

The new law on street dogs in Delhi has drawn mixed reactions from the public. On one hand, it acknowledges the growing concerns of citizens about stray dog attacks and sanitation. On the other hand, it also emphasizes animal rights and humane treatment. While some feel it balances safety with compassion, others believe it leaves loopholes that might not address real ground challenges effectively. The real impact will depend on how sincerely it is implemented. Many neighborhoods have become battlegrounds between residents fearing for their children's safety and animal lovers committed to feeding strays. This law attempts to be a peacemaker, introducing measures like designated feeding spots and mandatory sterilization-vaccination drives, which sounds good in theory. However, the critics are not entirely wrong. The legislation is vague on who funds these large-scale drives and how an 'aggressive' dog is defined and dealt with. Is it a single complaint that labels a dog a threat, or is there a proper behavioral assessment process? Without clear guidelines, there's a significant risk of misuse. Ultimately, the law's success is not in its text but in its execution. Delhi has a long history of well-intentioned policies failing due to bureaucratic apathy and a lack of on-ground resources. For now, citizens are cautiously watching, hoping for the best but preparing for more of the same.