



Urgent Request for Immediate Intervention to End the Customary and Illegal Annual Practice of Sacrifice of Goats and Sheep in Duppalli Village, Yadgir District

From Sinchana Subramanyan <sinchanas@petaindia.org>

Date Sun 15-03-2026 01:57

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4 attachments (7 MB)

Annexure IV - Compendium by GOI on slaughter of animals (3).pdf; Annexure III - AWBI circular dated 05.06.2024 (2).PDF; Annexure II -Belagavi, Vadaganvi Animal Sacrifice Ban order dated 17 July.pdf; Annexure I - DC Chamarajanagar order dated 19.01.2025.pdf;

Dear Shri Shankar Ji & Shri Bhoyar Ji,

Your urgent attention is requested.

I am writing to you on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA India) India, India's largest animal rights organisation with over more than 2 million members and supporters, to bring to your attention to the **customary mass sacrifice of goats and sheep** in Duppalli Village, a practice that is in blatant violation of existing animal protection laws and the judgements of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

We have received credible information regarding the **illegal sacrifice of animals** that is reportedly planned to take place in connection with two upcoming local festivals. As per the information received, goats and sheep are expected to be sacrificed during the rituals associated with these festivals.

The first event is the Beerappa Bundra Festival, scheduled for 13 April 2026, with the Beerappa Bali ritual planned for **12 April 2026, from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM**. The sacrifice is reportedly intended as an offering to Beerappa. The ritual is expected to take place on the road between the Badepalli and Duppalli villages, near the Beerappa Bhel Gudi temple, where the bali is usually performed.

The second event concerns the **Yellamma Devi Festival**, scheduled for **10 April 2026**, with the Yellamma Devi Bali ritual planned for the same day between **3:00 AM and 4:30 AM**. The sacrifice is reportedly intended as an offering to Yellamma Devi. The location identified for this ritual is **on the road between Duppalli village and Thalekheri village, at a small stone-covered Yellamma Devi temple attached to a tree**, where the bali is reportedly performed.

Further, we have been informed that the following individuals are involved in organising the said Bali sacrifice festival:

1. Saad Ningappa – 9980146280
2. Vase Manne Mallappa's son
3. Pujari Budappa

It has been reported to us that **more than one hundred goats and sheep** may be sacrificed at the aforementioned locations during these rituals.

As you may know, **the sacrifice of animals in Karnataka is prohibited under the Karnataka Prevention of Animal Sacrifices Act, 1959. Section 3** of the Act strictly prohibits sacrificing any animal in any place of public religious worship or adoration, or its precincts or in any congregation or procession connected with any religious worship in a public street. **Section 4** prohibits any person from officiating or offering to officiate at – or perform or offer to perform; or serve, assist or participate in or offer to serve, assist or participate in – sacrificing any animal in any place of public religious worship or adoration or its precincts or in any congregation or procession connected with any religious worship in a public street. **Section 5** prohibits the use of a place of public religious worship or adoration or its precincts for sacrificing animals by any person in possession of such temple.

Section 6 makes the contravention of Sections 3, 4 and 5 of the Act a punishable offence.

Killing animals illegally by several persons in furtherance of a common intention is a punishable offence under **Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023**. Under **Section 325 BNS, 2023**, mischievously killing animals is punishable with imprisonment for a term, which may extend to five years or with a fine or with both.

As per **Section 3 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960**, it is the duty of the person in charge of an animal to prevent the infliction of any unnecessary pain or suffering to that animal. Under **Section 11(1)(a) of the PCA Act**, it is cruelty and a punishable offence if anyone mistreats an animal so as to cause unnecessary pain and suffering. As per **Section 11(1)(l) of the PCA Act**, it is a cognisable offence to kill an animal in an unnecessarily cruel manner which is the case here – pulling feather off while the hen was alive and then killing the hen in complete contravention of laws, amounts to subjecting the animal to unnecessary pain and suffering.

