



THE TIMES OF INDIA

- Opinion
- ▶ Times View
- Readers' Blog
- Times Evoke
- City
- India
- World
- Entertainment
- Sports
- Spirituality
- Business

NEWS / BLOGS / LIFESTYLE / Importance of animal welfare in India

LIFESTYLE

Importance of animal welfare in India

April 19, 2022, 1:49 PM IST / Priya Agarwal Hebbar in Voices, Lifestyle, TOI

- FACEBOOK
- TWITTER
- LINKEDIN
- EMAIL



Priya Agarwal Hebbar

The author is the Director, Vedanta Ltd.

Animals are a great joy. Having a pet at home is one of the most fulfilling experiences in life. And to see animals in their natural habitat, as so many of us do, during visits to sanctuaries and wildlife parks, is a reminder of the beauty and rich diversity of our planet. Humans share the Earth with flora and fauna. It is not alone ours. But we must bear disproportionate responsibility in the welfare of all beings. What is required is the right infrastructure but also compassion.

In India, humans and animals have co-existed, caring for one another, for

WRITE FOR TOI BLOG

ADVERTISEMENT

TOP VOICES

millenia. So, it is painful to note how that rich legacy is tarnished from time to time by acts of physical violence, emotional abuse and life-threatening neglect, particularly in our cities but also farms. The animals that are most frequently reported as being victims of animal cruelty are dogs, cats, horses, and farm animals. According to a report published by the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations (FIAPO) and All Creatures Great and Small (ACGS), a total of 4,93,910 animals became victims of crimes committed by humans between 2010 and 2020. Of these, over 2,300 were incidents of gruesome and intentional acts of violence that led to the animal's death or irreparable harm. This may not include farm animals which are usually outside the purview of animal cruelty laws or have fewer legal protections than domestic pets do.

While animal cruelty is defined as the act of crime involving the infliction of pain, suffering, or death of an animal, there is the additional dimension of animal neglect which includes withholding basic survival supplies, including food, water, and shelter, which eventually leads to their suffering or death or exposure to the imminent danger of death. Many pets were abandoned during the Covid-19 pandemic because of the unfounded and unscientific belief that they could transmit the virus. Suppose pets did carry the virus. Did we abandon and exile our human family members who contracted



Chidanand Rajghat
Ruminations,TOI News,T



SA Aiyar
Swaminomics



Swapan Dasgupta
Right & Wrong,TOI Edit



Twinkle Khanna
Mrs Funnybones

ADVERTISEMENT

TOP EDITORIALS

- 1 How IAF's hero became a v
broken procurement proce
MiG-21s continue to fly bey
expiry date
- 2 Not just a change of 'regim
freedom from 'dynasty' rul
- 3 What's obscene? FIR again
Singh yet another exampl
dangerous misuse of an ou

the virus? No, we cared for their welfare as we must with animals.

Of course, cruelty against animals is a punishable offence under Section 428 and Section 429 of the Indian Penal Code. But the law is enforced unevenly. A police-judicial system which is overwhelmed by immense loads, is unlikely to be able to prioritise animal cruelty.

In any case, laws do not always change attitudes. This chain of abuse and offence can be broken by teaching children to empathize with other living beings from an early age, both in and outside school, and by adults leading through example. Parents and elder members of the family must play their part as must schoolteachers and school principals. It is important to raise kind and empathetic beings for them to then build and nurture a society that cares when they reach adulthood. Let us strive to build a generation that is compassionate, gentle and gracious towards all beings.

Apart from empathy, society needs the right infrastructure manned by professionals which can help maintain animal welfare. The Government, at the Centre and in some states, has done excellent work in creating shelters for animals. Many charitable organisations have done the same. But we need to build many more while upgrading the quality of those that exist. Also required are skilled personnel. Veterinarians of course. But, just like we have para medical

healthcare workers for humans, we need para-veterinarians who can be trained in a much bigger number than vets and who can be spread out across the country. The need of the hour is to have a collective goal of establishing institutions that offer courses, medical and para medical, on a large scale, utilizing existing expertise efficiently and cost-effectively. Public-private partnership may be the best way forward.

