

The Recommendations of the National Commission on Cattle

The sixteen-member National Commission for Cattle submitted its report to the Prime Minister of India.

Constituted for the first time since independence, the Commission was chaired by Sri Dharmapal, respected historian and Gandhian and Justice Guman Mal Lodha acted as the a-vice-chairman. The Commission which visited almost all the states, held several public sittings and hearings and sought the views of people and groups from different walks of life.

The 1500 page report has no less than fifty recommendations. Some of the main recommendations are:

- prohibition of cross breeding of cattle
- imposing central ban on cow slaughter
- scrapping the subsidies on tractors and mechanical appliances for agriculture etc.

It also has other debatable recommendations as promoting 'research in cow-urine therapy', teaching of 'panchagavya therapy' in agricultural and veterinary universities etc.

The Recommendations of the National Commission on Cattle are as follows:

1. The Prohibition for slaughter of cow and its progeny 'which would include bull, bullocks, etc., should be included in Fundamental Rights or as a Constitutional Mandate anywhere else as an Article of the Constitution It should not be kept only in the Directive Principles or / Fundamental duties as both of them are not enforceable by the courts.
2. The amendment of the Constitution should also be made for empowering the Parliament to make Central Law for the prohibition of slaughter of cow and its progeny and further for its transport from one State to other. This may be done by changing the necessary schedules and items mentioned in the Constitution. It must be in Central List.
3. The Parliament should then make a Central Law for all these States prohibiting slaughter of cow and its progeny making it non-bailable and cognisable offence with and provide sessions trial for punishment of a minimum of three years of rigorous imprisonment and maximum 10 years of rigorous imprisonment with fine move his innocence The burden of proof should be on accused to prove his innocence

4. The Central Government should constitute a permanent National Cattle Development Commission or Rashtriya Goseva Ayog for -all India and provide it suitable funds of at least Rs 100 crores per year for preservation and development of cattle.
5. There should be a separate Ministry for Cattle Preservation and Development. It should not be under the Department of Animal Husbandry whose basic mandate is not for cattle preservation but for livestock development and for production of livestock products including meat products,
6. The Animal Husbandry Department should be reorganized and subjects and objects would be for preservation and development of animals and not for animal food by way of meat, etc.
7. No financial aids would be given by Animal Husbandry or Agriculture Departments for construction or innovation or maintenance slaughterhouses.
8. There should be a complete ban on export of beef, Veal. Similarly the beef should not be allowed to be exported under the guise or pretext of buffalo meat
9. The Central Government should ensure constitution and functioning of Goseva Ayog in each State and also provide them proper funds. These Ayogs should be monitored by the Central Government "Rashtriya Go Seva Ayog" of the Govt. of India. as mentioned above.
10. The implementation of the Cattle Protection Laws should be ensured through the following:
 - a) Creation of Central Cattle Protection Rapid Task Police Force with regional offices and branches in all States. It should have a special force deputation on the Bangladesh border cattle exodus and also Kerala border.
 - b) In view of the Art. 48 and 51 (g) appropriate directions may be given under Article 355 or any such provision of the Constitution to Kerala, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Manipur and other north eastern States to enforce cow and progeny slaughter prohibition. Special direction may be given to Kerala to stop receiving cattle from neighbouring States for slaughter.
 - c) The cruelty to cattle during transport by rail, truck, road or otherwise and extraction of milk by giving oxytocin or any such injection should be prohibited

- d) The Government should issue a Circular banning production of leather of slaughtered cattle. Export of such goods made of such leather should be banned.
- e) The penal laws of preventive arrest and detention like POTO, etc., should be amended to detain smugglers, mafia of cows and its progeny who indulge in large-scale exodus to Bangladesh, Kerala or illegal slaughterhouses.
11. The Cross breeding from imported cattle like Jersey and import of such cattle should be prohibited. Indigenous breeds should be encouraged. and Government should provide for sizeable financial assistance for developing and preserving indigenous breeds throughout India.
 12. Subsidy on Tractors and mechanical appliances for Agriculture should be stopped. The use of bullocks in ploughing and bullock driven tractors, generation of power through indigenous electrical equipment and carts should also be subsidized, promoted and encouraged.
 13. The report of the Organic Manure Task Force Committee 2001 should be accepted and its recommendations implemented in total.
 14. The use and production of chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides should be discouraged, subsidies reduced and organic manure should be subsidised and promoted
 15. The recommendation of the XI Sub Group (on Meat Sector) set up by the Planning Commission for the 10th Plan proposals should be rejected outright.
 16. Gaushalas, Gosadans and Pinjrapoles should be organized through voluntary organisations both by Central and State Governments. The Government should give financial aid for construction and maintenance of such Gaushalas on the basis of matching grants for day-to-day expenses; and 70 per cent grant for Capital expenses for construction. They must be allowed free land or land at concessional rates, both for construction and for grazing purposes.
 17. Pastureland should be protected, developed and provided for grazing of cattle belonging to farmers at the village level. Forest laws should be amended to provide pastureland and grazing facilities for cattle
 18. The use of Gobar (cow dung and Gomutra (cow Urine) of indigenous breeds of cattle should be promoted extensively in agriculture in the form of different manure's, composts, pest-repellents and pesticides.
 19. Encouragements should be given to research in cow urine therapy such as that done by the Govingyan Anusandan Kendra, Devalapar, Nagpur, CSIR at Lucknow and other centers which led to the grant of American Patent No.6410059 for use of cow urine "Ark" (Distillate) for enhancing the effect of anti-cancer medicines

