ANIMAL WELFARE TRAINING AT TINSUKIA, ASSAM.

G.C. Dutta.

The Animal Welfare Board of India and the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals jointly organised a five day long programme on Animal Welfare at Tinsukia College Dist. Tinsukia from September 12 to 16 '95 The programme was aiming at general awareness amongst people about cruelties committed against animals to make animal welfare conscious and sympathy exhibited to them. Besides, to identify persons interested in the field of humanity and provide adequate training to them in order to carryout more effctively for prevention and welfare strategies in a broad spectrum sphere.

About fifteen trainees attended from different Non/Government Organisation, Animal Husbandry department, Police departments, Press, Municipality, Forest, Education department and Animal Welfare Organisation

On September 12, the training programme was inaugurated by Dr. Padmeswar Handique, Joint Director, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Dept., Assam and was attended by several officers from related departments. Dr. Handique stressed on "Animal Welfare" against cruelties to animals.

Explaining the objectives of the training camp, Dr. G.C. Dutta, Hony. Animal Welfare Officer, Animal Welfare Board Of India, stated that the aim of the camp was for creating a public awareness about the need of animal welfare and prevention of cruelty to animals. He also highlighted the functioning of Animal Welfare Board of India.

As part of discussion on September 12, the topic "Zoonoses was held under directorship of Dr. G.C. Dutta, Dr. Gopal Ch. Sarma, Memner Secretary, State Zoonoses committee spoke about the transmitted disease both in human and animal life. Dr. Sarma pointed out that 60 percent disease in human shared by animals. Dr. P. Handique Joint Director, AH & Vety. Dept.,Guwahati Dr. P. Baruah S. D.V O.,Tinsukia and some lecturers of Tinsukia College were present as "observers".

Advocate Kalyan Bose, from Tinsukia Bar Association discussed about the prevention of cruelty to an~ mals to draught and pack animals Rules 1965 the performing animals Rules 1993, the Transport of Animals Rules 1978, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1960).

Mr. Amal Sarma, ACF Darrang explained Wildlife and its conservation, what is zoo and zoo management, shelter management of animals, birds etc., feeding of zoo animals, birds etc. Suggestions for better keep up of zoo animals and conservation of wild animals. Moreover he also discussed animals and environment relationship - ecosystem citing various examples from abroad to state of Assam. Mr. Narayan Sarma, Range incharge spoke about present status of animal of Soikhowa in Tinsukia District.

On September 15, Dr. L.K. Baruah retired Professor, Animal Protection and Management, Faculty of Veterinary Science, A.A.U., Guwahati, discussed about handling of animals: special characteristics of these animals, methods of approach and catching methods/handling procedures.

On September 16, Trainees participated in "Hum" method regarding "Cruelities to animals" and R-play on "Ani mal Welfare" were done.

The training camp ended with a general public meeting (2:30 RM.) which was attended by large gathering. Mrs. Kiran Barthakur, President, Bar Association Tinsukia, Sri Purnananda Baruah, Secy. Press Club, Tinsukia, Sri Nirmal Dasgupta, Principal, Tinsukia College, Mrs. Gity Saty Paul, Senior lecturer, Woman's College, Mr. Naryan Ch. Bhomik, Head of Department Zoology, Tinsukia College addressed the gathering.

Mrs. Barthakur, as distinguished guest stressed the history of interdepenedence of man and animal and emphasised on the importance of maintaining the ecological balance by being complacent to the animal world. She also hoped that the Tinsukia District Animal Welfare Society will put all efforts to achieve the goal of prevention of cruelty to animals.

Sri R Barush on the chair of guest of honour, stressed on economic upliftment of the people which will enhance the prevention of cruelty to animals. He urged upon the public to help in maintaining ecosystem.

Mrs. Gity Saty Paul, senior lecturer of Women's College, from the trainees bench spoke about knowledge gained from training. Mr. Narayan Ch. Bhowmik Senior lecturer, Head of Dept. of Zoology, Tinsukia College also expressed his happiness for participating in the training and was able to learn many new information on Animal Welfare. Mr. Dasgupta, Principal, Tinsukia College presided over the meeting and concluded his speech stressing on "Animal Welfare". Dr. P. Baruah, S.D.V.O., Tinsukia offered the vote of thanks to all the participants, organisers, press, invtee and public present in the meeting.

AMMALWELFARE BODY FORMED

A district level new body of animal welfare society was formed in name "Tinsukia District Animal Welfare Society" with Mr. Narayan Chandra Bhowmik, Mrs. Joya Bharali (Hazarika), Mrs. Gity Saty Paul as Vice Presidents, Advocate Suresh Chandra Pathak as Hony. Secretary, Mr. S. Sekhar as Assist. Secy., Mr. Bankim Sarma, Arup Konwar asorganising Secretary (in charge), Dr. Lohit Ch. Borah as Publicity Secretary (in charge), Miss Swapna Neog as Treasurer, Dr. G. Handique as Vety. Surgeon and Advocate Kalyan Bose as Counsel. This is first district level animal welfare society. The aim and objectives of society are (i) Prevention of cruelty to animals (ii) Awareness (iii) Shelter to injured I old animais (iv) Establish Veterinary first aid centre / hospital (v) Help in animals during flood etc.

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