

Chapter-7

Prevention of cruelty to Animals Act-1960:

Objectives, Definitions, CPCSEA - brief overview, Institutional Animal Ethics Committee, Breeding and Stocking of Animals, Performance of Experiments, Transfer and Acquisition of animals for experiment, Records, Power to suspend or revoke registration, Offences and Penalties.

Introduction:

The prevention of cruelty to animal Act 1960 which repeals the Act of 1890 has been enacted to prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals. As recognition of the general awareness about animal welfare the breeding of and experiment on animals (Control and Supervision) rules 1998 have been recently incorporated.

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,--

- "Animal" means any living creature other than a human being;
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- "Board" means the board established under section 4, and as reconstituted from time to time under section 5a
- "captive animal" means any animal (not being a domestic animal) which is in captivity or confinement, whether permanent or temporary, or which is subjected to any appliance or contrivance for the purpose of hindering or preventing its escape from captivity or confinement or which is pinioned or which is or appears to be maimed;
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- "Domestic animal" means any animal which is tamed or which has been or is being sufficiently tamed to serve some purpose for the use of man or which, although it neither has been nor is being nor is intended to be so tamed, is or has become in fact wholly or partly tamed;
- "Local authority" means a municipal committee, district board or other authority for the time being invested by law with the control and administration of any matters within a specified local area;
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- "Owner", used with reference to an animal, includes not only the owner but also any other person for the time being in possession or custody of the animal, whether with or without the consent of the owner;

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Objectives:

- To promote animal welfare generally
- To prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals as well to prevent cruelty to animals.
- To provide guideline for housing, care breeding and maintenance source of experimental animals and acceptable experimental procedures for anaesthesia and euthanasia.
- The goal of these guidelines is to promote the humane care of animals use in biomedical and behavioral research and testing.

Definitions:

Experiment:

- Experiment means any project involving use of an animals for the acquisition of knowledge of a biological, psychological, ethological, physical or chemical nature and includes the uses of animal in the production of reagents and products such as antigens and antibodies, routine diagnostics, testing activity and establishment of transgenic stocks, for the purpose of saving or prolonging life or all eviating suffering or for combating any disease whether on human beings or animals.

Institutional Animals Ethics Committee:

- Institutional Animals ethics committee means a body comprising of a group of person recognized and registered by the committee for the purpose of control and supervision on animals performed in an establishment which is constituted and operated in accordance with procedures specified for the purpose by the committee.

Institutional Animals Ethics (IAE) committee

Objective:

- To Contribute to effective functioning of institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC)
- Experiment should performed with due care and humanity.
- Experiment shall be performed in every case by or under the supervision of a person duly qualified.
- Committee was prescribed by the CPCSEA under PCA Act 1960 and Breeding and Experimentation rules 1998.

Every institutional Animals ethics Committee shall include

- A biological scientist
- Two scientist from different biological disciplines

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- A veterinarian invited in the case of Animals
- The Scientist in charge of animals facility of the establishment concerned.
- A scientist from outside the institution.
- A non-scientific socially aware member
- A representative or nominee of the committee.
- A specialist may be co-opted while reviewing special project using hazardous agents such as radioactive substances and deadly micro-organisms.

Breeding and Stocking of Animals:

- Animal breeding is a branch of animal science that addresses the evaluation of the genetic value of livestock.
- Selecting for breeding animals with superior EBV in growth rate, egg, meat, milk or wool production, or with other desirable traits has revolutionized livestock production throughout the entire world.
- The scientific theory of animals breeding incorporates population genetics, quantitative genetics, statistics and recently molecular genetics, Animal breeding.
- Is the process of selective mating of animals with desirable genetic traits to maintain or enhance these traits in future generation.
- Only registered establishment carry on the business of breeding of animals or trade of animals for the purpose of experiment, every breeder establishment carrying on the business of breeding animals or trade of animals for the purpose of experiments shall apply for registrations with in experiments shall apply for registration within sixty days from the date of commencement of the breeding of and experiment on animals.

Performance of experiments:

- Performing experiments on animals for the purpose of advancement by new discovery of knowledge which will be useful for saving any disease in human beings, animals or plants is lawful.
- The experiment shall neither be performed for the purpose of attaining or retaining manual skill except in schools, colleges and recognized training institutions, nor by way of or illustration or as a public demonstration.

Transfer and acquisition of Animals for Experiment:

- Transfer of any animals by way of sale or otherwise by a breeder to any animals by way of sale or otherwise by a breeder to on unregistered establishment is not sale or otherwise except form a register breeder.
- Potential venders should be evaluated for the quality of animals to be supplied by them. A registered veterinarian should properly evaluate animals to be used in research.

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- All animals must be acquired lawfully and the receiving institution should make reasonable attempts to ensure the all transactions involving animals procurement are conducted in a lawful manner.
- Animals not bred in a research facility are to be acquired lawfully as per the prevailing laws a health certificate should be obtained from a registered veterinarian.
- Researchers should make every effort to ensure that those responsible for transporting the animals to the facility provide adequate food, water, ventilation, space and impasse no unnecessary stress on the animals.

Records:

- Every establishment institutional animals ethics committee shall maintain a record of the animals under its control and custody and furnish such information as the committee may from time to time required in the specific format all laboratories shall inform the exact number/species of animals regard by the committee as per the specific format.

Power to suspend or revoke registration:

- If the committee is satisfied that the rules made by it are not being followed by any establishment breeder/ Institutional animals ethics committee, the committee may after giving reasonable opportunity of being heard in the matter, revoke the same either for a specified period or indefinitely or may allow the institutional animals ethics committee to carry on subject to such special condition as the committee may impose.

Offences:

- a) Not being registered under this Chapter, exhibits or trains any performing animal; or
- b) Being registered under this Act, exhibits or trains any performing animal with respect to which, or in a manner with respect to which, he is not registered; or
- c) Exhibits or trains as a performing animal, any animal which is not to be used for the purpose by reason of a notification issued under clause (ii) of section 22; or
- d) Obstructs or wilfully delays any person or police officer referred to in section 25 in the exercise of powers under this Act as to entry and inspection; or
- e) Conceals any animal with a view to avoiding such inspection; or
- f) Being a person registered under this Act, on being duly required in pursuance of this Act to produce his certificate under this Act, fails without reasonable excuse so to do; or
- g) Applies to be registered under this Act when not entitled to be so registered; he shall be punishable on conviction with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with imprisonment which may extend to three months, or with both.

Penalties:

Contravention of any order made by or committing of any condition imposed by the committee is punishable with fine extending to 200rs when the contravention or breach of condition takes place in any institution the person in charge of the institution shall be quality of offence and shall be punishable accordingly.