Under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001, notified under the PCA Act, and the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, the slaughter of animals for food is permissible only in a registered or licenced slaughterhouse. Any other sites used for the slaughter or sacrifice of animals are neither registered to kill them nor equipped with species-specific stunning facilities, which are mandatory under the law to prevent causing them unnecessary pain and suffering.

In January, the District Collector and Magistrate of Chamarajanagar, Smt. Shilpa Nag, IAS, prohibited the planned animal sacrifice during the Jatra Mahotsav of Sri Ghananeeli Siddappaaji at Sri Kshetra Chikkallooru in Kollegala Taluk of Chamarajanagar district, scheduled to take place from 13 to 17 January **via order dated 19 January 2025 (Annexure I)**. At the request of the Superintendent of Police, Chamarajanagar, the Collector offered the necessary support to ensure that sacrifice was prohibited.

In July, the District Collector and Magistrate of Belagavi district prohibited the conduct of animal sacrifice in connection with the religious Jatra/Mahotsav scheduled to be held between 20 July 2025 and 25 July 2025, through an order dated **17 July 2025 (Annexure II)**. The prohibition was issued in exercise of powers under the Karnataka Prevention of Animals Sacrifice Act, 1959 and the Rules framed thereunder. Pursuant to inputs from the police authorities, the District Collector directed all concerned departments to extend necessary support and ensure strict enforcement of the prohibition so that no animal sacrifice takes place during the said period.

In an advisory issued on 05 June 2024, addressed to all chief secretaries, directors- general of police, and directors of animal husbandry departments of all states and union territories, the AWBI urged strict action against those who illegally kill or sacrifice cows, calves, camels, or other animals (**Annexure III**). This is grounded in the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001, the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, and the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

Killing animals without following the Government of India's compendium of acts and rules on animal transport and slaughter, as required by the 17 February 2017 order of the Supreme Court of India, is a punishable offence (**Annexure IV**). (PETA India was a petitioner in this Supreme Court case.) A 2015 High Court of Himachal Pradesh order that banned animal sacrifice in the state had been challenged, and the Supreme Court directed in a 10 April 2017 order that animals could be slaughtered only in an area set up in accordance with the law and that the municipal authority would be required to ensure compliance (**Annexure V**).

It's the principal responsibility of the state police department to ensure that all laws are upheld and enforced. We'd also like to call to your attention the Supreme Court's decision in the judgement issued on 7 May 2014 in SLP(C) No 11686 of 2007 that it's the duty of the government to enforce the PCA Act, 1960, and that if the provisions of the act and the directions and declarations of the court are not properly and effectively complied with, the government should see to it that disciplinary action is taken against erring officers so that the object and the purpose of the Act can be achieved.

In light of the aforementioned facts and the applicable legal provisions, I respectfully request that immediate steps be taken to prevent and permanently stop the unlawful sacrifice of hundreds of goats and sheep at the aforesaid temple premises. This may be done by issuing a notice to the temple authorities under **Section 168 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023**, directing them to cancel any such sacrificial rituals that may have been planned.

I further request that sufficient police personnel be deployed in the area closer to the date of the event to ensure that no illegal animal sacrifice takes place. Additionally, the general public and the organisers may kindly be informed of the legal provisions prohibiting the religious sacrifice of animals.

In addition to the above, I also request the district administration to kindly issue a similar order, as has been done in Belagavi and Chamarajanagar, prohibiting such illegal animal sacrifices within the district. I further request that a copy of any order passed in this regard, along with details of the action taken on this matter, be shared with us at the earliest.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response. I can be reached at sinchanas@petaindia.org or 9324994371.

Sincerely,
Sinchana Subramanyan
Senior Coordinator, Cruelty Response Team
[PETA India](https://www.peta.org/)

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Animals are not ours to experiment on, eat, wear, use for entertainment, or abuse in any other way.