ANIMAL LAW CELL

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF DELHI



ANNUAL REPORT

2025-26

EQUALITY, JUSTICE, COMPASSION



animallawcellfol@gmail.com

Faculty of Law, University of Delhi

https://lawfaculty.du.ac.in/Animal-Law-Cell

https://linktr.ee/animallawcellfol



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About the Animal Law Cell

The Animal Law Cell at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, is a committee committed to promoting legal education, research, and advocacy in the emerging field of animal law. It was established in 2022 under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Pinki Sharma, along with the efforts of students - Ekankshi, Himanshu, and Dolma. After its initiation, the Cell became dormant but was later re-established and institutionalised through the efforts of Mr. Ankur Arora, under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti and with the constant support of the Dean, Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo.

Reinvigorated with the vision of fostering a compassionate and legally aware society, the Cell seeks to bridge the gap between law, ethics, and animal welfare. Its mandate ranges from in-depth legal research and awareness campaigns to educational programs and creative outreach initiatives, while also engaging with government bodies, statutory authorities, animal welfare organisations, and academic experts to address the systemic challenges faced by animals in India.





Through legal literacy drives, research publications, panel discussions, and on-ground activities, the Animal Law Cell encourages students to critically engage with existing laws, understand their implementation, and identify areas for reform. Core areas of work include the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, ethical treatment of animals, and the creation of safe environments for animals both on and off campus.

With an emphasis on academic inquiry and civic responsibility, the Cell continues to serve as a platform for students to explore animal law in both theoretical and practical contexts, contributing meaningfully to the broader discourse on rights, welfare, and justice for animals.

Message from the Patron-in-Chief

It gives me immense satisfaction to note the achievements of the Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi during the academic year 2024–25. The Cell has, over the past year, emerged as a vibrant forum where legal education, research, and advocacy come together in service of animal welfare and social responsibility.



Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo
Dean, Faculty of Law
University of Delhi

Through its various initiatives, the Cell has drawn attention to pressing issues in the field of animal law and welfare. Its projects have not only examined compliance with existing legal frameworks but also highlighted the gap between law in books and law in practice. By engaging directly with ground realities and combining this with academic discussion, the Cell has contributed meaningfully to the wider discourse on humane and lawful treatment of animals. What stands out is the ability of the Cell to integrate learning with action. Whether through inspections, awareness campaigns, or academic discussions, the members have consistently demonstrated that law students can play a significant role in shaping conversations around compassion, legality, and accountability. The enthusiasm and commitment displayed by the student body, supported by the faculty, has ensured that the Cell's work is not symbolic but impactful.

I congratulate the faculty conveners, members, and student members of the Animal Law Cell for their dedicated efforts. Their work embodies the values of this institution, combining scholarship with service, and empathy with action. I am confident that the Cell will continue to grow as a model for socially conscious legal education and as a platform for innovative thought in the field of animal law.

Faculty Advisors and Support



Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti
Faculty Convener,
Animal Law Cell

The Animal Law Cell has continued to build upon its meaningful beginning and has made significant strides this year. Its flagship programme, Turning Policy into Practice, brought students into direct engagement with the practical dimensions of animal law. Raj Panjwani Ji, regarded as the Father of Animal Law, guided and inspired our students. The programme received wide coverage in LiveLaw, Bar & Bench and other media.

The Cell has also sought to translate compassion into action. During the summer, our students placed water bowls across the campus. It was a simple yet deeply compassionate gesture.

The Cell has continued to strengthen the connection between fieldwork and law. Our students undertook a field visit to dairies, engaging directly with the realities of animal use and care. The Cell also successfully intervened in the suo motu writ petition concerning stray dogs, bringing the perspective of animal law into an important legal discourse.

This year, the Cell is also working towards creating an Animal Law Pledge. The endeavour is to encourage a deeper sense of responsibility towards animals and to give institutional expression to the values that inform the work of the Cell.

The backbone of the Cell remains its students. Drawn from all four centres of the Faculty of Law, LL.M and even PhD, they bring diverse intellectual capacities and perspectives. Their engagement has enabled the Cell to move beyond discussion and towards meaningful intervention.

The Cell's objective remains to strengthen Animal Law as an academic and institutional discipline and, ultimately, to contribute towards a more just legal framework for animals.

Faculty Advisors and Support

The Animal Law Cell has, during the year, taken meaningful strides in strengthening the connection between legal education, advocacy and practical engagement. The flagship programme, "Turning Policy into Practice: Advancing Animal Justice through Litigation and Innovation," held on 13th March 2026, provided an important platform for engaging with contemporary dimensions of animal law and justice.

The recognition accorded to the Cell by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, along with its contribution to proceedings before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on animal welfare issues, reflects its growing role in legal advocacy. The Cell's field-based and community initiatives have further enriched students' learning. I believe these efforts mark a significant step in the Cell's continued growth and institutional development.



Dr. Sneh Yadav
Faculty Member
Animal Law Cell

Throughout 2025–26, the Animal Law Cell expanded its engagement across legal education, advocacy, awareness, and practical field initiatives. The year's central highlight was the flagship programme, "Turning Policy into Practice: Advancing Animal Justice through Litigation and Innovation," held on 13th March 2026, which brought together legal practitioners, academics, and students to examine animal justice, litigation, and policy implementation.

Alongside this, the Cell undertook awareness drives, community initiatives, field visits, and strengthened institutional collaborations, including its engagement with the People for Animals Public Policy Foundation. Its recognition through legal and media platforms further reflected the growing scope of its work during the year. The Cell's legal advocacy was also recognised by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, while its submissions before the Hon'ble Supreme Court addressed important animal welfare issues.



