DISCUSSIONS

The animals in Agra and in the vicinity of Agra are exploited extensively by humans to meet their various needs and moreover to meet their never ending greeds. It's true, not enough people care. Animals have deep feelings and are being wounded physically and emotionally. The alternative interpretation, which regards a “domestic animal” as being an animal “which is tame or which has been or is being sufficiently tamed to serve some purpose for the use of man,” has the consequence of rendering the words “any horse, ass, mule, bull, sheep, pig, goat, dog, cat, or fowl,” surplus usage. People of all ages abuse animals. This includes senior citizens, adults, teenagers and even children. Sadly, most animal abusers and killers are teenagers.

Prohibition on animals is also a kind of abuse to them. Keeping them in chains and away from their natural habitat and their mates is truly a trauma to them. According to law, every person with premises having more than 5 cattles in number should be registered with the veterinary department of the State government or a local authority specified by the state government but in Agra, there are about 50 registered dairy farms and 200+ unregistered farms. Each dairy is having more than 5 milk producing animals.

Current felony animal cruelty provisions allow for jail or prison sentences ranging from six months to ten years. Since serious and violent animal cruelty offenses are often associated with other crimes, courts have increasingly been recommending and receiving maximum sentences in instances of repeated, violent or severe animal abuse. In cases involving juvenile or non-habitual offenders, most courts have recognized the value of some jail time as an important part of the balanced approach to holding perpetrators accountable. Such sentences are then usually blended with a substantial period of probation supervision.

It is illegal to administer any injurious drugs to animals (PCA, Section 11 ) or to use injections of any kind or to conduct any operation called Phooka or Doom Dev to "improve" lactation (PCA, Section 12). A report was prepared by Dr. R.P Parashar , President of D.A.V research Society for Health, in a survey conducted in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi, it was found that 82% cattle breeders were using injection Oxytocin in the capital. 56%-60% cattle breeders from adjoining areas of Agra were using Oxytocin injection to cows.

Researchers consider a fascination with cruelty to animals as a red flag that may indicate that a person is a serial killer or rapist. According to the deputy manager of animal cruelty issues
for the Humane Society of the United States, Dale Bartlett, the research shows that most mass murderers and serial killers are likely to have animal cruelty in their background."Communities must acknowledge that the abuse of any living being is unacceptable and endangers everyone. Recognizing that cruelty to animals is a significant form of aggressive and antisocial behavior may help further the understanding and prevention of violence.

While hiding their own abuse, human victims may talk openly of animal abuse or neglect occurring in the family. Since laws governing animal abuse and child abuse investigation and intervention differ, animal control agents can often enter homes when social service workers cannot. Working together through cross-reporting, these agencies can help one another gain information about possible neglect and abuse.

The main law protecting animals is the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. However few people are aware of this law and in the wake of human ignorance of the law, animals are helpless victims. The whipping and beating of working animals like the horse and the bullock, the gross cruelty shown to temple elephants in the name of religion, to camels with over-riding at amela or at tourist spot, over-crowding of chickens in local market, cruel transportation of animals like cattle and livestock in trucks while being taken to slaughterhouses or even treating pets with gross neglect- not providing food or water or keeping them chained in the sun; killing, maiming beating an animal. Each of these acts is an act of animal cruelty under either Section 11 or Section 12 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 (PCA Act 1960).

It was evident with the observations that domestic animals are more prone to the cases of exploitation and abuse by humans as compared to wild animals as in the wild animals in their natural habitats somehow escape human tortures. The animals which were found to be suffering the most included donkeys and horses because these animals are used by people to make their livelihood and earn their daily bread and butter by using them in transportation as in carts and also for loading purposes.

In research also, the scientists should be deeply concerned about the rational and humane use of animals in research. Ethics committee should be functional in institutions. They should be concerned about avoiding unnecessary pain or suffering or injury to animals during holding, experimentation and post –experimentation period by monitoring and improving their housing, environment, feeding and veterinary care. This can be achieved by providing
accreditationservices to laboratories by constituting, National Accreditation Board of Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) having membership of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation. This accreditation of animal facilities would demonstrate their commitment to responsible animal care and use and good science since such an accreditation is an indicator of an institution’s ability to comply with its assurances. However, efforts to develop alternate methods should continuously be made so that the day will be reached when no more animals are used for experimentation.