

**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](mailto:support-awbi@gov.in) : Website: [www.awbi.gov.in](http://www.awbi.gov.in)

File No. AC-01009/23/2024-AWBI

To

The Member Secretary,  
Kerala Animal Welfare Board & The Director  
Animal Husbandry Department, Govt. of Kerala,  
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram 695033,  
Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram  
E-mail: [directorah.ker@nic.in](mailto:directorah.ker@nic.in)

**Subject: Complaint regarding the illegal bull race conducted in the State of Kerala- Regarding.**

Sir,

With reference to the above cited subject, the Animal Welfare Board of India has received a complaint from Walking Eye Foundation for Animal Advocacy (WEFAA) about the illegal bull race conducted in the State of Kerala. A copy of the complaint is attached herewith, which is self-explanatory.

2. In this regard, it is submitted that the 5-judge constitutional bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in WP 23 of 2016 titled as "AWBI Vs. UOI & Ors," has allowed the amendment Acts of all three states namely Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka and allowed the conducting of bullock races as per amended Act and Rules, the relevant part of the judgement is as below:

***"Tamil Nadu Amendment Act read along with the Rules framed in that behalf is not directly contrary to the ratio of the judgment in the case of A. Nagaraja (supra) and judgment of this Court delivered on 16th November 2016 dismissing the plea for Review of the A. Nagaraja (supra) judgment as we are of the opinion that the defects pointed out in the aforesaid two judgments have been overcome by the State Amendment Act read with the Rules made in that behalf.***

***41. Our decision on the Tamil Nadu Amendment Act would also guide the Maharashtra and the Karnataka Amendment Acts and we find all the three Amendment Acts to be valid legislations.***

***42. However, we direct that the law contained in the Act/Rules/Notification shall be strictly enforced by the authorities. In particular, we direct that the District Magistrates/competent authorities shall be responsible for ensuring strict compliance of the law, as amended along with its Rules/Notifications. All the I.As. for Intervention are allowed in the above terms. As we have answered the referred questions, we do not think any purpose would be served in keeping the writ petitions pending. All the writ petitions shall stand dismissed. The appeal and the Transferred Case shall also stand disposed of in the above terms."***

3. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed District Magistrates/competent authorities shall be responsible for ensuring strict compliance of the law, as amended along with its Rules/Notifications. Thus, it is most important to note that the no other form of animals/Bullock races has been allowed apart from the one specifically mentioned in the PCA amendment Act of their respective States. Also, there shall be strict implementation of the Hon'ble Apex court direction as well as the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 and the rules made thereunder. The Bullock races shall be conducted in strict adherence in a manner as prescribed by the PCA Amendment Act of their respective States.

4. In view of the above, it is requested to conduct an enquiry into the above representation to ensure the prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and direction of the Hon'ble Apex Court are strictly adhered. In case of any violation, is observed an appropriate legal action as per the provisions of the law may be initiated. Forward action taken report to the Board immediately to take further necessary action.

Yours sincerely,

(Prachi Jain)  
Asst. Secretary

Encl: as above

Copy to: for information and further necessary action please.

1. The Walking Eye Foundation for Animal Advocacy Email:  
[walkingeyefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:walkingeyefoundation@gmail.com)