

The Goa Stray Cattle Management Scheme, 2013 (Modified)

Whereas, the Government of Goa deems it expedient to modify the scheme for the purpose of checking the menace of stray cattle in the State of Goa by making the scheme open to all the Municipalities, Panchayats, AWOs, Goshalas and Civic & Consumer Forums (CCF).

Now, therefore the Government of Goa is hereby pleased to modify the Scheme as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement :-

- (1) This Scheme may be called “The Goa Stray Cattle Management Scheme, 2013 (Modified)”.
- (2) It shall come into force with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Introduction:-

The Government of Goa is concerned about the stray cattle menace which is causing traffic obstruction, deaths due to accidents on roads, agricultural damage and invasion of the touristic places like beaches. The traffic on Goa's roads is ever increasing and with it the road accidents are on the increase. It is observed that several of the road accidents are caused due to direct vehicular hits to the animals or because the driver of the vehicle had to turn to avoid hitting the animals on the road. Animals on the road are accident prone and pose much problems during the night when visibility becomes poor and movement of traffic goes faster.

The animals not only get injured or killed but invariably involve human beings getting injured or even killed in the accidents. It is desirable that animals are not found roaming freely on the roads and near wayside garbage bins etc.

Goa being a tourist destination, the stray animals on the beaches and wayside give an ugly picture of Goa. These animals should be shifted to a place where they can be better looked after rather than being left to go about as scavengers and be a nuisance to tourists.

Agriculture today is on the decline. The few enthusiastic farmers who still would like to pursue agriculture have to spend large amount of money to fence their agricultural crops so as to prevent stray animals from destroying their standing crops.

To overcome this nuisance on the roads, to improve the image of the State and to help encourage agriculture, a Scheme has to be formulated to control the stray animal menace by appointing an agency to impound the stray cattle on the roads.

The Scheme envisages the impounding of the stray cattle and transporting them by specialized vehicle to the Cattle Pound where arrangements will be made to look after the animals.

To make the Scheme citizen centric, the Scheme encourages the citizens to inform the Corporation of the City of Panaji, Municipalities, Panchayats, AWOs, Goshalas and Civic & Consumer Forums (CCF)/Person/Individual nominated by respective organizations on mobile about the presence of the stray cattle in their area, the mobile number shall be widely publicized and displayed at all the Municipalities, Panchayats and public places.

3. Objectives:

a) To ensure removal of stray cattle from public areas without injuring them and carry them safely to a place where they will be fed properly and looked after in a humane manner. To manage the stray cattle in a humane and carrying manner.

- (b) To make farmers responsible for tethering their own animals.
- (c) To ensure that animals on grazing be accompanied by a responsible shepherd/owner.
- (d) To ensure agriculture is not damaged by stray cattle.

4. Definitions:-

- (a) “Agency” means the Corporation of the City of Panaji, Municipalities, Panchayats, Animal Welfare Organizations, Goshalas and Civic & Consumer Forums (CCF)
- (b) “ Director ” means the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services;
- (c) “Cattle Pound” means the Government Fodder Seed Production Farm at Kalay, Sanguem Taluka-Goa and all the pounds in respective jurisdiction of Municipalities, Panchayats, AWOs, Goshalas and Civic & Consumer Forums (CCF) in their area of operation.
- (d) “Stray Cattle” includes all animals of bovine species found sitting on motorable roads or pavements, animals walking on the road and found in fields without a herdsman, animals found on beaches and other public places.
- (e) “Scheme” means “The Goa Stray Cattle Management Scheme, 2013 (Modified)”.

5. Eligibility:

- (a) The Animal Welfare Organizations, Goshalas and CCF should necessarily be registered in Goa and working in Goa for last 3 years in this field.

- (b) The AWOs, Goshalas and CCF should have their annual accounts audited.
- (c) The Animal Welfare Organizations, Goshalas and CCF having own land or those who have lease land, for which the lease period should be for a minimum period of 10 years are eligible.
- (d) Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils and Panchayats can also apply.

6. Procedure:

- (a) The AWOs, Goshalas and CCF shall apply for grants through the local bodies, in whose jurisdiction the AWOs intends to work.
- (b) The local bodies like the Corporation, Municipality or the Panchayats can also apply individually.
- (c) In case of AWOs, Goshalas and CCF applies, the application shall be routed through the local body. On verification of the contents of the application the local body shall recommend the same to the Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services through the local Area Officer of the Dept. of AH & VS.
- (d) In case of grants for infrastructure, documents indicating the ownership of land or a copy of the lease deed document (for at least 10 years) registered under appropriate authority are to be submitted along with the application. NOC from the statutory authorities is essential to release the grants.
- (e) On approval from the Department of AH & VS the grants shall be disbursed to the local body through the Electronic Clearing System for which these bodies shall have to provide details. This model is similar to the existing procedures followed by CCP and PAWS.