Dr. Bhupesh Rathore
Faculty Member
Animal Law Cell

Reflections on the Animal Law Cell

Animal Law Cell's Annual Report 2.0 marks another significant milestone at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi.

This report is a factual representation of all the efforts of its members and the students. We are truly grateful to all the volunteers, students, faculty, staff and all the participants who have contributed in the activities of Animal Law Cell.

"Equality, Justice & Compassion", are the founding tenets of Animal Law Cell through which it aims to advance the rights of animals in a multidisciplinary approach. We have followed this practically by organising educational seminars, conducting several on campus drives, competitions and through legal advocacy for the implementation of existing laws.



Mr. Ankur Arora
Student Convener (2023 - 2025),
Animal Law Cell
Law Centre - II, Batch 2026

All this has been possible with the constant support and guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo and Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti and I am confident that the Cell will take this legacy forward and will continue to work under their guidance.

I would also like to acknowledge each and every organisation that has collaborated with the Cell and contributed towards its mission of protecting animals, whether through sterilisation drives, legal interventions, or partnerships to provide vegan food. We are grateful to you for the work you do to bring about meaningful change in the world.

I hope that future students at the Faculty of Law will make full use of the opportunities that the Cell presents and consciously choose to dedicate their efforts towards the protection and welfare of animals.

Events

Turning Policy into Practice: Advancing Animal Justice through Litigation and Innovation

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, organised the seminar "Turning Policy into Practice: Advancing Animal Justice through Litigation and Innovation" on 13th March 2026. The programme aimed to bridge the gap between animal welfare policy and practical implementation by encouraging meaningful discussions on animal justice, legal advocacy, ethical responsibility, and innovative approaches to animal protection.
Distinguished speakers included:

- Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi
- Mr. Raj Panjwani, Senior Advocate
- Mr. Ankit Puri, Founder, Voiceless India





The event commenced with the screening of the documentary Zoochosis: The Effects of Captivity on Animals, which highlighted the welfare concerns associated with animal captivity. In her address, Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo emphasised the importance of compassion and responsible decision-making towards animals. Mr. Raj Panjwani shared valuable insights into animal law and litigation, encouraging participants to adopt a more ecocentric approach to justice. Mr. Ankit Puri highlighted the realities of animal exploitation and inspired students to become active advocates for animal welfare.

Events





The seminar witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, and animal welfare advocates, who actively engaged with the speakers through discussions and reflections. The programme also recognised the contributions of former Executive Core Members of the Animal Law Cell and honoured representatives of the People for Animals Public Policy Foundation for their continued efforts towards animal welfare and collaboration with the Cell.

The event successfully connected legal education with practical advocacy, encouraging participants to reflect on the role of law, policy, and individual responsibility in advancing animal justice. Reinforcing its message of compassion and sustainability, the programme concluded with vegan refreshments and a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti.

The success of the event was made possible under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti, whose constant support and leadership ensured the smooth execution of the programme and meaningful engagement for all participants.

Volunteers: Abhinandan Kaul, Aditya Yadav, Adrija Mishra, Bhavya, Dhruvi, Disha Paswan, Dikshant, Pragya Devi, Tapanshi Nayak, Aditi Aggarwal, Pranay Singh, Aditi Chauhan, Sumit Rathaur, Ankit Maurya, Pranjal Srivastava, Shubham Sihag, Suryansh Baliyan, Nishant Shukla, Tofiq, Rishab, Shivam

Events

“Fighting Crimes Against Animals”

Members of the Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, participated in the workshop “Fighting Crimes Against Animals” conducted by PETA India on 9th November 2025. The programme aimed to enhance participants’ understanding of animal protection laws while providing practical insights into addressing cases of animal cruelty and abuse.

The session was conducted by:

- **Mr. Meet Ashar (Legal Advisor and Director of Cruelty Response, PETA India)**

With the engagement of Mr. Ankur, the workshop witnessed participation of more than thirty students from the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, who actively engaged with the speaker and gained a deeper understanding of animal welfare legislation. Participants were also provided with informative resource materials, including the Law Enforcement Handbook on Animal Welfare Laws published by the Animal Welfare Board of India.



Events



The programme successfully bridged the gap between legal education and practical implementation, encouraging students to become informed and compassionate advocates for animal welfare. Reinforcing the values of empathy and sustainability discussed during the session, participants were served a vegan lunch and refreshments that reflected the spirit of compassion underlying the workshop.

The Animal Law Cell extends its heartfelt gratitude to PETA India and Mr. Meet Ashar for providing students with the opportunity to participate in such a meaningful and enriching learning experience.



Attendees: Lakshay, Aditya Yadav, Adrija Mishra, Disha Paswan, Piyush Kumar, Dikshant, Kaavyashri Rao, Pragya Devi, Shivani Yadav, Goldy, Taniya Gupta, Yatharth Singh, Shubham Sihag, Pranay Singh, Ashish Kumar Pandey, Diksha Giri, Aditi Chauhan, Naz Ahamed, Rahul Kumar, Shobhit Yadav, Hitesh Kumar Goswami, Kashish Agarwal, Anurag Singh, Ankit Maurya, Pranjal Srivastava, Rohan Kumar, Karan Dangwal, Pooja Bansal

Events

“Foundation Day ” - 5th May

On 5th May 2026, the Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi came together for a heartfelt Foundation Day Celebration & Experience Sharing session at Umang Bhawan, Faculty of Law.

