

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:88
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
POWERS TO ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of cruelty to animals are increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Animal Welfare Board is powerless to check it;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to vest more powers in the Board; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

- (a) There is no evidence to indicate that cases of cruelty to animals are increasing in the country.
- (b) The responsibility for enforcement of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 vests with the State Governments. The Animal Welfare Board of India is not a regulatory body. The role of the Board is to advise the Central Government on legal and technical aspects of animal welfare, apart from granting financial assistance for various activities to Animal Welfare Organizations.
- (c) & (d) Do not arise.