I ]

The Chairman placed a note of appreciation to the Ministry for arranging a training programme for Veterinarians/Para-Vets and Dog Catchers at National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW) Faridabad. He informed that six batches of three weeks each were conducted for Dog Catchers, Vets & Para Vets by Vets Beyond Border (VBB) in collaboration with AWBI. The Board has recommended to continuation of this training programme and has requested the Ministry to expedite the same as this is most essential for success of ABC programme in our country.

[ Action: HEO ]

The Chairman gave a brief about the new initiatives taken by the Board to make the Gaushalas self sustainable. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India had signed a MOU for installation of six power generating plants for producing electricity from biogas in six Gaushalas and these are expected to be operational by October 2010.

[ Action: HEO ]

The Chairman informed that at the initiative of Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum, Gaushalas have been started in Jails in Madhya Pradesh and biogas is being produced there for cooking purpose. Shri S.K. Misra, IPS, Member informed that in Agra and other parts of UP also have started Gaushalas in the Jail. The Board has proposed to write letters to all states authorities to start Gaushalas in the Jails, so that the inmates in the Jails can be educated on animal welfare and association with cows is helpful in transforming them as useful citizens.

The Chairman informed the Members that as per the earlier discussions in the Board meetings, the Board has finalized a model design for construction of shelter houses for animals under the Shelter House Scheme with the help of Shri Doulat Jain, Vice-chairman. The same could be adopted if agreed by all Members.

The Chairman informed about the visit of Parliamentary Committee in January 2009. The observation of the Committee was that our Annual Reports in the past were

not submitted in time to the Parliament due to delays at various levels. The Board earnestly tries to get the Audit reports in time from A.G.'s Office for adoption in AGM and its printing and then forwarding to MOEF for placing before both houses of Parliament, however delay in getting the Audit report from CAG office, Chennai is the main hurdle for timely submission of Annual report of the Board even this year.

He also informed all members that for the year 2008-09, there are no audit objection except for an observation about the non-receipt of approval of MOEF for operating RRAECF Account. The Board has requested the Ministry on various occasions about the matter and the Joint Secretary (AW) has already instructed the Animal Welfare Division to follow up with the Ministry of Finance/appropriate levels for approval at the earliest.

The Chairman explained the Members about the delay in obtaining grants from the Ministry in the present financial year. The Internal Finance Division (IFD) of the Ministry was particular about the Rules, guidelines of the schemes for release of grant under various heads. Now the Ministry has resolved the problem and the Board has prepared revised guidelines for CSS and Plan schemes for information of the IFD.

The Chairman informed the Members that the maximum cruelty to animals in the country occurs during transportation and in the slaughter houses. The issue regarding illegal transportation of animals were raised by the Parliamentary Committee of Railway Board. The Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee has requested the Chairman, AWBI to present the Board's view. The Chairman AWBI attended the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee and made his presentation. The same presentation was shared and copies were circulated to all Members of AGM.

He also informed about the transportation rules and the requirement of AWBI rep's certificate for issuing permission for transporting animals by road/train, but the Board has not been informed about the transportation by the concerned agencies. Under Rule 96 & 97 of Transport of Animals Rules, 1978, a valid certificate issued by an Officer or any person or Animal Welfare Organization duly recognized and authorized for this purpose by the AWBI or the Central Government is to be procured by the person making transport of any animal before transportation. In this regard, the Board has circulated a letter nominating various authorized persons. The Board wants to revise the list of authorized persons for issuing certificates for transportation of animals under the above Rule. The Chairman requested the Members to give the list of good animal welfare activists from their States for authorizing them to issue certificate for transportation of animals.

He said that the transporting agency is duty bound to inform the AWBI about the date and venue of transportation of animals. The Board must address the issue to various agencies especially Railway Board.

He also said that the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Railways has taken a serious view about these issues and decided for further discussions on first week of February 2010 to overcome these issues.

The Chairman briefed about the Animal Welfare Fortnight to be held in January 2010. He also requested the AWOs to conduct animal welfare and awareness programmes during the Fortnight. The Board must encourage the AWOs to participate the Animal Welfare Fortnight and also give a message of compassion and love to animals. He also briefed the AGM about the National Rally to be flagged off by Secretary, MOEF on 12.1.2010 on the occasion of Animal Welfare Fortnight 2010.