This day holds special significance for the Animal Law Cell as 5th May marks the birthday of Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti and Mr. Ankur Arora whose vision and efforts laid the foundation of the Cell and played an instrumental role in building this initiative dedicated to animal justice and compassion.

The event was filled with reflections, shared experiences, gratitude, and collective memories that highlighted the inspiring journey of the Animal Law Cell so far. From meaningful discussions to cake cutting and group photographs, the celebration honoured not just achievements, but every individual who contributed towards the growth of the Cell.



This day extends gratitude to every student, volunteer, member, alumnus, supporter, and contributor who has played a role — directly or indirectly — in the success of the Animal Law Cell.

Webinars and Panel Discussions

Screening of Man's First Friend

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi successfully organised the screening of the documentary "Man's First Friend" on 18th November. The film beautifully traced the evolution of dogs and how they became humanity's earliest companions standing by humans, helping them survive, hunt, and protect ultimately earning the title "man's most loyal friend." It showed how the bond between humans and dogs is rooted in history, trust, and mutual support.

This screening encouraged meaningful discussions on evolution of dogs, human-animal companionship, legal responsibility, animal welfare along with the role of compassion in law and society.

Click here to see experience shared by viewers:
https://www.instagram.com/reel/DRhrBMBkkKk/?igsi=MTN4cGQxY243M245bQ==





Awareness and Educational Initiatives

Student Speech and Discussion Competition

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, organised a Student Speech and Discussion Competition to encourage dialogue on animal law, ethics, and environmental concerns.



The competition witnessed active participation from students, who shared their perspectives on Animal welfare, legal protection, and environmental responsibility. The programme provided a platform for meaningful discussion and critical engagement with contemporary issues affecting animals and the environment. The initiative successfully promoted awareness and encouraged students to reflect on the role of law and advocacy in advancing animal welfare and environmental justice.



The top 3 students who won the competition are Abhinandan Kaul, Kashish Agarwal & Manivel Venkatesan. All the speakers were spectacular and every attendee were also handed the badge displayed "Friends not Food" to spread the message of compassion.

Attendees & Participants: Abhinandan Kaul, Dikshant, Tanishq Sharma, Pragya Devi, Ankit Maurya, Pranjal Srivastava, Disha Paswan

Awareness and Educational Initiatives

Applied Animal Advocacy Certificate Programme - Fee Waiver Initiative

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, disseminated information regarding a fee waiver opportunity for the Applied Animal Advocacy Certificate Programme, organised in collaboration with the People for Animals Public Policy Foundation (PFA PPF). The programme aimed to enhance students' understanding of animal welfare law, public policy, and advocacy by providing specialised training from experts working in the field, with a focus on practical knowledge and advocacy skills.

The initiative aimed to encourage greater student participation in animal welfare law and policy by making specialised training more accessible. Through this awareness initiative, the Cell sought to promote legal education, capacity building, and informed engagement with contemporary issues relating to animal welfare and animal advocacy, while bridging academic learning with practical engagement in the field.

Student Experiences:

- **Shashank**



The course bridged my academic learning with practical legal activism through expert sessions on animal laws, cruelty complaints, rescue, and advocacy. I am grateful to the Animal Law Cell for providing me this opportunity and the fee waiver, which strengthened my commitment to contributing to animal cruelty cases, awareness initiatives, and the Cell's work.

- **Tapanshi**



The course provided me with practical insights into animal protection laws while connecting legal theory with advocacy and professionals from across India. I am thankful to the Animal Law Cell for the opportunity and fee waiver, which strengthened my confidence to contribute to policy, research, awareness, and the effective implementation of animal welfare laws.

Awareness and Educational Initiatives

Applied Animal Advocacy Certificate Programme - Fee Waiver Initiative

- **Shubham Sihag**



The programme bridged academic learning with practical legal activism through exposure to the PCA Act, cruelty-based FIRs, ABC Rules, and fieldwork. I am grateful to the Animal Law Cell for enabling my participation through the fee waiver, which inspired me to work towards practical legal SOPs and stronger litigation support for animal cruelty cases.

- **Pragya**



The certificate course gave me a structured understanding of animal protection laws while highlighting the gap between legal provisions and their enforcement. It deepened my interest in questions of rights, standing, and accountability and reinforced the need for more legally trained voices in animal advocacy.

- **Chandan Kumar Chandan**



The programme offered me an interdisciplinary understanding of animal protection, connecting law with policy, ethics, advocacy, corporate accountability, and public health. It strengthened my interest in evidence-based legal and policy interventions through research, awareness, fieldwork, and addressing enforcement gaps.

Awareness and Educational Initiatives

AWBI Handbook

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi is pleased to share that we have donated 8 copies of the Law Enforcement Handbook on Animal Welfare Laws, published by the Animal Welfare Board of India, to the libraries of the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi.

This initiative was undertaken under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti, Faculty Convener, Animal Law Cell, and Mr. Ankur Arora. Animal Law Cell, as a meaningful step towards strengthening library resources and supporting legal education in the field of animal welfare and animal law.

We sincerely thank Dr. Shiva Parihar, Deputy Librarian, and Ms. Latika Singh for their valuable support and for coordinating the placement of these books in the Delhi University Library System (DULS), both physically and electronically, thereby ensuring wider accessibility for students and researchers. We also thank the students who contributed to this initiative.





Awareness and Educational Initiatives

Animal Rescue Guide

Every animal deserves timely care, protection, and compassion. In moments of distress, knowing the right person or organization to contact can make all the difference.

