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भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद  
स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार  
कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

Indian Council of Medical Research  
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health  
and Family Welfare, Government of India

सं.E16/70/2022-Admn./E.143135

दिनांक:03/03/2026

सेवा में,

निदेशक/प्रभारी निदेशक  
परिषद के सभी संस्थान/केन्द्र

**विषय: Animal Welfare Board of India द्वारा "ADVISORY ON HUMANE AND COMPASSIONATE CELEBRATION OF HOLI" के संबंध में प्राप्त परामर्श के प्रसारण के संबंध में।**

महोदय/महोदया,

अधोहस्ताक्षरी को उपर्युक्त विषय पर भारतीय जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड, पशुपालन एवं डेयरी विभाग, मत्स्य पालन, पशुपालन एवं डेयरी मंत्रालय, बल्लभगढ़, फरीदाबाद, हरियाणा के पत्र संख्या AC-02003/1/2-26-AWBI की प्रति सूचना एवं अनुपालन हेतु अग्रेषित करने का निदेश हुआ है।

भवदीय,

Digitally signed by

Jaibir Singh

Date: 03-03-2026

जयवीर सिंह

सहायक महानिदेशक (प्रशासन)

अनुलग्नक:यथोक्त

प्रतिलिपि:

1. महानिदेशक/अपर महानिदेशक/वरि.उपमहानिदेशक (प्रशा.)/वरि.वित्त सलाहकार के निजी सचिव
2. परिषद के सभी प्रभाग प्रमुख
3. उपमहानिदेशक (प्रशा.)/सहा. महानिदेशक (प्रशा.)/सहायक महानिदेशक (वित्त)
4. डॉ. मनजीत सिंह चालगा, आई.सी.एम.आर. की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड करने के अनुरोध के साथ।



Ujjawal Sangwan &lt;ujjwalsangwan2016@gmail.com&gt;

## Re: ADVISORY ON HUMANE AND COMPASSIONATE CELEBRATION OF HOLI-REGARDING

Jagdish Rajesh &lt;rajeshj.hq@icmr.gov.in&gt;

2 March 2026 at 17:47

To: SAFAL CHETRI CHETRI &lt;chetri.s@icmr.gov.in&gt;, ujjwalsangwan2016 &lt;ujjwalsangwan2016@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Anu Nagar &lt;anu.nagar1@gov.in&gt;, RICHA KHODA &lt;richa.khoda@gov.in&gt;, Manisha Saxena &lt;srddga.hq@icmr.gov.in&gt;, Office DHR &lt;secy-dhr@gov.in&gt;, DG ICMR &lt;secy-dg@icmr.gov.in&gt;

For circulation please.

सादर/ Regards

जगदीश राजेश/ JAGDISH RAJESH

उपमहानिदेशक (प्रशासन)/ Deputy Director General (Admin)

भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद/ Indian Council of Medical Research

अंसारी नगर, नई दिल्ली/ Ansari Nagar, New Delhi.

--- On Mon, 02 Mar 2026 17:31:42 +0530 **DG ICMR** <secy-dg@icmr.gov.in> wrote ---

===== Forwarded message =====

From: PRACHI JAIN &lt;prachijain.28@gov.in&gt;

To: "js-nlm"&lt;js-nlm@dahd.nic.in&gt;, "Sushil Kumar Awasthi"&lt;dgfindia@nic.in&gt;, "V. Clement Ben"&lt;igfwl-mef@nic.in&gt;, "rajeev\_gupta\_ias"&lt;rajeev\_gupta\_ias@yahoo.co.in&gt;, "ram89651"&lt;ram89651@gmail.com&gt;, "samastmahajan9"&lt;samastmahajan9@gmail.com&gt;, "spguptaias"&lt;spguptaias@gmail.com&gt;, "profchauhan58"&lt;profchauhan58@gmail.com&gt;, "dr\_hitesh\_jani2000"&lt;dr\_hitesh\_jani2000@yahoo.com&gt;, "gauseva"&lt;gauseva@yahoo.co.in&gt;, "gauvigyan"&lt;gauvigyan@gmail.com&gt;, "director-narfbr"&lt;director-narfbr@icmr.gov.in&gt;, "ahrdoindia"&lt;ahrdoindia@gmail.com&gt;, "ask2574"&lt;ask2574@gmail.com&gt;, "dpsingh\_kamal"&lt;dpsingh\_kamal@yahoo.com&gt;, "jsadmin-mha"&lt;jsadmin-mha@nic.in&gt;, "anjali"&lt;anjali@nazindia.org&gt;, "secy-dg"&lt;secy-dg@icmr.gov.in&gt;, "gmccom"&lt;gmccom@gmail.com&gt;, "sunilkumarbiswas29"&lt;sunilkumar.biswas29@gov.in&gt;, "dclakraedu"&lt;dclakra.edu@gov.in&gt;, "manilal74"&lt;manilal74@gmail.com&gt;, "mrutyunjayb"&lt;mrutyunjay.b@nic.in&gt;, "raghuramsharmaofficial"&lt;raghuramsharmaofficial@gmail.com&gt;, "gaurakshadaltn"&lt;gaurakshadaltn@gmail.com&gt;