The Chairman also briefed about the ABC/ Rabies Free programme being proposed for implementation and new Pilot Project covering initially 25 metros on Rabies free India project. The Pilot project has been submitted to MOEF and awaiting for approval.

**Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Animal Welfare Board of India held on 17-18, November, 2008 at Chennai.**

The Minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Board held on 17-18, November, 2008 were confirmed and approved.

**Item No.2: Report on action taken on the Minutes of the of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Board held on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November, 08.**

The action taken on the decisions of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Board held on 17-18, November, 2008 was noted and approved with the following comments:-

With regard to the HAWOs, it was decided that if they are not doing any animal welfare work in the last six months, the cards have to be cancelled and recovered from them. If any complaint is received regarding misuse of ID Cards by the HAWOs, on receipt of such complaints the cards to be cancelled and recovered immediately. It was also decided that half-yearly activity reports be obtained from the HAWOs.

[ Action: FC ]

Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum suggested that complaints against the HAWOs, should be forwarded to the Member of the Board of the concerned State for enquiry before cancellation of the Cards.

[ Action: FC ]

Smt. Amala Akkineni has suggested that the details of HAWOs be informed to the SPCAs of the area formed under the Establishment and Regulation of SPCA Rules 2001 and the HAWOs can also report to the SPCAs about their activities.

It was also decided that training programme for 2-3 days should be conducted in all State for the HAWOs and Co-opted Members after preparing a syllabus for the training. It was also decided that in the interest of continuance of HAWOs work, cards that are sponsored by Members and properly functioning AWOs (maximum two /AWO) should be considered for fresh issue or its renewal.

[ Action: FC ]

Shri Hem Pande, JS (AW) & Member, AWBI informed that instead of taking the law and order in our hands, we have to create awareness and strengthen the Government machinery who are implementing the law and order. We should increase our efforts on our awareness programme about the animal protection laws and cruelties to animals to the Police personnel through HAWOs/Co-opted Members/Members of the Board and work in co-ordination with the local Police, community and SPCAs.

Shri Pradeep Malik pointed out that a proper mechanism for investigation and removal of HAWOs be evolved. The training to HAWOs should be centralized.

Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum raised his objection on transfer of funds from Shelter grant to Plan schemes. The Chairman, AWBI explained about the urgent requirement of additional funds under Plan Scheme for releasing of pending Regular Grant/Initial Grant/Grants of past/ rescue cattle grant to the AWOs as also to utilize the funds allotted gainfully rather than surrendering them. It was also decided that to enable us to utilize the entire budget under Shelter Scheme, the existing guidelines be revised for consideration of grant especially in respect of the documents regarding ownership of land and estimate for construction of shelter house.

(Action: GC-I/AO)

**Item No.3: Minutes of the 109<sup>th</sup>, 110<sup>th</sup>, 111<sup>th</sup>, 112<sup>th</sup> & 113<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meetings of the Board laid before the Board – for ratification.**

The Minutes of the 109<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting of the Board held on 16-3-2009, 110<sup>th</sup> ECM held on 10-7-2009, 111<sup>th</sup> ECM held on 10-10-2009 and 112<sup>th</sup> ECM held on 29-12-2009 and 113<sup>th</sup> ECM held on 7-1-2010 were confirmed and approved with the following decisions/comments:

It was decided that the Minutes of all the Executive Committee Meetings are to be circulated to all the Board Members henceforth.

(Action: NS)

It was suggested by the Members that the criteria for grant-in-aid based on the number of animals is to be doubled under Regular Grant and sent to the Ministry for approval and enhancement of Plan grant.

(Action: GC-II/AO)

It was also suggested that under CSS Scheme the cost of vehicle for Ambulance and cost of construction of shelter house be increased and revised guidelines to be sent to the Ministry for approval. Under the CSS Scheme the applications of AWOs be verified by the District Administration or Veterinary Department as is done in the Regular Grant Scheme.

(Action: GC-I/AO)

**Item no.4: Approval of the Annual Report and adoption of Audit Report and Annual Accounts of the Animal Welfare Board of India 2008-09.**

The Secretary AWBI has made a presentation on the Annual Report of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai of the year 2008-09 and the Annual Report is accorded approval by the AGM.

The separate Audit Report of C & AG of India and Audited Accounts for the year 2008-09 was adopted by the Board.