The Animal Rescue Guide has been prepared to provide quick and reliable emergency contacts for rescuing injured birds, assisting wildlife, accessing veterinary care, and connecting with local community support groups. The guide has been developed with the valuable guidance and assistance of Ankur Arora, whose inputs and support have contributed to the creation of this resource. It aims to empower citizens to respond responsibly and effectively when they encounter an animal in need. This guide aims to empower citizens to respond responsibly and effectively when they encounter an animal in need.



Whether it is an injured bird requiring immediate attention, wildlife that must be reported to the authorities, a stray animal in need of medical treatment, or a rescue requiring community assistance, this guide serves as a practical resource to facilitate prompt action.

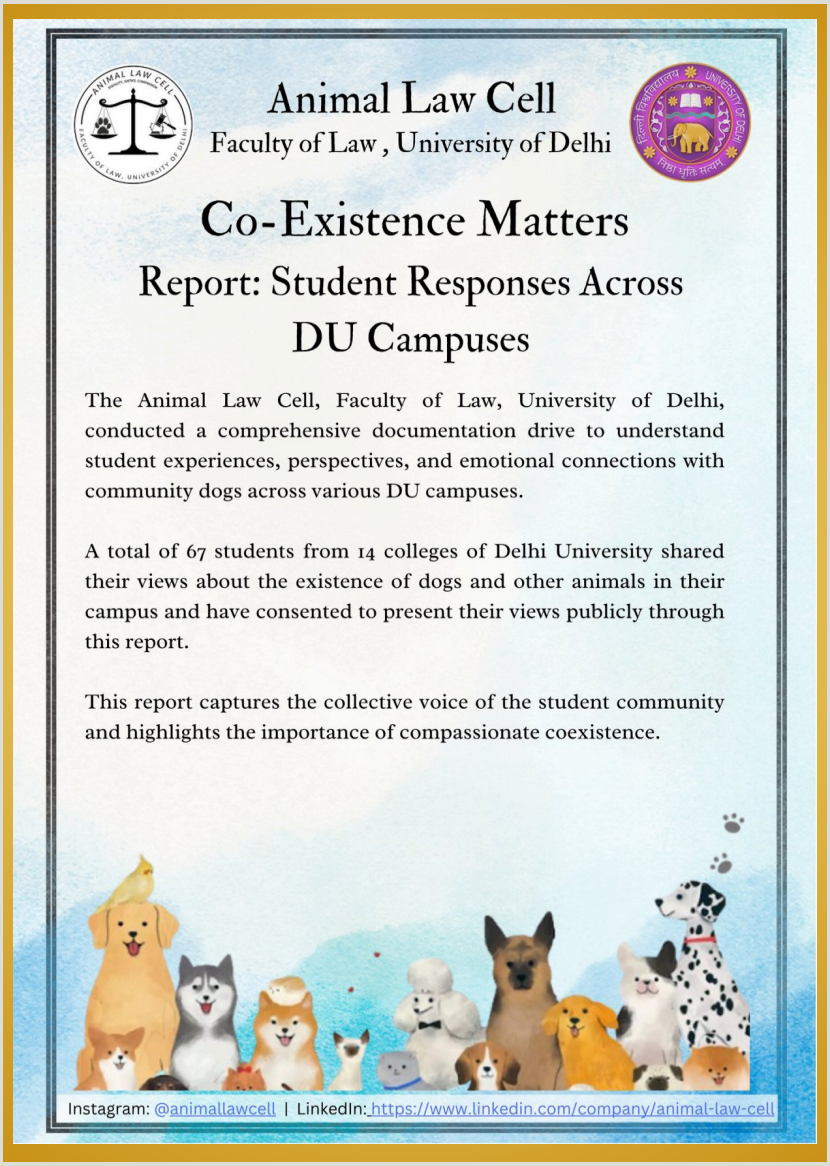
We encourage everyone to save this guide, share it within their networks, and help spread awareness. A small act of kindness, supported by the right information, can save a life. Every second counts. You do not need to be an expert to make a difference-you simply need to take the first step.
This guide has been specifically designed for people living in and around the University of Delhi and the Delhi region of India.

Design Credits – Muskan and Akanksha

Awareness and Educational Initiatives

Public Release of Co-Existence Matters Report

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, publicly released Co-Existence Matters, a report documenting the experiences, perspectives, and emotional connections of students with community animals across various University of Delhi campuses. Drawing on responses from 67 students across 14 DU colleges, the report highlights themes of compassion, coexistence, emotional well being, community, and the shared use of campus spaces.



The report was also submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in 2025 for consideration in the Stray Dog Matter. Through this initiative, the Cell sought to bring forward the collective voices of students and emphasise the importance of fostering a humane and compassionate environment where humans and animals can coexist peacefully.

Read the full report announcement: LinkedIn Post

Drives and On-Ground Initiatives

Bori Beds Drive 2.0

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, conducted a Bori Beds Drive on 24 November 2025 to provide warmth and shelter to community dogs during the winter season. As part of the initiative, 20 bori beds were placed across the Faculty campus to help ensure the comfort and well-being of campus dogs during the cold weather.

The drive was organised under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo, Head and Dean, Faculty of Law, and Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti, Faculty Convener, Animal Law Cell, with the support of Mr. Ankur Arora. The Cell also extends its sincere gratitude to Tales of Tailss for generously providing the bori beds and collaborating in this compassionate initiative. The successful implementation of the drive was made possible through the dedicated efforts of student volunteers, who actively participated in ensuring its smooth execution.



