

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2827
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2023

STATUS OF GAUSHALAS TAKEN OVER BY AWBI

2827. SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of all ten gaushalas taken over by Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) for taking care of stray bovines in the State of Jharkhand; and

(b) whether any efforts are being made by Government towards providing financial assistance in future to persons running gaushalas or strengthening the organizations working towards the welfare of other animals?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has not taken over any Gaushala for taking care of stray bovines in the State of Jharkhand. The Animal Welfare Board of India grants recognition to Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs) that apply to the Board for recognition. As on date 15 nos. of Animal Welfare Organizations are recognized by the AWBI. The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is implementing various schemes under which the assistance is provided for shelter, ambulance and veterinary care and maintenance of Animal Welfare Organizations recognized by the Animal Welfare Board of India. The grants are provided based on the demands received from the Animal Welfare Organizations and fulfillment of criteria of the Board. The AWBI has released a sum of Rs.12000/- to Jharkhand Animal Welfare Society (JH008/99) during the current year 2022-23. No other organization has applied under the said scheme seeking financial assistance from the AWBI.

(b) Article 243(W) of Constitution of India, the local bodies are responsible for cattle pounds and pinjrapole. Therefore, the State may also endow panchayats to establish and run Cattle Pounds (Kanji Houses)/ Gaushala Shelters (community assets) to keep stray cattle. Many States have established Gaushalas and Shelter houses for stray cattle and provide for feeding of those animals. Many State Governments are implementing various schemes for assisting gaushals.

Further, the Animal Welfare Board of India is implementing the following schemes for providing financial assistance to the recognized Animal Welfare Organization including gaushalas:

Regular grant: Under the regular grant, the Animal Welfare Board of India gives financial assistance to the recognized Animal Welfare Organizations as regular grants towards Maintenance/Repairs of Rescue Home for animals, Construction of Water Troughs/Facilities, Rescue operation during natural calamities including maintenance of stray animals, Purchase of Medicine for animals, Purchase of Medical Equipment, Establishment charge- cost of engaging Veterinary Doctors, Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animal (SPCA) inspectors, Veterinary Assistants, Compounders, Ambulance Drivers etc., Creation of infrastructure of generation of bio-gas, bio-fertilizers and electricity from bio-gas plant (maximum 25% of total Regular Grant Sanctioned), Purchase of Fodder, construction of Fodder storage (Chara / Bhusa Godown). The regular grant is being given on the basis of no. of animals sheltered / treated / rescued by the Animal Welfare Organization duly verified by the Animal Husbandry Department.

Scheme for Shelter House for looking after the animals: The objective of this scheme is to establish and maintain shelter houses for distressed animals in the country. Primarily, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) are given grants for construction of boundary walls, shelter, water tank, drains, in-house Dispensary, medical equipment, contingencies etc for a maximum grant of Rs.22.50 lakhs excluding 10% of contribution from AWOs.

Scheme for Provision of Ambulance Services to Animals in Distress Under this scheme the animal welfare organizations are given grants for purchase of suitable vehicles for transportation, rescue and also for providing emergency services to animals in distress. Non-Governmental Organisations are assisted to the extent of 90% of the cost of a suitable vehicle and equipment and fitting thereon. The maximum amount of grant-in-aid is limited to Rs.3.50 lakhs for purchase of vehicle and Rs.1.00 lakhs for equipment and fitting thereon.

Scheme for Relief to Animals during Natural Calamities: Every year, there are natural calamities in the form of flood, drought, earthquake etc. In such circumstances, there is an immediate requirement for provision of fodder, the adequate shelter, medical attention etc. for the affected animals. Funds for relief to such animals are provided under this scheme through the AWOs.
