GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UN STARRED QUESTION NO 1367

TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2021

VIOLENCE AND CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

1367. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
SHRI G.C.CHANDRASHEKHAR:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government maintains an official data on crimes against/relating to cruelty to animals, such as abuse, theft, rape (bestality);

(b) if so, the details thereof, including where such data can be publicly accessed and the total number of such crimes committed since 2016, year-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any national helpline or other similar mechanism/portal for citizens to report distressed animals;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government intends to launch a mechanism; and

(g) if so, the details thereof, and if not the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Government does not maintain any crime records. However, the Animal Welfare Board of India maintains a data of complaints on reported cruelty to animals.The Wildlife Crime Bureau is also deals with the violation of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

(b) The data on crimes relating to cruelty to animals maintained by the Law enforcement authority of the concerned States and Union Territories.The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) in their annual report publishes the details of the complaints received in regard to the animal cruelty alongwith the action taken. The number of complaints received in the Animal Welfare Board of India regarding cruelty to animals and forwarded to the concerned States /Union Territories for taking necessary action. The details from the year 2015-16 to till date (as on 25.07.2021) is given hereunder:

Sl. No.	Year	Number of cruelty cases forwarded to the States/UTs
1	2015-16	228
2	2016-17	256
3	2017-18	225
4	2018-19	144
5	2019-20	300
6	2020-21	383
7	2021-22	210 (as on 25.7.2021)

(c) to (g)The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is a statutory body. It is an advisory body to the Central andState Government on the issues related to animal welfare including cruelty meted out to animals.

The implementations of the statutory laws are primary duty of the State Government as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The State Government shall prevent, detect, register and investigate crime and prosecute the criminals. The AWBI has been writing regularly to the State Governments/Union Territories to prevent cruelty to animals and implement the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and its Rules effectively.

The AWBI is periodically addressing the letters to the State Governments/UTs regarding the complaints received and request them to take necessary action against the offenders as per law.The AWBI is also regularly addressing the State /Union Territories to establish or re-constitute the State Animal Welfare Boards and District Society to Prevention of Cruelty to Animal (DSPCA) in every district to prevent unnecessary pain or suffering to animals.

The AWBI has its own number i.e. 09650609880 and email id animalwelfareboard@gmail.com to report the case of cruelty to animals / distressed animals or any other issues pertaining to welfare of the animals for immediate necessary help.

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