



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

No:G3/206/2024-AH
Animal Husbandry (G) Department
Thiruvananthapuram,
Dated:29-05-2025

CIRCULAR

Animal Husbandry Department- Prohibit the use, sale,
Sub: manufacture, and trade of Spiked Bits, which are used to control
horses through pain - reg

A communication was received from the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India, dated 24/12/2024, requesting to issue circular/order which prohibit the use, sale, manufacture, and trade of illegal Spiked Bits, used to control horses through pain, which is in conformity to the Advisory given by the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) vide their letter No.9-5/2014-15/PCA dated 01/07/2014.

Rule 8 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Draught and Pack Animals Rules (PCDPA) -1965 , framed under the PCA Act, 1960, states that:

8. Use of Spiked bits prohibited:

No person shall for, the purpose of driving or riding an animal or causing it to draw any vehicle or for otherwise controlling it, use of any spiked stick or bit, harness or yoke with spikes, knob or projections or any other sharp tackle or equipment which causes or is likely to cause bruises, swellings, abrasions or severe pain to the animal.

The Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Kerala, vide his letter No. AHD/149/2025-E2 dated 30/04/2025 has recommended to prohibit the use, sale, manufacture, and trade of spiked bits, which are used to control horses.

The use, sale, manufacture and trade of illegal Spiked Bits or Sticks is illegal under Rule 8 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Draught and Pack Animals Rules (PCDPA) - 1965. Therefore it is prohibited/banned in the State of Kerala.

Dr Vasuki K I A S
SECRETARY

To:

- 1) The Secretary, Animal Welfare Board of India

- 2) The Additional Chief Secretary, LSGD, Thiruvananthapuram
- 3) The Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Thiruvananthapuram
- 4) All District Collectors
- 5) The Director General of Police, Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
- 6) All District Animal Husbandry Officer (through DAH)
- ✓ 7) The Director, Information & Public Relation Department.
- 8) Information & Public Relation (Web & New Media) Department
- 9) Shri. Tushar Kol, Advocacy Associate, PETA India, TKol@petaindia.org
- 10) Stock File/Office Copy

Approved for Issue

Signed by

Resmi R S

Date: 29-05-2025 12:05:23

Section Officer