



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**

3rd December, 2012

Dear Dr. Sandha,

I write to you in my capacity as the Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament.

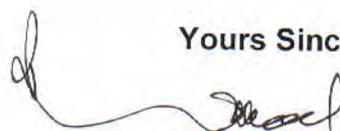
The Board has learnt from concerned citizens that you have issued orders encouraging dog racing within the State of Punjab, and virtually instructing that dog races will be held. All Animal Welfare people all over India are appalled at these orders issued without considering ramifications, and without pondering upon the legality or illegality of the same.

I write to you to caution you about your order, and the serious situation that it will give rise to in every possible respect, including but not limited to enhanced and illegal breeding, cruelty in the 'training', and will promote illegal betting / gambling in the races, the fate of losers, etc. will not only run completely counter to, and contravene Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, but may also lead to the commission of offences under Sections 428 and 429 of the Indian Penal Code. It is also astonishing that a responsible senior state government functionary has issued orders without being mindful of the fundamental duty cast upon every citizen of India by Article 51 A (g) of the Constitution of India, to show compassion for all living creatures. Please also bear in mind that there is no enactment permitting this sort of activity, and no custom whatsoever.

You may therefore like to recall your orders immediately, with due intimation to the undersigned.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,


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

**Dr. Harjinderjit Singh Sandha
Director
Animal Husbandry
17 Bays Building
Chandigarh, Punjab
Fax: 0172-2701832**

Copy to: The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Secretariat, Chandigarh – 160017.



DIRECTORATE OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, PUNJAB

17-BAYS BUILDING, SECTOR 17, CHANDIGARH

ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟੋਰੇਟ ਆਫ਼ ਪਾਲਣ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ

17-ਬੇਜ਼ ਬਿਲਡਿੰਗ, ਸੈਕਟਰ 17, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ

No. 258

Dated. 5/12/2012

To

The Chairman,
Animal Welfare Board of India,
Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt of India.
Post Box no-8672,13/1,Third Seaward Road,
Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai-600041.

Subject:- Regarding Dog races at district livestock Championships in the State of Punjab.

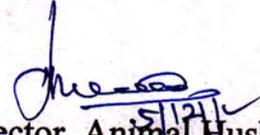
Kindly refer to your letter dated 3rd Dec., 2012 on the subject cited above. In this connection, it is submitted that the department of Animal Husbandry, Punjab, is organising district level and national level livestock Championships and milking competitions during 2012-13 to popularize and promote scientific breeding of various breeds of animals.

About 48 events regarding breed competitions of horses, cattle, buffaloes, goats, sheep, poultry etc. and milking competitions of buffaloes, cattle and goats are proposed to be held during district level Championships and 63 such competitions will be held during the National Livestock Championship. These competitions are held under the strict supervision of competent persons who are specialists in their respective fields. Hound race is one of the optional events being organised at some places only under the supervision of qualified veterinarians and it is ensured that there is no violation of any act/rules of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

DIRECTORATE OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, PUNJAB
SECTOR 22, CHANDIGARH

Now on receiving advice from your goodself I have promptly taken action and have directed my district/field officers not to conduct the hound races during district level livestock championships and milking competitions in their districts with immediate effect.

Thanking you for your valuable advice.


Director, Animal Husbandry,
Punjab, Chandigarh . 