



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
NIAW Campus, 42 Mile Stone, Delhi-Agra Highway
NH-2, Ballabhgarh, Haryana-121004
Email: support-awbi@gov.in Website: www.awbi.gov.in

File No.:AC-01003/2/2024-AWBI

To

1. The District Collector of all States /UTs
2. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of each District.

Subject:- Request for closure of slaughter house(s) on the auspicious occasion of Paryushan/Daslaskhan Parva being celebrated in the Country from 31.08.2024 to 17.09.2024 - regarding.

Ref. : The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in C.A. No.5469 of 2005, Hinsa Virodhak Sangh Vs Mirzapur Motil Kuresh Jamat & Ors dated 14.03.2008 (Copy enclosed)

Sir/Madam,

The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is a Statutory Body established under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and is an apex body for the protection and safeguard of the rights of the animals as well as to ensure that the five freedoms of the animals are upheld and no animals are subjected to any unnecessary pain or suffering. Also, the AWBI can advise the Government or local body or any other person in regard to design of slaughter houses or maintenance of slaughter houses or in connection with the slaughter of animals.

2. In this regard, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 14.03.2008 in C.A. No.5469 of 2005, Hinsa Virodhak Sangh Vs Mirzapur Moti Kuresh Jamat & Ors, issued directions that in view of the notification of the Municipal Corporation of Ahmedabad, the slaughterhouse(s) and meat shops to be closed for the Paryushan Parva. The Apex Court noted that the "closure of a trade or business for a limited period is not an unreasonable restriction and is not a violation of Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution of India". A copy of the judgment is attached herewith for your ready reference.

3. Further, it is stated that, the Govt. of India has enacted the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001 to ensure that the animals are to be slaughtered in a humane manner. The law enforcement is carried out by the Department of the State Governments and UTs. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has also considered the five freedoms of the animals in its judgment dated 7.5.2014. The animals are to be slaughtered only in licensed slaughter houses. The State Authorities are empowered to initiate appropriate action against the offenders meting out cruelty to animals and to take action as per the law. The Board had already brought the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 7.5.2014 for compliance of law enforcement authorities for taking necessary action in the matter to prevent unnecessary pain or suffering to animals.

4. In view of the above, it is requested that the concerned authorities like Municipal Corporation/Local bodies may in consideration of sentiment of a particular religion, however, be considerate to suspend the slaughter of animals in the slaughter houses in those areas where the pre-dominant population of this community is observing / celebrating the Paryushan / Daslaskhan Parva

5. It is requested to forward a copy of the action taken in this regard to the Board for information and record.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr.S. K. Dutta)
Secretary

Encl.: as above.

Copy to:

1. The Director, Animal Husbandry Department of all States/ UTs.
2. The Member Secretary, State Animal Welfare Board of all States / UTs.
3. The Members of Animal Welfare Board of India.