

The new law regulating Delhi's street dogs has been received with mixed emotions. Animal rights groups applaud its provisions on vaccination and sterilization, while residents worry it doesn't tackle aggressive behavior effectively. Both groups agree it is at least an acknowledgment of the problem. The applause from animal rights circles is for the law's alignment with the scientifically-backed Animal Birth Control (ABC) program. It's a victory for humane policy, seen as the only long-term solution. However, this long-term focus is precisely what worries many residents. They are dealing with immediate threats. When a pack of dogs becomes territorial and aggressive in a lane, the promise of a smaller population in the future is of little comfort. Their concern is that the law is too focused on population control and not enough on behavior management. It lacks clear, swift protocols for dealing with dogs that pose a clear and present danger. While both sides are glad the government is finally taking the issue seriously, they are viewing the solution from two different timelines. The activists see a sustainable future, while worried residents see a dangerous present. The law tries to bridge this gap but hasn't fully succeeded.