

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT RAJYA SABHA

21st August 2020

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I am enclosing my letter to Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests dated 5th June 2020. In his reply Shri Javadekar has informed me that my request has been forward to your Ministry for consideration and hence the letter.

I have repeatedly taken up this issue in Parliament since 2016; about the need for prosecution of those under The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960. The use of firecrackers or any deliberate man-made attempt to harm animals falls within the ambit of offence of Section 11(1)(a) under The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and should attract associated penalties. I urge you to take immediate action in such matters to bring to book those responsible for such heinous crimes. This kind of poaching and deliberate violence against animals/ elephants need to stop.

Secondly, The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 needs amendment. I had raised this issue in 2016; enclosing my Zero Hour for reference where I have advocated the need for a review and amendment of Animal Cruelty Laws to serve as effective and stronger deterrents against Animal Abuse.

Animals too have a right to live with dignity and a life that is devoid of cruelty and ill-treatment. Therefore, on behalf of thousands of other animal lovers in the country, I urge you and the Ministry to bring in suitable amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, including more stringent punishments and increased penalties, which will serve as effective and stronger deterrents against perpetrators of ruthless, cold blooded treatment of animals, at the earliest.

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I would also request your Ministry to take all necessary steps including conferences, seminars and awareness programmes with police of all states so that the crimes committed under these acts are robustly followed through and prosecuted always.

I look forward to you acting on this at the earliest and I remain available for any clarification and assistance in this regard.

Yours Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri Giriraj Singh

Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Government of India New Delhi

Encl: As above