

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2323  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2023

**COW HUG DAY**

2323 SHRI SAKET GOKHALE:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) the rationale and grounds for notification of February 2023 by the Animal Welfare Board of India urging people to celebrate/commemorate 14th February as Cow Hug Day;
- (b) the basis on which 14th February has been identified/determined by the Board for Cow Hug Day; and
- (c) the specific benefits identified (and through what research) by the Board that would benefit people by hugging a cow?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) & (b) Based on the representation received from the common people working for development and promotion of indigenous cows, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying directed that the Animal Welfare Board of India to issue an appeal to the public, to commemorate the glory of Indigenous / Desi cow, the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 may be celebrated as Cow Hug Day. However, the appeal was withdrawn by the Animal Welfare Board of India, vide letter dated 10.02.2023.

(c) In view of the reply at (a) & (b), the question does not arise.

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