



ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

भारतीय जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड

(Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India)

(पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) Dr. R. M. KHARB, AVSM
CHAIRMAN

To Whom It May Concern:

Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is a statutory Body of Govt. of India established in 1962 under Section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 (No. 59 of 1960). The Board consists of 28 Members. At Present AWBI is working under the aegis of Ministry of Environment & Forests, GOI. This statutory body has been constituted by the Government of India for the promotion of animal welfare in general and for the purpose of protecting animals from being subjected to unnecessary pain and suffering, in particular.

It is brought to the notice of AWBI that starvation force molt regime is widely used in layer farms across the country. The practice of depriving hens of feed for several days amounts to cruelty to animals as per the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and is therefore a punishable offence.

All egg laying poultry farm owners and integrators are directed to ensure that starvation force molt regime is discontinued with immediate effect.

All State / Union Territory governments are requested to issue suitable directions to all concerned in this regard.

All District SPCA's and Animal Welfare Organizations are directed to work with the local police and animals husbandry departments to ensure that appropriate corrective action is initiated against farms that practice starvation force molt regime.

Dated: 9th March, 2011

Dr. R.M. Kharb
Maj. Gen. (Retd.), AVSM
Chairman, AWBI