(f) To avoid duplication of grants to the AWOs, Goshalas and CCF from the Animal Welfare Board of India and under this scheme, the local body shall deposit the grants in a separate account and disburse the amount towards the components as and when required by the AWOs, Goshalas and CCF.

(g) The Commissioner of the Corporation/Chief Officer of the Municipality/Secretary of the Panchayat in whose jurisdiction the AWO works will verify and certify the bills towards the cost of the components as submitted in the application and submit an audited report along with utilization certificates as required under the existing administrative, legal and financial regulations.

7. Impounding (Catching and Transportation) of Stray Cattle:-

The Agency shall be responsible to catch the stray cattle from the roads, beaches, fields, public places in their area of operation and transport them to the Cattle Pound in their respective area of operation. The Agency shall impound, look after the animals during the holding period and transport the animals by specialized vehicle to the Cattle Pound in their area. The Police shall render all the protection required for a successful implementation of the Scheme. Co-operation of the concerned Municipalities and the Village Panchayats shall be the pivotal factor in the success of the Scheme.

8. Housing of Stray Cattle:-

The Stray Cattle will be maintained at the Cattle Pounds, belonging to Municipalities, Panchayats, AWOs, Goshalas and Civic & Consumer Forums (CCF) where feed, fodder, water, shade and pound keeper will be provided to the impounded cattle and medical care and cross-breeding activities will be undertaken as and when required.

9. **Medical Care:**

The AWOs, Goshalas and CCF will provide for Veterinary care and assistance. Artificial Insemination, treatment of sick or wounded animals and other preventive measures like vaccination against all the diseases will be undertaken as and when required, with the help of the Veterinary surgeon provided to them.

10. **Pattern of Assistance:-**

1.	Vehicle with hydraulic lift up to 90% grant.	Cost of the vehicle Rs.18,00,000/- (Rupees Eighteen lakhs only).
2.	Salary for driver	Rs.10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only) per month.
3.	Construction of sheds (subject to NOC from authorities)	Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees five thousand only) per square meter.
4.	Feeding of cattle	@ Rs. 75/- (Rupees seventy five only) per day.
5.	Veterinary Surgeon's Salary	Rs. 30,000/- (Rupees thirty thousand only,) per month.
6.	Attendant's Salary (6) Six attendents	@ Rs. 6,000/- (Rupees six thousand only) per month/per attendant.
7.	Rumenotomy cost @ Rs.2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) per animal	Rs.2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) per animal.
8.	Other expenses like a) survey of stray cattle, b) burial of dead animals and c) microchip/notching	a) Survey of Stray animal @ Rs. 5/- (Rupees five only) per animal. b) Burial of dead animal @ Rs.2000/- c) Microchip/Notching @ Rs.200/- (Rupees Two Hundred Only) per animal.

		d) Maximum limit for a), b) and c) is Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rupees two lakhs only)
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11. Procedure for release of impounded cattle:-

- (a) The claimant will have to prove his ownership by making a representation to the Director through the Panchayat/Municipality. He shall produce a letter from the Village Panchayat countersigned by the Assistant Director/Veterinary Officer stating therein that he is the owner of the impounded cattle. Thereafter, on scrutinizing the application, if the Director in his opinion is convinced that the claimant is the legal owner of the impounded cattle, shall direct the Incharge of the respective Cattle Pound to release the impounded cattle subject to payment of the specified fines in clause (c) below.
- (b) The Cattle taken to the Cattle Pound shall be released on payment of fine.
- (c) The release of the stray cattle will be subject to the payment of fines as follows:
- i). If the stray cattle is claimed within a period of 7 days Fine of Rs. 3000/- plus delivery charges.
 - ii). If stray cattle is claimed beyond a period of 7 days but within 15 days..... Fine of Rs. 5000/- plus delivery charges
- (d). In case the stray cattle is not claimed within 15 days, then the Incharge of respective Cattle Pound shall have the option to auction the unclaimed animal and sell it to the existing

farmers having two or more cattle only for breeding/draught purpose.

12. Visiting Committee:-

The Visiting Committee shall consist of representatives of the Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Police Department, Directorate of Panchayats, Directorate of Municipal Administration, NGOs working in animal welfare to be nominated by the Government.

The Visiting Committee shall visit the Cattle Pound and assist and suggest some remedial measures, if any, to the Scheme or the condition of the animals, to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services.

The Visiting Committee shall meet at least once every six months to review the progress of the Scheme and submit a report to the Government.

Visiting Committee to ensure that Animal Welfare Organizations, Goshalas and Civic Consumer Forums (CCF) or the Local Bodies are following the scheme in Letter and Spirit there is a need of supervision of unit.

13. Implementing Agencies:

The Animal Welfare Organizations along with Local Bodies like Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Panchayats with the help of the Police will be responsible for implementation of the Scheme.

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