CIRCULAR

To

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary /Secretary of Animal Husbandry of all States/ UTs

Sir/Madam,


As you may be aware that the Central Government has framed Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding and Marketing) Rules, 2017 and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Pet Shop) Rules, 2018. During the lockdown, the Board issued letter bearing no 9-16/2019-20/PCA dated 24.03.2020 requesting the law enforcing authority to ensure evacuation of animals stranded in pet shops and other commercial pet trade establishments which were likely to die without food, water, etc. and State Animal Welfare Board (SAWB) were asked to evacuate such animals WITH the help of SPCA and local administration.

2. These dog breeding establishments and pet shops were found in possession of various local, exotic and wild animal and birds, etc. Further, it has also been noticed that the animals are not kept in an ideal environment and the animals are suffering from unnecessary pain and cruelty. Therefore, to regulate the pet shops and dog breeding establishments so that the establishment followed scientific norms, mitigate spread of zoonotic disease outbreak, the Central Government has framed Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding and Marketing) Rules, 2017 and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Pet Shop) Rules, 2018.

3. Under these rules, the Pet shop and the dog breeding establishments need to be registered and the SAWBs are the registering authorities. As per Rule 4(5) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Pet Shop) Rules, 2018 requires the concerned SAWBs to register and issue certificates of registration to each pet shop while Rule 3 prohibits the operation of pet shops without such registration. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding and Marketing) Rules, 2017, under Rule 3 prohibits the breeding of dogs without a certificate of registration from the SAWB.

4. In view of the above two existing sets of rules, it is requested that the State Animal welfare Boards to ensure that after the Lockdown restrictions the pet shops and dog breeding establishments must be registered and the Pet Shops and Dog Breeding Establishments may reopen only after registration with the State Animal Welfare Board.

Yours Sincerely

(S.K. Dutta)
Secretary

Copy to:
1. The Director, Animal Husbandry Department of all States/ UTs