The observations of the AWD, MOEF on the Annual Report of the AWBI of the year 2008-09 were discussed and it was decided that the observations arose in 2009-10 can be considered for incorporation in Annual Report of 2009-10.

**Item No.5: Ratification of the matter regarding Revised Estimates 2009-10 and Budget Estimates 2010-2011 of Board's Schemes submitted to Ministry and status of the Schemes.**

The Board discussed in detail the Revised Estimates for 2009-10 and Budget Estimates for 2010-11 submitted to the Ministry as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme      | RE 2009-10<br>proposed | BE 2010-11<br>proposed |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1     | Non Plan                | 170.00                 | 155.00                 |
| 2     | Plan                    | 1118.50                | 1360.00                |
| 3     | Shelter House           | 500.00                 | 1000.00                |
| 4     | ABC                     | 360.00                 | 400.00                 |
| 5     | Ambulance Services      | 200.00                 | 300.00                 |
| 6     | Natural Calamity Relief | 32.00                  | 50.00                  |

Shri Hem Pande, IAS, JS (AW) & Member, AWBI suggested that to the AGM that the Budget Estimates for 2010-11 would be as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme | RE 2009-10 | BE 2010-11 |
|-------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| 1     | Non Plan           | 170.00     | 155.00     |
| 2     | Plan               | 1118.00    | 1000.00    |
| 3     | Shelter House      | 500.00     | 1050.00    |
| 4     | ABC                | 360.00     | 400.00     |

|   |                         |        |        |
|---|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| 5 | Ambulance Services      | 200.00 | 350.00 |
| 6 | Natural Calamity Relief | 32.00  | 50.00  |

He also informed the Board that the Ministry will try to release the grant at the earliest for next financial year (2010-11) if the Board submits UCs of all schemes of the current financial year on 1.4.2010. The revised budget estimate as discussed in AGM be communicated to AWD, MOEF.

(Action: AO)

**Item No.6: Review of Revised CSS Application forms/comprehensive Inspection Report Proforma and streamlining /formulating / rationalizing inspection policy to AWOs involving various agencies.**

The Board has taken note of the matter. It was decided that application and inspection formats should be simplified and circulated in Hindi as well. The various documents that are being asked during recognition, if already submitted by AWO, the same shall be made optional. Similarly, in the inspection report, first and second half page contain basic information on AWO must be filled by the AWO and signed by President/Secretary of the organization. The revised guidelines for CSS and the application forms should match each other.

(Action: GC-I)

It was also decided that for Recognition of an AWO from the Board it has to be at least one year after its registration in the State and submit minimum one year Audited Accounts, activity report, details of animal welfare programmes conducted by the organization along with the application form. The Recognition to the eligible organizations to be given only after inspection and the initial grant to be considered only after one year of Registration of organization under the relevant Act in the State. It was also decided that the maximum limit of 200 recognition in a year to be abandoned from this financial year. The criteria of Rs.10,000/- as initial grant be continued only to organization sheltering animals.

(Action: GC-II)

It was also decided that a photograph of the President/Secretary/Trustee of the organization is to be affixed on any financial application including at the time of Recognition for the record of AWBI.

(Action: GC-I/GC-II)

Shri Hem Pande, JS (AW) & Member, AWBI suggested that inspection need not be carried out every year for Regular Grant. A self attested affidavit may be obtained from the organizations in respect of the working and documents submitted by the AWOs along with the application for Regular Grant. He has also suggested that the Board Members should take interest to revive the State Animal Welfare Board in their respective State. This proposal was accepted by AGM.



It was also decided that the existing system of Joint/team inspection of AWOs and existing inspection policy of AWBI be continued for consideration of grant under the CSS schemes to avoid confusion in the field. It was also decided that Government agencies must be involved for inspection of AWOs and random inspections can be carried out by the Members of the Board. The Co-opted Members are to be directed to brief the Government Officials regarding the points to be checked at the time of inspection.

(Action: GC-I/GC-II)

It was also decided that in the State of Haryana all inspections are to be carried out by Govt. Officials only with immediate effect.

