

The Delhi street dog law has been welcomed with cautious optimism. Some find comfort in its guidelines for sterilization, while others doubt civic authorities will act sincerely. Until real changes are visible, skepticism will remain. The optimism is rooted in the law's structured approach. The guidelines for a systematic, city-wide Animal Birth Control (ABC) program are a clear improvement over the sporadic, often ineffective efforts of the past. It provides a roadmap for humane population management, which is a source of comfort for many. However, this optimism is heavily tempered by caution born from past experiences. Civic authorities in Delhi have a reputation for inefficiency and a lack of accountability. People have heard grand promises before. They doubt whether the same bureaucracy that struggles with basic services like waste collection and road maintenance can successfully execute a complex, sensitive program like this. This deep-seated skepticism will only be overcome by visible, tangible results. People need to see the veterinary vans in their neighborhoods, see the dog population stabilize, and see a reduction in human-animal conflicts. Until then, the law is just a document, and the public's skepticism will rightly continue to overshadow their hope.