

Press Release — 15th The National Animal Rights Day, Chennai

Our Planet. Theirs Too.

June 8, 2025

This press release is also available in Tamizh.

When: Sunday, June 8, 3 PM - 5 PM

Where: Narayanappa street, near Collector office, Beach Road, George town, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 600001

Our Planet. Theirs Too. is organising the 15th edition of the National Animal Rights Day (NARD) at the Collectorate's Office on Sunday, June 8, from 3 PM to 5 PM. The National Animal Rights Day is a global event usually observed on the first Sunday of June across the globe to commemorate the day for the non-human animals exploited and oppressed by humans day-in and day-out.

About 70 animal liberation activists from various cities of Tamil Nadu, as well as other states have signed up for gathering in Chennai for this observance as a memorial ceremony, as well as to encourage people to speak up and demand for the rights of the animals to be free and emancipated from the human-led oppression.

Animal rights and animal liberation is not a lifestyle, or about one's food preference. It is not about loving animals, it is not about not killing them, or about saving the environment. It is not about the human benefits like health, karma, or compassion. Animal liberation is strictly about dismantling the idea that it is okay to oppress the animals and to eradicate the injustice faced by the non-humans called *speciesism*. *Speciesism* is the idea that one species; especially human beings; is more important, and thus, should have more rights. And the animal liberation activists demand that people become anti-speciesists and no longer be part of oppression of animals.

For the event, the activists would be opening up the NARD banner, and lighting candles and incense sticks to pay tribute to the often conveniently forgotten non-human victims. Along with the NARD banner, activists will open and sign the Declaration of Animal Rights, while offering flowers for the animals. Following that, the activists will sing songs, recite poems and speeches about the struggle for the emancipation of the non-humans.

Activists in Chennai have been organising the NARD since 2022. Last year, the activists brought some deceased animals who were mourned for, and later cremated with due respect; but Chennai Police refused to grant permission this year.

The NARD is a global event, which first started in 2011 in New York City. And since then, more and more cities across multiple countries and continents have continued its observance. In 2025, 172 cities across 41 countries are organising the NARD, including the 53 cities in 20 states across India.

For further information, please contact: Samaran Thamarai (+91 733-878-2489), Humane Education Officer, BCI.
thenard.org, ourplanettheirstoo.org