

The High Court of Kerala

D1-60789/ 1996

Kochi- 682 031,
Dated 22-3-2017.

Circular No. 2 / 2017

Sub.: Animals other than livestock and birds produced before courts in various cases- providing for their safe custody-reg.

It has been brought to the notice of the High Court that the subordinate courts in the State have been facing difficulties due to the production of various animals and birds in the court in connection with various cases. The courts have found it difficult to ensure the safe custody and proper care of the animals since there are no Government rescue centres or institutions where such animals/ birds could be kept till the disposal of the case.

The High Court had taken up the above issue with the State Government, in pursuance of which, the Government had convened a meeting of the officers concerned on 11-11-2015. In the meeting, it was noted that the livestock produced before courts are released to the owners under section 451 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Regarding the other animals and birds, the meeting decided as follows:

(I) *Those animals other than livestock that have been produced before the Courts and that listed in the Wild Life Act Schedule cannot be owned by individuals. In such cases, the Forest Range Officer may be contacted and it may be decided whether the animal be sent to Zoo or Rescue Centre based on its habitat, health condition etc.*

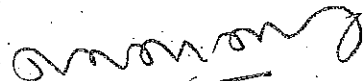
(II) *The dogs produced before courts as material objects shall be sent to PFA/SPCA/NGOs as per their intake capacity as*

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there are no Government shelter homes for dogs.

All the subordinate courts in the State shall take note of the above decision whenever dealing with the custody of animals and birds produced before it in various cases.

(By order)



K. Babu

Registrar (Subordinate Judiciary)

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