

Excise official hauled up for 'abusing' activist

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A CENTRAL Excise official had to apologise for allegedly threatening an animal activist who was feeding stray dogs in the government colony.

According to the details available, the excise official and his wife (names withheld) threatened and prevented Hansa Roy, an individual animal activist, when she entered their colony on May 13 to feed stray dogs.

They blamed her for the stray dog menace.

Roy reported the matter to the Gotri police station, the Animal Welfare Board of India and Maneka Gandhi's organisation, People for Animals.

After a series of correspondence between Roy, AWBI, Vadodara police and top authorities of the Central Excise Department, the matter was settled amicably. The couple tendered their apologies to Roy and promised not to raise objections when she came to feed the dogs.

Roy said, "We would not like to name the official as he and his wife have apologised for their wrongdoing."

She added: "It is not the question of punishing someone but more to do with the lack of awareness prevailing among the members of the society over stray dogs."