20. The information and Broadcasting Ministry should under take propagation for awareness campaign of qualities and virtues of cow milk, cow products, cow urine and cow dung. Acceptance of "Panchgavya" by Ayurvedic system of Medicines should be widely accepted. The medicines from cow products and organic manure utilization should also be given wide publicity by Government Media.
21. In the education and awareness campaign, "Farmans" issued by various Mughal emperors, Akbar, Humayun, Jahangir, Aurongzeb Bahadur Shah Zaffer prohibiting cow slaughter during their role should be widely advertised both in Electronic media and other media
22. In the educational curriculum, the subjects should be introduced on Panchgavya therapy, Cow milk, cow urine and other by products of cow, the use of cow and bullock in agriculture organic manure and medicines.
23. All India University should be established for the above and such subjects should be introduced in all Universities particularly Agricultural Universities and on Animal Sciences and in Veterinary Colleges and Universities and Hospitals.
24. The cultivation of fodder and feed for cattle should be made encouraged The State should be asked to ensure production of fodder and feed in proportion to cattle population.
25. In many States like Punjab Haryana, standing crop residues which can be used as fodder is burnt. This should be made a penal as it is being wasted by burning.
26. On the pattern of Food Corporation of India, Fodder Corporation of India should be constituted and branches should be established in each State with storage facilities.
27. The Agricultural Universities and Agriculture Ministry with Forest Ministry collaboration should ensure special fodder production drive. The State Governments and the Central Government should subsidize the fodder sale on the pattern of subsidy given to below the poverty line Indians from ration shops
28. A circular should be sent by the Central Government directing that the State laws and Municipality laws, prohibiting keeping of cattle in civil lines and cities, should be suitably amended to permit the house owner to keep 2 to 4 cows and their progeny in their houses or campus even in the city areas or town areas.
29. A circular should be sent to the State Governments Panchayats and Municipalities to regulate control, remove and maintain the stray cattle wandering on streets and roadsides without owners. They should be kept in cattle houses or cattle compounds to be maintained by the local self-government institutions Municipalities and Panchayats,

30. The Commission, therefore, recommends that early steps may be taken for a Parliamentary legislation applicable to the whole country by repealing various Legislations now in force and a resolution as contemplated in Article 249 (i) may be passed by the Rajya Sabha or action under Article 252 could also be initiated, and a central legislation on the subject. Could be brought about to achieve 11 ent of the desired objects and the common problems in different states could be taken care of by such common legislation
31. While amending the Fundamental Right, A proviso to Article 19 to be added after sub clause 5 " provided, the right to carry on any trade or business shall not in any way extend to the slaughter of the cow and its progeny and/or to conduct business/trade in Beef
32. Similar proviso to be added to Article 301 "provided, the right to carry on any trade or business shall not in any way extend to the slaughter of the cow and its progeny and/or conduct business/trade in Beef"
33. In the Concurrent List. the following to be added:
 - a) Prohibition of Slaughter of cow and its progeny.
 - b) Laws relating to the movement of cow and its progeny from State to State.
34. To declare the Indian breeds as the national wealth of India and no slaughter of any native breed of our country shall be permitted at any cost
35. It is recommended that a Central Cattle Commission be permanently constituted which shall be the representatives as Directors, one on feed and fodder; one on cattle movement; movement; one on enforcement; one on grazing lands; one In charge of breed; one in charge of research and analysis; one in charge of organic farming; and one in charge of veterinary medical services. Such cattle commissions also should be at every State.
36. Compulsorily grazing lands to be set apart, whether Government allotted or temple lands. Use of these lands should be exclusively made available only for cattle grazing and not to be allowed for any other use.
37. If there are any lands which have been encroached. the encroachment, the encroachment should be immediately removed.
38. Every State must have a breed center which should concentrate on the development of the local breeds and not on foreign breeds. These breeding centers should also be in charge up gradation of breeds.
39. The cattle census to be taken and every indigenous Indian breed must be registered.
40. The cattle laws enforcement directorate to be constituted and shall be in charge of the movement of cows, bulls, bullocks and calves from place to place and State to State and also monitor whether the cow moved out, have been utilized for the purpose for which it was moved from one place to another

41. Centers for promotion of the usage of cow urine, dung and Panchakavya, medicines- etc and also research centers to be constituted for the promotion of alternative source of energy and alternative methods of farming through Gobar gas etc
42. Export and import of beef to be totally banned.
43. "Save the Indian Breed" Campaign to be launched all over the country.
44. There must be a constitutional status of Cow as National Animal (Rashtriya Prani) and killing of cow and its progeny should be made constitutional offence.
45. All types of manufacture, sale, use and import of Polythene Bags should be banned and prohibited.
46. Throwing eatables or eatable waste covered in polythene bags on the streets, roads or in dustbins within the reach of cattle consumption should be made penal.
47. The Government should encourage and implement breeding policy by which a genetic improvement and up gradation of existing crossbreed cattle should be brought about by further crossing with good indigenous breeds.
48. The auctioning of all the working bullocks in the Municipality Corporations, Panchayats and other places should be stopped. Instead, they should be given retirement and maintained. Their dung and work had been utilized throughout service.
49. Temples and religious places where cattle are presented by worshippers should be prohibited from selling the cattle. They should either keep the cattle in their own Goshala or give them to nearby Goshalas for maintenance.
50. The various recommendations made by the Sub-Committees in Chapter-6 for Goshalas and Fodder; Chapter 5 for organic manure, cow urine, medicines, draught, gas and electricity; Chapter-4 for Legislation; Chapter-3 Administration of cattle Jaws, reasons for non implementation -ways and means to combat the problem of illegal slaughter, slaughter houses, beef export, cattle smuggling and exodus of cattle to Bangladesh and Kerala; Chapter- 7 Breeding indigenous cattle vs. imported cattle and cross breeds -effects and remedies should be implemented by the concerned department of the Govt. of India.