Contributors: Tanishq Sharma, Kaavyashri Rao, Pragya Devi, Vicky, Namit Bathla, Aditya Kumar, Ankit Maureya, Pranjal Srivastava, Mrigank Rai, Gaurav Raj, Disha Paswan

Drives and On-Ground Initiatives

Census Drive 2.0

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, conducted Census Drive 2.0 on 28 January 2026 across the Faculty of Law campus and adjoining areas of the University of Delhi to identify and document community dogs as part of its ongoing animal welfare initiatives.

The drive aimed to facilitate accurate data collection for planning sterilisation, vaccination, and long-term welfare measures in coordination with relevant authorities and stakeholders. By creating a reliable record of community animals, the initiative sought to contribute towards humane, lawful, and sustainable population management practices.

The drive was conducted under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti, Faculty Convener of the Animal Law Cell. Mr. Ankur Arora played a significant role in coordinating the initiative. The census was successfully carried out with the active participation of student volunteers, whose efforts ensured the effective implementation of the drive.





Contributors: Abhinandan Kaul, Suryansh Singh Baliyan, Shivam, Pragya Devi, Shubham Sihag, Gauri Sharma, Anurag Singh, Ankit Maurya, Mrigank Rai, Disha Paswan

Drives and On-Ground Initiatives

Promoting Animal Welfare Through Community Action

On 29 April 2026, the Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, launched a Water Pots Drive across the campus to raise awareness about the challenges faced by birds and animals during the summer months. Through the installation of water pots at various locations, the initiative encouraged students to adopt simple acts of kindness and recognise their role in promoting animal welfare.



By combining awareness with action, the drive sought to foster empathy, environmental responsibility, and a culture of care towards all living beings. The initiative was supported by dedicated student volunteers and reflected the Cell's commitment to advancing animal welfare through practical and educational outreach

The Cell expresses its sincere gratitude to Dr. Bhupesh Rathore, Faculty Member, Animal Law Cell, for her generous contribution towards the purchase of water pots for this initiative.





Volunteers: Abhinandan Kaul, Dikshant, Tanishq Sharma, Pragya Devi, Ankit Maurya

Drives and On-Ground Initiatives

Dairy Field Visit and Awareness Initiative

On 1st March 2026, the Animal Law Cell undertook a dairy field visit and awareness initiative across Karnal and Panipat to gain practical insights into animal welfare and dairy practices at the grassroots level. 11 ALC members participated in the visit, working in three groups, with the boys' team headed by Mr. Ankur, along with Meet and Sanna from People for Animals (PFA), who provided valuable guidance and field-based insights. The visit aimed to enhance awareness regarding animal welfare, hygiene, veterinary care and responsible dairy practices.

Members observed poor hygiene, inadequate waste disposal, improper milk-handling practices and other welfare concerns across several dairies. Notably, such deficiencies were also found in dairies supplying to cooperative channels, highlighting a gap between the basic regulatory safeguards prescribed under the FSSAI framework and animal-welfare requirements under the PCA framework and their implementation on the ground.

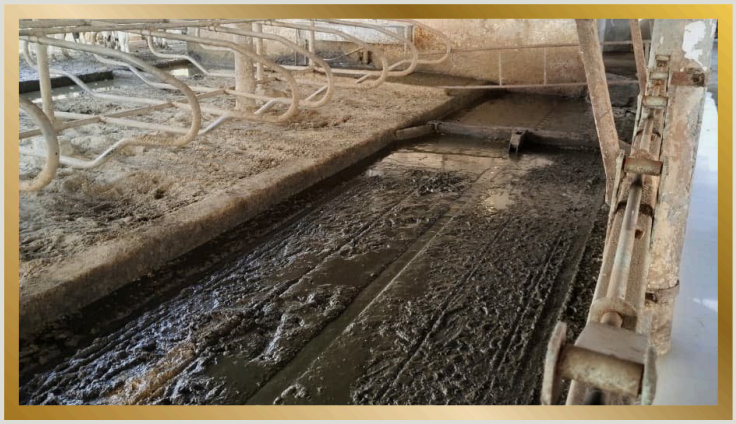






Drives and On-Ground Initiatives











Contributors & Visitors : Dikshant, Lakshay, Ankit, Nitin, Pragya, Vidya Laxmi, Shruti, Pooja, Saumya, Kashish

Drives and On-Ground Initiatives

Poultry Farm Visit

The boys' team of the Animal Law Cell headed by Mr. Ankur Arora undertook a field visit to a poultry farm to observe the conditions in which hens were housed and managed. The visit revealed cruel, inhumane and unhygienic living conditions, including severely restricted space and inadequate sanitation, raising serious concerns regarding animal welfare and humane treatment. The visit provided members with a ground-level understanding of the need for effective implementation of animal welfare standards and legal safeguards governing the treatment of animals.









Contributors & Visitors : Dikshant, Lakshay, Ankit, Nitin



Media and Outreach

Feature in The Hindu

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, received significant recognition when The Hindu featured the Cell's work in its 9 January 2026 edition under the headline, "Allow Institutions to Start Their Own Animal Cells: DU Law Centre Faculty Urge SC."

The coverage highlighted the importance of institutional mechanisms in advancing animal welfare and promoting effective implementation of animal protection laws. The feature marked an important milestone for the Cell and reinforced the value of institution led engagement in strengthening animal welfare governance and awareness.