Date: Mon, 02 Mar 2026 17:29:56 +0530

Subject: ADVISORY ON HUMANE AND COMPASSIONATE CELEBRATION OF HOLI-REGARDING

===== Forwarded message =====

Sir/Madam,

Please find the attachment.

*Regards**Prachi Jain**Assistant Secretary**Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)**Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*



सत्यमेव जयते

डॉ. एस. के. दत्ता  
Dr. S. K. Dutta  
सचिव / Secretary



भारतीय जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

भारत सरकार

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय

(पशुपालन और डेयरी विभाग)

Government of India

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)

File No.AC-02003/1/2026-AWBI

### ADVISORY ON HUMANE AND COMPASSIONATE CELEBRATION OF HOLI

Holi is a vibrant festival symbolising joy, harmony, and the triumph of good over evil. It will be celebrated on 4th March, 2026 across the country. While rejoicing in this festival of colours, it is essential to ensure that our celebrations do not result in unintended harm, stress, injury, or suffering to animals—whether stray dogs and cats, cattle, birds, or companion animals.

2. Animals do not understand festivals. For them, loud noises, sudden splashes of colour, water balloons, and aggressive behaviour can be terrifying and life-threatening. Chemical colours can burn their skin and eyes, loud music can cause panic, and chasing or forcefully colouring animals amounts to cruelty.

3. As we celebrate this joyous occasion, the Animal Welfare Board of India earnestly appeals to all citizens to ensure that Holi is celebrated with compassion, sensitivity, and responsibility. A humane celebration is not only a moral duty but also a legal obligation under animal welfare laws.

4. In the spirit of kindness and coexistence, citizens are requested to observe the following during Holi celebrations:

- (i). Kindly refrain from applying any dry or wet colours on animals, including pets, stray animals, and birds.
- (ii). Avoid throwing water balloons or spraying coloured water on animals, as this can frighten and seriously injure them.
- (iii). Ensure that pets are kept indoors or in a safe and quiet place, and extend help to stray animals by keeping them away from crowded or noisy areas.
- (iv). Maintain cleanliness after celebrations and remove colour residues, plastic waste, and balloons to prevent animals from ingesting harmful substances.
- (v). Spread awareness among children, friends, and neighbours about celebrating Holi in a humane and animal-friendly manner.
- (vi). In case an animal is exposed to colours or injured, gently rinse with clean water and seek immediate veterinary or animal welfare assistance.
- (vii). Celebrate responsibly by using natural colours only for humans and by promoting peaceful, eco-friendly, and cruelty-free festivities.

एन.आई.ए.डब्ल्यू. केम्पस, 42 माइलस्टोन, दिल्ली-आगरा हाईवे, एन.एच.-2, सीकरी, बल्लभगढ़, फरीदाबाद-121004 (हरियाणा)

NIAW Campus, 42 Milestone, Delhi-Agra Highway, NH-2, Sikri, Ballabgarh, Faridabad-121004 (Haryana)

Tel.: +91 129 2555700 | Email: secretaryawbi2018@gmail.com; animalwelfareboard@gmail.com | Website: www.awbi.in

5. It is important to remember that causing pain, injury, or distress to animals is a punishable offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. More importantly, compassion towards animals reflects the true cultural and moral values of our society.

6. This Holi, let us choose empathy over excitement, kindness over chaos, and humanity over harm. A truly colourful Holi is one where no living being is hurt.

7. The Hindi version follows.

***“Play safe. Play kind. Celebrate Holi without cruelty”***

Yours Sincerely,

  
(Dr. S.K. Dutta)

Copy to:

1. The District Collector of all District of all States /UTs.
2. The Municipal Commissioners of all the States and UTs.
3. The Members and Co-opted Members of the Board
4. The Member Secretary, State Animal Welfare Boord
5. The Director or Commissioner, Animal Husbandry Department of State /UTs
6. All Animal Welfare Organization (AWBI Recognised)
7. All Honorary Animal Welfare Representatives (HAWRs)