



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
RAJYA SABHA

June 05, 2020

Dear Prakash ji,

It is with deep concern that I am drawing your attention to the deliberate killing of a pregnant elephant in Silent Valley Forest Kerala who had had fallen victim to an act of human cruelty on 27 May 2020.

Thank you for your response on the issue and ensuring that strict action is meted out to the criminals.

As you may already be aware another female elephant had met with similar fate in April in Pathanapuram forest range area under Punalur division in Kollam district, Kerala.

I have repeatedly taken up this issue in Parliament since 2016; about the need for prosecution of those under The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960. The use of firecrackers or any deliberate man-made attempt to harm animals falls within the ambit of offence of Section 11(1)(a) under The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and should attract associated penalties. I urge you to take immediate action in such matters to bring to book those responsible for such heinous crimes. This kind of poaching and deliberate violence against animals/ elephants need to stop.

Secondly, The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 needs amendment. I had raised this issue in 2016; enclosing my Zero Hour for reference where I have advocated the need for a review and amendment of Animal Cruelty Laws to serve as effective and stronger deterrents against Animal Abuse.



Animals too have a right to live with dignity and a life that is devoid of cruelty and ill-treatment. Therefore, on behalf of thousands of other animal lovers in the country, I urge the government to bring in suitable amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, including more stringent punishments and increased penalties, which will serve as effective and stronger deterrents against perpetrators of ruthless, cold blooded treatment of animals, at the earliest.

I look forward to you acting on this at the earliest.

Yours Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri. Prakash Javadekar

Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India
New Delhi

RAJYA SABHA

RAISING OF MATTER WITH PERMISSION

(Zero Hour Submission)

NOTICE OFFICE

DY. NO.....

Date and time of
Receipt.....

Date: 25 April, 2016

The Secretary-General,
Rajya Sabha

I wish **to raise** the following matter of urgent public importance in the Rajya
Sabha on **26th April, 2016**.

Subject: **Need for a Review and Amendment of Animal Cruelty Laws to serve
as effective and stronger deterrents against Animal Abuse**

Synopsis of the matter: - **attached**

Name of the Member: RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Division No. 51



Signature

ZERO HOUR MENTION

Need for a Review and Amendment of Animal Cruelty Laws to serve as effective and stronger deterrents against Animal Abuse

Sir,

I would like to draw the attention of the House to a recent incident on 14 March, 2016, where a horse named Shaktiman, who served the Uttarakhand Police force, was brutally beaten up and attacked, resulting in a loss of one of its limbs, and eventual death. Sadly, Shaktiman succumbed to the physical and mental trauma it had to endure, and lost its life a month after its assault. The Shaktiman incident isn't the only incident which has brought Animal Abuse and cruelty to light. Recently, in my city of Bengaluru, a woman killed 8 puppies to apparently teach the mother dog a lesson.

These incidents of extreme brutality and abuse towards animals highlight the need for a revamp of the existing animal protection laws in our country. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act (PCA), 1960 has not been amended since its inception. The Act imposes a paltry penalty of Rs.50 for animal abuse which hardly serves as an effective or strong deterrent for animal abusers. Further, the offence of Animal Abuse is a non-cognizable offence, thereby curtailing swift police action. It is a sad reality that thousands of animals are subjected to cruelty and ill-treatment throughout India and are not treated with the love and compassion that they deserve.

In 2014, the Hon'ble Supreme Court – through a landmark judgment in the A. Nagarajan V/s Union of India Case – had directed the government to amend the PCA Act in order to make it an effective deterrent against abuse and cruelty towards animals. However, nothing has moved further in this regard.

Animals too have a right to live with dignity and a life that is devoid of cruelty and ill-treatment. Therefore, on behalf of thousands of other animal lovers in the country, I urge the government to bring in suitable amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, including more stringent punishments and increased penalties, which will serve as effective and stronger deterrents against perpetrators of ruthless, cold blooded treatment of animals, at the earliest.