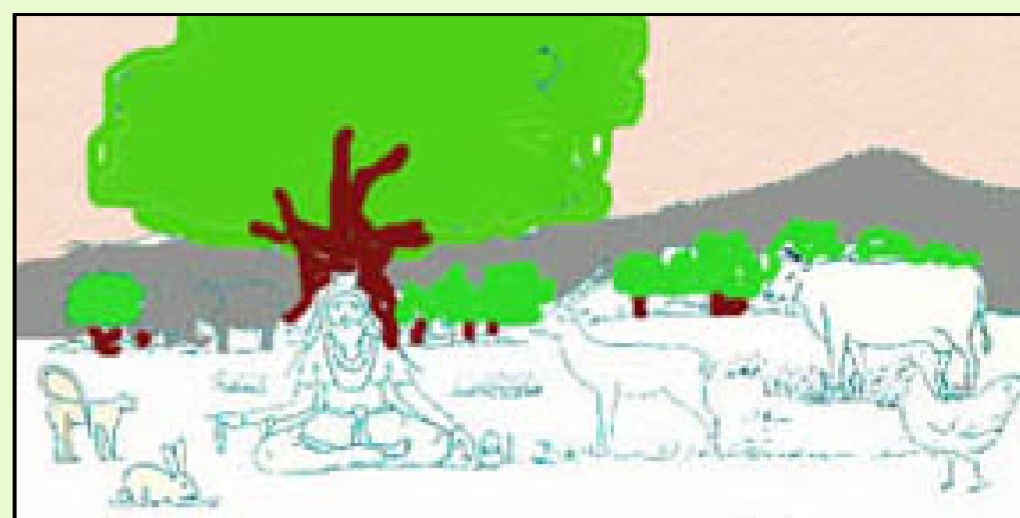


## INTERMEDIATE

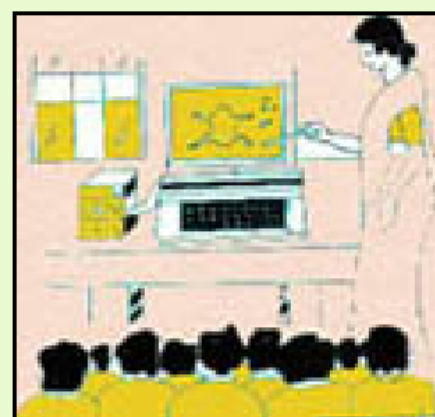
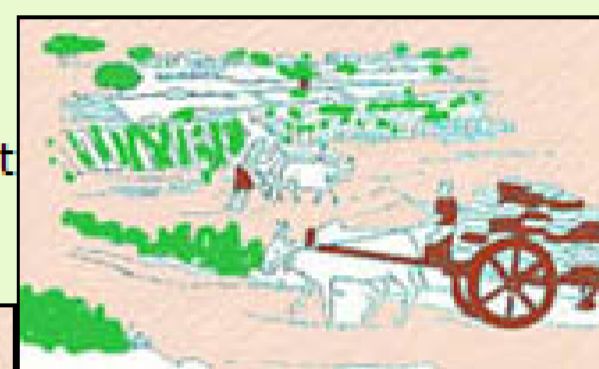
Animal welfare is the concern felt by human beings for all animals, domestic and wild, for those which are economically viable and which have outlived their usefulness, for those which are companion animals or have a role to play in our environment, with or without directly relating to humans.

The web of the life involves people and animals, besides Air, Water, Earth, Space and Energy. As the dominant species of the planet, we have to take care of all other species be it plants or animals.



### How can NGOs contribute to Animal Welfare?

- By raising awareness and educating people about the role of animals - domestic or wild.
- By disseminating information on all aspects of animal welfare, animal rights and wildlife laws.
- By providing medical services for animals through the establishment of first aid centres, hospitals, mobile clinics and ambulances.
- By providing temporary shelters and rescue homes for injured and homeless animals.
- By taking up a programme on animal birth control in preference to destroying animals.
- By ensuring that draught animals, such as bullocks, tonga horses and donkeys, are not over-worked and over-burdened.
- By providing alternatives to vivisection in schools. Today this can be done easily on a computer programme.
- By ensuring that slaughter houses minimise cruelty to animals.
- To report cases of contravention of the Wildlife Prevention Act, whenever wildlife products come to the open or black market.
- To prevent cruelties to animals in the circus and other forms of animal entertainment.



### For NGOs or individuals who wish to help in a small way, the following are simple but important activities to promote animal welfare:

- Education, through lectures, audio-visual / film shows, field visits and popular media, on the necessity of kindness to animals, non-use of animal products and the role of animals in the wild.
- Establishment of water troughs on the sidewalk, bird baths, etc.
- Distribution of computer - simulated animal dissection as an alternative to dissection in educational institutions.
- Development of posters, text books and other resource materials promoting kindness to animals.
- Educate people on the laws relating to animal welfare and wildlife.



### The Law and Animal Welfare

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act was passed in 1960 "to prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals and for that purpose to amend the law relating to the prevention of cruelty to animals".

According to Section 3 of the PCA Act, it shall be the duty of every person having the care or charge of any animal to take all reasonable measures to ensure the well-being of such animal and to prevent the infliction upon such animal of unnecessary pain or suffering.

Section 11 deals with treating animals cruelly, which is an offence and shall be punishable with fine or imprisonment or with both.

According to Section 26, any person exhibiting or entertaining people by making animals perform without getting registered for the same under Section 22 shall be punishable on conviction with fine which may extend to Rs.500/-, or with imprisonment which may extend to 3 months, or with both.

To provide protection to wild animals and birds and for matters connected thereof, the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, is in force.

You can also file cases under this act.

While the list of projects could be longer, all of the above depend on humane education and the dissemination of information to the public a practical working knowledge of the animal one is dealing with. NGOs, by virtue of the commitment of most individuals working in them, can show greater mobility, enterprise and initiative in tackling these projects. However, training is a must for the projects to succeed.