



9 Big Wins in 2025 for Farmed Animals

Hi

Those of us in India went into the year-end pause with trepidation – the uncertainty of the lives of our community animals was unsettling. The nation had earlier come together, communities united, voices were gentle yet firm demanding a fair life for them. While the Supreme Court order in November 2025 upheld the scientific standards of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules 2023, what ensued took us back many steps. We await a definitive legal resolution that ensures long-term safety and dignity for our community animals.

Our first newsletter of 2026 begins on a hopeful note with 9 wins from partner organisations' efforts. No, it's not an even 10. Maybe that's the story of animal welfare – one step forward, and a few back. But we'll take it, and we'll keep moving with conviction into 2026 and beyond. Wishing you a peaceful year ahead.

2025: A Landmark Year for Animals, People, and the Planet

1. BioE3 Policy: Fuelling a Sustainable Future

 The [BioE3 policy](#) accelerates India's transition toward a sustainable bioeconomy by prioritising "smart proteins" and climate-resilient agriculture, with the plant-based meat market projected to reach from \$100 billion up to \$370 billion by 2035.

This strategic shift bolsters food security through nutritionally enhanced functional foods while supporting India's Net Zero 2070 commitment by reducing the environmental footprint of traditional manufacturing.

[Here's](#) what Dr. Jitendra Singh, a Union Minister of State had to say about this.

2. Nationalising Compassion: New Policy Milestones

 **Awareness on the Move:** By leveraging Article 51A(g) of the Constitution, the MoRTH mandate sensitised millions of commuters and drivers daily, aiming to reduce road accidents and

foster a culture of shared civic responsibility for animals. Read more about the ["Be Kind to Animals" stickers](#).

Campus Advocacy Hubs: Through a newly issued [UGC notification](#), universities nationwide were directed to form dedicated Animal Welfare Societies, creating institutional structures that promoted animal protection and ethical awareness among the next generation of leaders.

3. Cage-Free Ecosystem: Transforming Food Systems

 The launch of [India's first Cage Free Poultry Training Hub](#), led by [People for Animals Public Policy Foundation \(PFAPPE\)](#), marks a systemic shift toward ethical farming by providing the technical training necessary to phase out cruel battery cages.

This initiative aligns India's egg production with [international welfare standards](#), enhancing food safety for consumers and offering smallholder farmers a sustainable, humane economic model.

4. Bringing animal welfare under the corporate ESG lens

 [Asia Research & Engagement \(ARE\)](#) helped advance animal welfare as a material priority for India's investors, banks, and regulators, linking outcomes to risks and opportunities for people and the planet.

Through strategic engagement with major food companies and co-leading a practice-focused workshop for over 50 senior procurement leaders, the program facilitated the integration of animal welfare into corporate sourcing and finance decisions. By contributing to SEBI's ESG disclosure pathways, this work has helped shift animal welfare from a niche concern to a critical systems issue within India's food and finance ecosystem.

5. Empowering Plant-Based Choices

 In 2025, [Vegan Outreach India's "10 Weeks to Vegan" program](#) inspired over 50,000 individuals to transition to plant-based eating, collectively removing nearly 2.3 million kg of animal products from the food system.

Through interactive webinars, the program educates students on how food choices impact animal welfare and the environment, driving a grassroots movement for better human health and a healthier planet.

6. India Animal Welfare Funding Circle: Scaling Systemic Impact

 The [India Animal Welfare Funding Circle](#) brings together like-minded funders interested in funding causes particularly around the One Health framework. With a starting corpus of more than INR 6 crore for the year, the Circle will fund initiatives that transform systems, shift norms, or build infrastructure for lasting change. If you are an interested donor, please write to rekha@indiaanimalfund.org. If you are a non-profit seeking funding support, apply by January 15th. The second round of funding will open in June.

7. India Karuna Collaborative: Kinder choices. Healthier lives. A sustainable planet.

 Uniting people & organisations to solve the triple mandate of our lifetime: End animal suffering, improve human health, mitigate climate change. The [IKC pledge](#) has already gained the support of 70+ leaders from finance, law, corporate business and the social sector; and 40+ organisations sectors like education, food, nutrition and sustainability.

Through cross-sector engagement, thought leadership and systemic transformation, we empower communities to make choices that honour animals, people, and the planet. When animals thrive, we all thrive. Lend your support – [IKC Sign-up Link](#).

8. Empowering a New Era of Healthcare Advocates

 Through targeted training and collaborative sessions, [PAN India](#) successfully onboarded 3,500 healthcare professionals, creating a robust national network of evidence-based nutrition advocates. By penetrating five of India's major metropolitan hubs and establishing a presence within leading medical schools, this initiative is fundamentally rewiring the country's clinical landscape.

By equipping medical leaders with the tools to promote plant-forward diets, this initiative drives a "One Health" approach that simultaneously improves patient health outcomes and reduces the ethical and environmental burdens of animal-intensive food systems.

9. Humane Education: Cultivating Compassion in the Next Generation

 In partnership with [Peedu's People Welfare Society](#) and HMEI, outreach successfully reached nearly 8,000 students in Punjab and Haryana from August to December 2025, fostering foundational values of empathy, responsibility, and non-violence toward all living beings. By integrating rabies prevention and conflict-resolution strategies into the school curriculum, this initiative builds safer, more compassionate communities and equips the next generation to lead a future of peaceful coexistence.



Collaborations and Events

On 31 January 2026 in Mumbai, the India Animal Welfare Forum will convene 200+ leaders and changemakers from across India, including NGOs, funders, researchers, experts, and media. Hosted by the Upadhyaya Foundation, the Forum is designed to spark collaboration, unlock strategic partnerships, and build momentum for a stronger, more connected animal welfare ecosystem.

Registrations are now open.

Join PAN India's latest Continuing Medical Education (CME) session on 25th January, designed for healthcare professionals. This session focuses on the "One Health" approach, exploring the evidence-based links between plant-forward nutrition, patient outcomes, and sustainable food systems.

Register here.

To learn more about the [India Karuna Collaborative](#) and how we are uniting individuals and organisations to end animal suffering, [subscribe](#) to the IKC newsletter.

"Like us, animals feel joy, pain, fear and love just as deeply as we do. It is our obligation to speak of their behalf ensuring their well-being and lives are respected and protected." - Sylvia Dolson

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