No. 9-16/2019-20/PCA

Dated: 16.11.2020

To,
1. Chief Secretaries of all State / Union Territories Governments.

2. Directorate General of Foreign Trade
   Udyog Bhawan, H-Wing, Gate No. 2, Maulana Azad Road,
   New Delhi-110011

3. Indian Pest Control Association
   Flat No. 11, 1st Floor (Alishan Banquet Complex) 40,
   D.L.F. Industrial Area Kirti Nagar New Delhi - 110015

Subject: Request to issue strictly directions to ban the use of Glue Traps – regarding.

Ref: AWBI’s Circular dated 04.08.2011 (copy enclosed).

Sir,

With reference to the above-cited subject, it is stated that the AWBI vide it’s circular dated
04.08.2011 requested you all to issue appropriate directions to stop the use of Glue trap method which
inflicts unnecessary pain and suffering to the rodents and is against the spirit of the Prevention of Cruelty
to Animals Act 1960 specifically section 11 that deals with cruelty to animals generally, while there are
many humane methods available to control the population of rats.

2. Further, it is stated that it has come to the knowledge of the AWBI that the Glue traps are still
widely manufactured and sold across India. As requested in our circular dated 04.08.2011 no strict action
has been taken to ban the import or stop the manufactures of this Glue traps and neither any such strong
directions have been issued to restraints its manufacturing, use and sell.

3. In addition, it is stated that the use of Glue traps is a cruel reoccurring practice which is a
continuing act by its user as they mostly use multiple traps and keep using them within a very short
period for controlling rats/rodents which is in direct violation of Section 11(1) of PCA Act, 1960 for
which a person is liable to the punishment which may extend to one hundred rupees or with imprisonment
for a term which may extend to three months, or with both for the second or subsequent offence, which
in this case is almost always happening.
4. Therefore, in the view of the above facts, we humbly request all Chief Secretary of State/UT to issue appropriate directions to prohibit the manufacture, sale and use of Glue traps. The Director-General of Foreign Trade is requested to issue strict appropriate directions to impose the ban on the import of glue traps. The Indian Pest Control Association may also issue appropriate advisories to its members.

5. This may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Yours sincerely,

(S.K. Dutta)
Secretary
To
1. Chief Secretaries of all State Governments

2. Directorate General of Foreign Trade
   Udyog Bhawan, H-Wing, Gate No. 2,
   Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110011
   Tel. (EPBAX No.): 011-23061562

3. Indian Pest Control Association
   Flat No. 11, 1st Floor (Alishan Banquet Complex)
   40, D.L.F. Industrial Area
   Kirti Nagar
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Circular

Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is a statutory body of the Government of India established in 1962 under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960. At present AWBI is working under the aegis of Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI. This statutory body has been constituted by the Government of India for promoting animal welfare in general and for the purpose of protecting animals from being subjected to unnecessary pain and suffering in particular.

While the control of pests is desirable in the overall interest of the country, the methods employed for this purpose have to be in tune with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and rules there under. If the employment of a humane method can serve the purpose, then there is no logical reason as to why an extremely cruel method needs to be adopted. Hence, this circular is being issued to address the use of glueboards / sticky traps being used for trapping of rats.

Glue traps, also known as glueboards or sticky traps, are a type of non-lethal or restraining rodent traps used mostly to trap rats. The traps are extremely sticky with non-drying adhesive on one side of its rigid flat surface so that small animals get stuck to the glue boards by their feet or by their fur when they attempt to run across them. Once captured on a glue trap an animal is unable to free itself from the adhesive, while struggling to free itself, it brings additional body parts in contact with the adhesive. Glue traps do not in themselves kill rodents, although trapped animals will eventually die from exposure, dehydration, starvation, suffocation, predation or are killed by humans. Animals can also die from injuries or blood loss as they try to chew their own body parts in an attempt to escape from the trap.

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Available evidence clearly suggests that the use of glue traps causes unnecessary pain and suffering to the rodents and is against the spirit of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 specifically section 11 that deals with cruelty to animals generally, while there are many humane methods available to control the population of rats.

Therefore, the use of glue traps for controlling rats / rodents is in contravention of the provisions contained in the PCA Act 1960. Use of Glue traps is a cruel practice as such must be discontinued in favour of other humane methods / non invasive methods such as regulation rat traps.

I request the Director General of Foreign Trade to issue appropriate directions to ban the import of glue traps.

All State/ Union Territory governments are requested to issue appropriate directions to prohibit the manufacture, sale and use of Glue traps for catching rats.

The Indian Pest Control Association may also issue appropriate advisories to its members.

Yours Sincerely

(Dr. R.M. Kharb)
Maj. Gen. (Retd.), AVSM
Chairman, AWBI