Allow institutions to start their own animal cells: DU law centre faculty urge SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI



Animal lovers stage a protest in support of stray dogs at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on January 4. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

The Campus Law Centre at Delhi University, one of the oldest legal education centres in the country, urged the Supreme Court on Thursday not to bank on bureaucracy or municipal authorities to humanely resolve the problem of stray dogs. The faculty said the trick to resolve the problem is simple – do it yourself.

The centre said the inaction of the authorities galvanised students and faculty members to start an "animal cell". The cell members identified 49 stray dogs on their premises. The members have already vaccinated and sterilised 28 of the canines. Counsel for the centre said the stray population has not increased.

Counsel drew the attention of a three-judge Bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath to how stray cattle continue to roam the roads of the national capital and suburbs despite repeated orders of the courts to municipal authorities to remove them. "A day before the court hearing, the municipal authority would come to court and say that they had removed eight cattle. If the court still appeared dissatisfied, the authority would reveal that *gaushalas* (cow sheds) were filled beyond capacity, and there was absolutely no room for more," counsel submitted.

The centre said there were only five government-owned dog shelters across the country. The private shelters were filled to the brim. Infrastructure required a lot to be done, it submitted.

Justice Nath asked if the municipal authorities had offered to help the centre deal with the stray dogs humanely. Counsel replied in the negative.

He said the court ought to pass an order directing institutions to have their 'animal cells'.

Click Here to Access the Article: Article

Achievements

LiveLaw & SCC Online Coverage of Animal Law Cell Seminar

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, received media recognition when LiveLaw covered its seminar, "Turning Policy into Practice: Advancing Animal Justice through Litigation and Innovation." The coverage highlighted the key discussions and insights shared during the event, bringing wider attention to the growing discourse on animal welfare and legal reform.

The seminar emphasised the importance of strengthening animal rights through effective implementation of existing legal frameworks, increased public awareness, and collaborative efforts among stakeholders. Speakers highlighted that meaningful progress in animal welfare depends not only on the enactment of laws but also on their consistent and compassionate enforcement at the ground level.

The media coverage served as an acknowledgment of the Animal Law Cell's efforts to promote informed dialogue on animal justice and reflected the increasing relevance of institutional initiatives aimed at advancing awareness, responsibility, and humane treatment of animals in society.

Access to Article - LiveLaw and SSC Online

Internship Oppotunity and Collaborations

Memorandum of Understanding with People for Animals Public Policy Foundation

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the People for Animals Public Policy Foundation (PFA PPF), marking a significant step towards strengthening academic engagement and practical exposure in the field of animal welfare and public policy. The MoU reflects the shared commitment of both institutions to promoting evidence based policymaking, experiential learning, and meaningful contributions towards animal welfare.







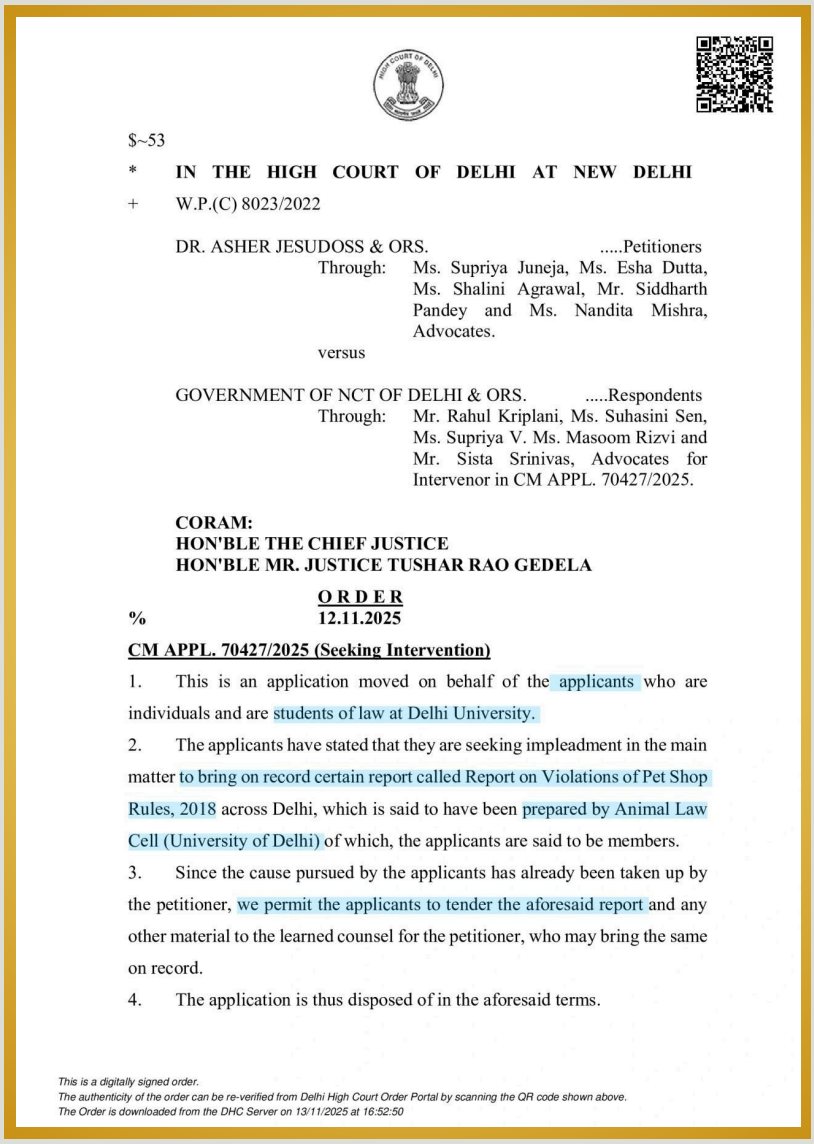


Legal Advocacy & Implementation for Animal Welfare

Recognition by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi

On 12 November 2025, the Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, achieved a significant milestone when the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi acknowledged its efforts and permitted the Cell to tender its report on violations of the Pet Shop Rules, 2018 for placing it on record in ongoing proceedings.