There is also a need for public information campaigns that sensitise society to the cause of animal welfare. Expanded public programmes for properly sterilising stray animals in urban areas would also help in reducing some of the conflict between humans and animals. Again, a PPP model is the way to move forward since municipal authorities already have many challenging tasks and partnerships can help enhance capacities.

All animals deserve a life of dignity and care, just as all humans do. The solutions are not complex but require society to pay greater attention to the peaceful and happy co-existence between all living beings. We need to make animal welfare a mass movement.

[FACEBOOK](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

[EMAIL](#)



START A CONVERSATION

DISCLAIMER

Views expressed above are the author's own.

END OF ARTICLE

FROM AROUND THE WEB

Sponsored by



A 26-Year-Old Girl From Mumbai...

AD Olymp...



An Online Money-Making...

AD Olymp...



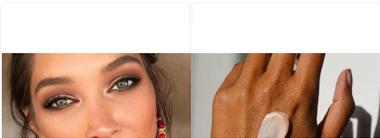
28 Year-Old Becomes A Rich Man By...

AD Olymp...



#ExpressYourself with the New Citroën C3 a...

AD Citroën...



POPULAR CATEGORIES

Headlines

Business News

Sports News

India News

Create Your
Own Ad

Terms of Use
and
Grievance
Redressal
Policy

Privacy
policy

Advertise
with us

RSS

Newsletter

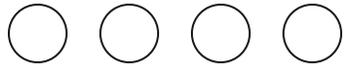
Feedback

ePaper

Sitemap

Archives

FOLLOW US ON



OTHER TIMES GROUP NEWS SITES

The
Economic
Times
Hindi
Economic
Times
Navbharat
Times
Maharashtra
Times
Vijaya
Karnataka
Telugu
Samayam
Tamil
Samayam

Malayalam
Samayam
Ei Samay
I am Gujarat
Times Now
Times Now
Navbharat
TimesPoints
Indiatimes
Brand
Capital
Education
Times
Times Food
Miss Kyra

World News
Bollywood
News
Health & Fitness
Tips

TOP TRENDS

Coronavirus in
India Live
Russia Ukraine
War Live

Commonwealth
Games 2022

Ayman al-
Zawahiri

West Bengal
New Districts

Indian Lawn
Bowl Team

India Covid
Cases

Smriti Irani

Monkeypox

Cases in Kerala

LIVING AND ENTERTAINMENT

iDiva

MensXP.com

Femina

ETimes

Grazia

Zoom

Travel

Destinations

Bombay Times

Cricbuzz.com

Indian TV

Shows

Celebrity

Photos

CUET Admit

Card 2022

Oracle Layoffs
2022

Nag Panchami
2022

Parliament

Monsoon

Session

Uma Maheswari

NTR Daughter

Sanjay Raut

CWG 2022 India

Schedule

Cryptocurrency

Price in India

Horoscope

Today

Filmfare

Online Songs

TV

Lifestyle

Longwalks App

Newspaper

Subscription

Food News

Times Prime

Whats Hot

HOT ON THE WEB

Zodiac Sign
Aanya

Zodiac Sign	Ananya Pandey
Samantha	Alia Bhatt
Ruth Prabhu	Kareena Kapoor
Kareena Kapoor	Popular Without Makeup
Keerthy Suresh	Nayanthara South Indian
Prostate Cancer Symptoms	Breakfast Recipe

TRENDING TOPICS

Malaika Arora	Karnatakas
Shilpa Shetty	Waterfall
Sudesh Lehri	Health Astro Predictions for August 2022
Prostate Cancer Symptoms	Mrunal Thakur
Salman Khan	Aamir Khan
Aamir Khan	Parenting Tips
Parenting Tips	Genelia D'souza
Heart Attack Symptoms	Vivo Y55s
Shilpa Shetty	Laptops under 30000
Ek Villain Returns Collection	WiFi Routers
Farmani Naaz Controversy	Tablets under 15000

SERVICES

Ads2Book	Bollywood News
CouponDunia	Times Mobile
Dineout	Gadgets Now
Magicbricks	Careers
TechGig	

