

# Activists seek personhood status for animals

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Coimbatore: Animal rights activists from across the state staged a protest at the south taluk office here on Saturday, seeking legal personhood status for all animals. They also raised awareness against the exploitation of animals.

More than 30 animal activists took part in the protest. Their main demand was to provide birth rights to livestock, rather than treating them as mere commodities. They also urged the government to ban animal industries in the country.

Sangeetha, an animal activist said, “The dairy industry across the country has been widely exploiting livestock. Animal dependency for food and garments, etc should be avoided. They should be valued with personhood status.”

Amjor Chandran, co-organizer, Vegan India Movement, said the livestock were always taken for granted. “Despite having regulations for slaughterhouses, India is the leading exporter of beef, dairy products and leather. The cruel part is that the dairy industry does not even follow the natural process of cattle gestation. It follows artificial insemination.” He said several research had substantiated the fact that humans could thrive on plant-based life, instead of meat or other animal byproducts.

Mini Vasudevan, managing trustee, Humane Animal Society, said the dairy industry was the mother of all animal cruelty.

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