(Action : GCI / GCII)

**Item No.7: Statewise list of CSS Schemes/Regular Grant sanctioned and released for the year 2009-10 (up to December, 2009) for information.**

The Board has taken note of the matter. It was decided that the details of grant sanctioned/released to AWOs along with the number of animals sheltered by each AWOs in respect of Regular Grant/CSS are to be recorded in the Board website for information and transparency.

(Action: Computer programmer)

**Item No.8: Ratification of the list of Co-opted Members for Regional Sub-Committees nominated and consideration of suggestions received from Dr.Sandeep Jain, Co- opted Member regarding Enhancement of inspection charges for Sub-committee Members.**

The Board has noted of the matter. The suggestion of Dr. Sandeep Jain, Co-opted Member regarding enhancement of inspection charges from Rs.500/- to Rs.1,000/- per day was not approved by the Board. However the compilation of Animal Welfare Laws were already done by the Board. The compilation done by AWBI namely "Compendium on Animal Welfare Laws & AWOs" was released by Shri Vadilal Kamdar, the Senior most Member and the copies were received by Hon'ble Chairman, AWBI and Joint Secretary (AW), MOEF & Member, AWBI. A copy of the book was also given to all Board Members.

**Item No.9: Consideration of matter relating to conduct of National Level Seminar on Animal Welfare in Rajasthan and Celebration of Animal Welfare Fortnight, 2010.**

The Board has discussed the matter and decided that a one day National Conference on Humane Education to be conducted in the month of April 2010 at Delhi. The proposals for State level conferences will be considered afterwards.

**Item No.10: List of Performing Animals Registration Certificate & HAWO Cards issued by the Board and authorization of HAWO's for various work for information.**

The Board has taken note of the matter. It was decided that the list of suppliers of animals for performing duly registered with the AWBI is to be published in the website and copy is to be given to Col. J.C. Khanna for his information.

It was also decided that after scrutiny of the applications received for pre-shoot permission or no-objection certificate, if any objections or documents due the same to be published in the website so that the applicants can know the details and there will be better transparency in processing of applications. It was also decided that the details of applications received, status of applications and approved list is to be published in the website.

(Action: FC/Computer programmer)

**Item No.11: Action taken on cruelty to animals matters – briefing by Secretary**

The Board has noted the matter and placed appreciation to the Board on the responses received along with action taken by various Government agencies.

(Action: HEO)

**Item No.12: Latest status report on Court Matters. – briefing by Secretary.**

The Board has taken note of the matter with the following decisions/comments.

Sl. No.5 – The monitoring of Jallikattu is to be done in the current year by AWOs and detailed report of violation be documented and submitted to the court to challenge the Act.

Sl. No.9 – The case need to be discussed/consulted with Ms. Norma Alvares, Member and take final decision.

Sl. No.10 – Court on its own motion Vs. State of Himachal Pradesh & Ors.

During the discussions it was decided that the habitual biting dogs to be neutralized and sheltered separately after verifying the nature of dogs. It was suggested that a rehabilitation programme for biting dogs to be implemented like in US. The civic bodies may be requested to provide suitable place for rehabilitation of these dogs.

During the discussions Smt. Amala Akkineni has briefed the Members about the Court case in respect of SPCA Kakinada, A.P. The Secretary, AWBI has informed that the Board has directed the District Collector, Kakinada to reconstitute the SPCA as per

the SPCA Rules 2001. It was also informed that Shri S.S.R.K. Guruprasad of SPCA Kakinada has filed a case against the District Collector's order.

It was decided that the Board should intervene in the case in the High Court for getting interim relief to get access to the funds and shelters so that animal welfare activities can be carried out under a Monitoring Committee till the final order of the Court. The Board can grant a maximum of Rs.20,000/- towards this case.

(Action : HEO)

**Item No.13: Latest status reports on State Animal Welfare Boards/SPCAs in various States – briefing by Secretary.**

The Board has taken note of the matter with the following decisions/comments.

It was decided to request the Ministry to write to the State Governments where the State Animal Welfare Boards are not yet constituted for constitution of State Animal Welfare Boards with reference to the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 6.8.2008.

It was also decided that the Board should formulate guidelines for financial assistance to State Animal Welfare Boards. The Members were requested to give their recommendations for the same so that it can be discussed in the next Executive Committee Meeting of the Board. The state Governments should also ask to provide funds to SAWBs on participatory basis. It was also decided to send letters to the SAWBs for improving their activities and get the details of their activities and suggestions for future plans.