The report was prepared following a survey of 34 pet shops across Delhi conducted under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo and Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti. Supported by photographic evidence, the report documented multiple instances of non-compliance with the Pet Shop Rules, 2018 and was shared with the relevant authorities.



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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

\+ W.P.(C) 8023/2022

DR. ASHER JESUDOSS & ORS. .....Petitioners
Through: Ms. Supriya Juneja, Ms. Esha Dutta, Ms. Shalini Agrawal, Mr. Siddharth Pandey and Ms. Nandita Mishra, Advocates.

versus

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI & ORS. .....Respondents
Through: Mr. Rahul Kriplani, Ms. Suhasini Sen, Ms. Supriya V. Ms. Masoom Rizvi and Mr. Sista Srinivas, Advocates for Intervenor in CM APPL. 70427/2025.

CORAM:
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TUSHAR RAO GEDELA

ORDER
% 12.11.2025

CM APPL. 70427/2025 (Seeking Intervention)

1. This is an application moved on behalf of the applicants who are individuals and are students of law at Delhi University.

2. The applicants have stated that they are seeking impleadment in the main matter to bring on record certain report called Report on Violations of Pet Shop Rules, 2018 across Delhi, which is said to have been prepared by Animal Law Cell (University of Delhi) of which, the applicants are said to be members.

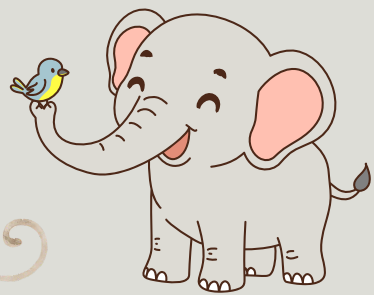
3. Since the cause pursued by the applicants has already been taken up by the petitioner, we permit the applicants to tender the aforesaid report and any other material to the learned counsel for the petitioner, who may bring the same on record.

4. The application is thus disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

This is a digitally signed order.
The authenticity of the order can be re-verified from Delhi High Court Order Portal by scanning the QR code shown above.
The Order is downloaded from the DHC Server on 13/11/2025 at 16:52:50

Subsequently, Mr. Ankur Arora and student members of the Cell filed an intervention application before the Court. While disposing of the application, the Court recognised the Cell's work and permitted the report to be shared with the petitioner for use in the proceedings, marking an important recognition of the Cell's contributions towards animal welfare and legal accountability.

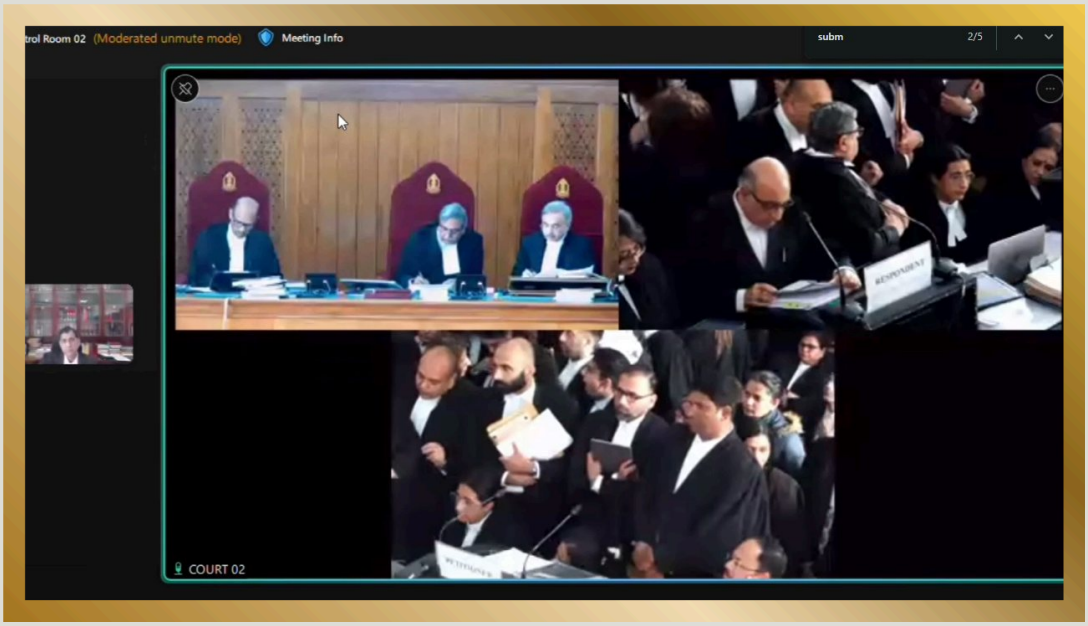




Legal Advocacy & Implementation for Animal Welfare

Submissions Before the Supreme Court Regarding Animal Welfare Issues

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, actively contributed to proceedings before the Hon'ble Supreme Court concerning animal welfare and the protection of stray animals. Under the guidance of the Faculty Convener, applications and detailed submissions were prepared and filed by the Faculty Members and Student Members of the Cell, addressing significant legal and policy issues relating to the humane treatment and protection of community animals. The submissions highlighted the importance of balancing public interest with constitutional and statutory obligations towards animal welfare, while advocating for the effective implementation of existing legal safeguards. Through this initiative, the Cell demonstrated its commitment to advancing animal justice by combining legal research, advocacy, and practical engagement with issues of national importance before the country's highest constitutional court.



