

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA: Enact Stronger Animal-Protection Laws

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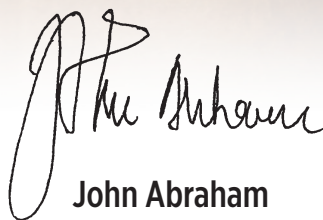
India needs stronger animal-protection laws to prevent cruelty such as the events that led to the death of Shaktimaan, a horse who was with the Uttarakhand Mounted Police. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, is archaic and fails to safeguard animals because the current penalties are far too weak to deter people from abusing animals.

Convicted first offenders face a measly maximum fine of Rs 50 for abusing or even killing an animal under this act. These penalties were written into law more than a half-century ago and desperately need to be improved.

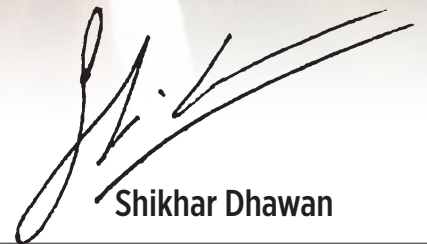
Therefore, we, the undersigned, urge the government to strengthen India's animal-protection laws and ensure that people who abuse animals receive jail time, significant fines, and psychological counselling and are banned from having contact with animals.



Ajinkya Rahane



John Abraham



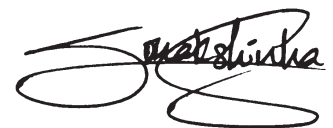
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