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3 butchers held in Nagpada, bullock rescued

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MUMBAI: Three butchers were arrested as the Nagpada police, along with People For Animals (PFA) activists, carried out an anti-beef raid at Madanpura and rescued a bullock on Monday afternoon. The operation followed a tip-off by PFA that illegal slaughtering of cattle was taking place in and around Readymoney Compound despite a notice being issued by cops two weeks ago to some residents on illegal possession of animals like bulls and bullocks in a residential area.

The police said the FIR was registered under sections of the Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Act, 1995. Chand Qureshi, Sultan Qureshi and Husain Langda were remanded to police custody.

Activist Chetan Sharma of PFA told TOI: "We had got a tip-off that large-scale illegal slaughtering of cattle was taking place at Madanpura. We rescued a bullock and seized certain items like a weighing machine."

Sharma said that beef or meat were not found during the raid as the illegal slaughtering usually takes place between 4am and 6am, after which the place is cleaned up.

"The rescued bullock has been sent to an animal shelter in Malad. A police inquiry is on. This is the second successful anti-beef raid by PFA since three butchers were earlier arrested in Koparkhairane, Navi Mumbai, last month," said PFA activist and lawyer, Siddh Vidya.

She stated, "There is some confusion over a recent Bombay high court ruling on a stay on possession of beef. The high court has only for three months stayed the ruling on possession of beef sourced from outside Maharashtra."