The submissions before the Hon'ble Supreme Court were represented by Senior Advocate Chander Uday Singh and Senior Advocate Vivek Sibal, who advanced arguments concerning the relocation of stray dogs and the implementation of the Animal Birth Control Rules. The arguments may be accessed through the following link.

LiveLaw Article: DU Law's Animal Law Cell Submits Before Supreme Court on Stray Dog Relocation, Urges Implementation of ABC Rules

YouTube: Arguments – Video 1 and Arguments – Video 2

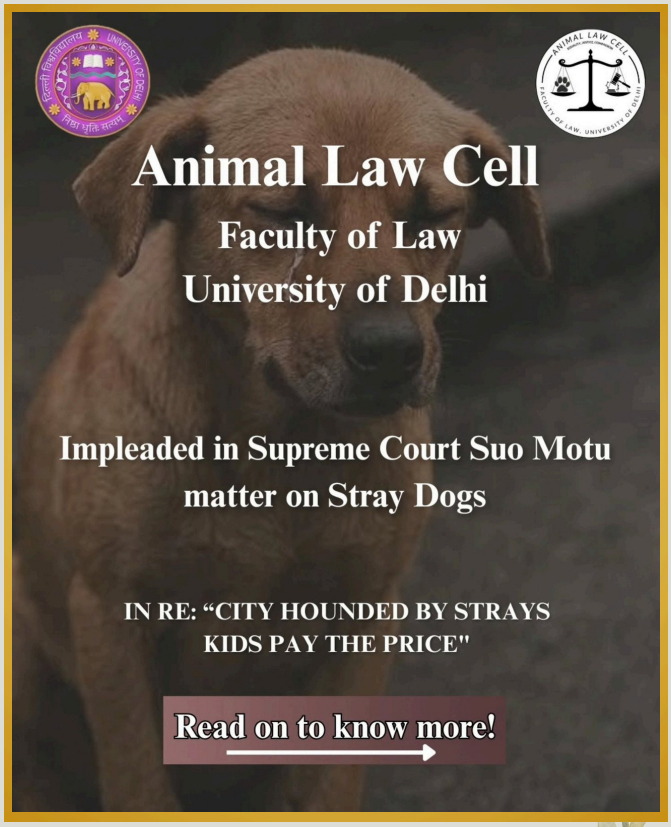
Legal Advocacy & Implementation for Animal Welfare

LiveLaw Feature on Coexistence and Implementation

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, was featured in a LiveLaw article concerning the ongoing legal discourse on community dogs and institutional spaces. The coverage highlighted the Cell's advocacy for humane, lawful, and evidence based approaches to animal welfare.

The article featured observations by Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti, Faculty Convener, who emphasised the importance of strengthening animal rights, enhancing public awareness, and ensuring effective implementation of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023. It also highlighted the views of Mr. Ankur Arora, who underscored that coexistence between humans and community dogs is both practical and achievable through consistent enforcement of existing laws. The article further recognised the Faculty of Law's experience in maintaining a safe and harmonious environment through systematic vaccination and sterilisation measures, demonstrating that effective implementation remains the key to sustainable animal welfare solutions.

Link for Article - LiveLaw





Student Core Team (2025-26)

Student Convener

Pragya Devi(Law Centre-II)

Student Coordinators

Abhinandan Kaul (Law Centre-II)

Aditi Aggarwal (Law Centre-I)

Aditi Chauhan (Law Centre-I)

Aditya Yadav (Integrated Law Centre)

Dikshant (Law Centre-II)

Disha Paswan (Integrated Law Centre)

Pranjal Narayan Shrivastava (Campus Law Centre)

Tanishq Sharma (Law Centre-II)

Acknowledgements

The Animal Law Cell, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, expresses its deepest gratitude to all those whose guidance, encouragement, and support made the initiatives of the year 2025-26 and this Annual Report possible.

We convey our sincere thanks to Prof. (Dr.) Anju Vali Tikoo, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, for her constant encouragement, institutional support, and for inspiring us to uphold the constitutional values of compassion and justice through our work.

Our profound appreciation goes to our Faculty Convener, Prof. (Dr.) Sunanda Bharti, for her tireless guidance, academic direction, and unwavering support that has shaped every aspect of the Cell's functioning. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) Pinki Sharma, under whose leadership the Cell was established, and to our faculty advisors for their consistent mentorship and encouragement.

We are thankful to our partner organisations including People for Animals (PFA), Aloha Ahimsa Foundation, Tales of Tailss, and Neighbourhood Woof for collaborating with us in creating meaningful initiatives, and for enabling our student members to gain valuable exposure in the field of animal law and welfare.

We also extend our gratitude to the distinguished guest speakers, panelists, and experts who shared their insights during our events and webinars, enriching the academic and practical understanding of animal law among our members.

A special word of thanks goes to our student members and volunteers, whose dedication, creativity, and hard work have been the driving force behind each event, awareness campaign, research initiative, and outreach programme undertaken this year. Their passion and commitment continue to be the strength of the Animal Law Cell.

Lastly, we acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the wider Faculty of Law community, well-wishers, and supporters, who have encouraged and stood by us in our mission to advance animal law and welfare.



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animallawcellfol@gmail.com

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