

**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**To Whom It May Concern**

I am issuing this advisory as Chairperson of the Animal welfare Board of India (AWBI), which is a statutory body established under an Act of parliament- the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. The mandate of the Animal Welfare Board of India, working under the aegis of Ministry of Environment & Forests, is to ensure the promotion of animal welfare generally, and protecting animals from being subjected to unnecessary pain and suffering in particular.


It is increasingly being brought to the notice of the AWBI that pups belonging to certain breeds such as Doberman, Cocker Spaniel, Great Danes, Boxer etc. are being subjected to avoidable and unnecessary cruel cosmetic surgeries such as docking the tails and cropping of the ears by practicing veterinary surgeons and some quacks all over the country on request from their owners which is contrary to law. This is being done just to make them look 'aesthetically' pleasing! The pups undergo immense pain and suffering and discomfort, because of the cruel procedures. The practice of non- therapeutic tail docking and ear cropping is seen in the light of mutilation which amounts to cruelty to animals as per the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and is therefore a punishable offence. The developed nations such as UK have banned tail docking and ear cropping.

The Veterinary council is advised to issue directions to all their registered vet practitioners (Government & private) and State Veterinary Councils / Veterinary Colleges to stop this cruel practice with immediate effect failing which strict action against veterinary practitioners that are found guilty of docking tails or ear cropping of pups will be initiated by AWBI.

All Kennel Clubs are here by advised to issue suitable directions to their registered breeders to stop tail docking and ear cropping and to stop registration of pups / dogs with docked tail and cropped ears, and discontinue participation of such dogs (with docked tails/ cropped ears) in dog shows.

The state Animal Welfare Boards of all State governments and District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) are requested to issue suitable directions to all concerned in this regard and also to ensure implantation of these directions.

All district SPCA's and Animal Welfare Organizations are directed to work with the local police and animal welfare departments of their State Governments, and even petition the courts of law to seek prosecutions if need be, to ensure that appropriate corrective action is initiated against those found to be indulging in the cruel practice of docking tails and cropping ears of pups.

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2011
  
**Dr. R. M. Kharb**  
**Maj. Gen. (Retd.), AVSM**  
**Chairman, AWBI**

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2. Member Secretaries, All State Veterinary Councils.
3. Member Secretaries, All State Animal Welfare Boards.
4. All Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
5. All Kennel Clubs.