Shri Hem Pande, JS (AW) has suggested that the Board should identify the area to be worked by the SAWBs and the powers to be delegated to them. The guidelines have to be formed for SAWBs with budget allocation and illustrated list to be included in the guidelines. He has also requested the Board to provide the list of States where the SAWBs are not constituted so that the Ministry can address the issue with the concerned State Governments.

It was also decided to find out animal welfare activists in each States to get help for constitution of State Animal Welfare Board and SPCAs in each District.

(Action : HEO)

**Item No.14: Consideration of matter relating to amendment to P.C.A. Act and formulation of new Rules, guidelines, SOP and training tool kits such as Humane Education CD's and other materials.**

The Board has taken note of the matter with the following decisions/comments.

It was decided that as directed by the Ministry the detailed justification for amendment of P.C.A. Act for placing before the Cabinet to be sent to the Ministry along with the Minutes of the Legal Sub-Committee.

With regard to the guidelines for Euthanasia of Animals, it was decided that the suggestions of VCI has to be incorporated and the same can be circulated to the AWOs. The Ministry be requested to expedite the same.

Smt. Amala Akkineni, Member has made a presentation on Humane Education toolkits developed to sensitize the School Children, Police personnel, Trainers and general public. The copies of CDs of this presentation were distributed to all the Members for their suggestions/feed back and comments for further improvements. The same shall be obtained in fifteen days.

During the discussions, it was decided to identify proper Editor of Publications, AWBI as presently not bringing out any publications in time.

(Action: HEO)

**Item No.15: Action plan regarding implementation of existing and proposed Rules under PCA Act.**

The Board has taken note of the matter. The detailed action plan for implementation of existing and proposed Rules under PCA Act will be discussed in the next Executive Committee Meeting.

(Action : HEO)

**Item No.16: Consideration of observations of Ministry regarding various issues circulated to Board Members for suggestions/observations.**

The Board has approved and ratified the decisions taken in the Executive Committee Meetings regarding the observations of Ministry.

(Action: GC-I/GC-II/A.O.)

**Item No.17: Consideration of uniform Shelter House design which was circulated to All Members of the Board.**

The Board has discussed the matter and approved the uniform design for construction of shelter house by AWOs out of the grant under the Shelter House Scheme. It was decided that the same is to be included in the proposed revised guidelines for approval of the Ministry.

(Action: GC-I)

**Additional Item No.1: Matter regarding the suggestions received from Dr. Brahmachari Omswarooparya, Member, AWBI.**

The Board has noted the points mentioned by Dr. Brahmachari Omswarooparya, Member, AWBI. It was decided that the adverse report received from the Member in respect of Dabur Harekrishna Gaushala, Sureheda, Delhi under Shelter Scheme and the same proposal is to be rejected on the basis of the comments of the Member. There is no need of re-inspection by Co-opted Member as decided in the earlier meeting in this regard.

(Action: GC-I)

It was decided that the Board should prepare a criteria and a proposal for consideration of Prani Mitra Award. All Board Members may send nominations/criteria for the same.

(Action: HEO)

During the discussions, it was decided that if any adverse report received from Member/Co-opted Member/Govt. Officials under any scheme the same should be discussed in the EC meeting before taking any decision on the matter.

Dr. Brahmachari Omswarooparya, Members has suggested that a column in all the publications of AWBI should be displayed that the AWOs should not contact people other than the Members/Office of AWBI for enquiring about the grant-in-aid under the Schemes of the Board.

(Action: Editor)

**Additional Item No.2: Matter regarding ratification of the grant sanctioned/released under Humane Education programme to Karuna International, Chennai.**

The Board has considered the matter and ratified the same.

The Board has considered the points submitted by Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum as separate agenda points and decided that the same will be included in the agenda for the next Executive Meeting of the Board. It was also decided that Shri Mahendra Kumar Bum will be invited as a Special Invitee in the next Executive Meeting of Board for discussion on the matters submitted by him.

Similarly the suggestions/points submitted by Dr. Pradeep Malik for discussion are to be placed in the next ECM.

The Board Congratulated Maj. Gen. (Retd.), Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM, Chairman AWBI for having been awarded the Humanitarian Award by PeTA, India for 2009 for his outstanding contribution in the field of Animal Welfare in India.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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