

# **AWBI Guidelines for Pet Owners, Caregivers of Street Dogs, and RWAs**

## **1. For Pet Owners**

- Right to Keep Pets: No RWA or housing society can legally ban residents from keeping pets.
- Vaccination & Health: Pet owners must ensure timely vaccinations and vet care.
- Cleanliness: Pet owners should clean up after their pets, especially in common areas.
- Leashing & Control: Pets must be leashed in public areas to avoid causing inconvenience or fear to others.
- Noise Control: Excessive barking should be managed to avoid disturbance, especially during nighttime.
- No Abandonment: Abandoning pets is a punishable offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

## **2. For Caregivers of Street Dogs**

- Feeding Rights: Caregivers are legally allowed to feed stray dogs, preferably at fixed times and designated areas that are clean and away from children's play zones.
- Sterilization & Vaccination: Caregivers are encouraged to sterilize and vaccinate dogs under the ABC (Animal Birth Control) program.
- No Harassment: Caregivers or feeders of street dogs cannot be harassed or restricted from their acts of kindness.
- Community Cooperation: Feeding must be done in a responsible, non-aggressive way without causing nuisance.

## **3. For RWAs and Housing Societies**

- No Ban on Pets or Feeding: RWAs cannot ban pets or restrict residents from keeping them, nor can they ban street dog feeding.
- Cannot Evict Dogs: Street dogs cannot be relocated or removed from the locality forcibly - it's illegal under Indian law.
- Support Sterilization Programs: RWAs are encouraged to coordinate with NGOs or the municipality for sterilization drives.
- No Discrimination: All residents, including pet owners and feeders, must be treated fairly under society rules.

## **Legal Reference**

## **AWBI Guidelines for Pet Owners, Caregivers of Street Dogs, and RWAs**

- Article 51A(g) of the Constitution: It is a duty of every citizen to show compassion to all living creatures.
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960
- Municipal laws and ABC Rules, 2023