

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1943
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01st AUGUST, 2023

INCREASE IN STRAY DOG ATTACKS

1943. **SHRI HIBI EDEN:**

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the existence of dangerous and aggressive dogs pose a threat to public safety;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the ineffective implementation of ABC Rules by local bodies has contributed to the rise in stray dog population;
- (c) whether the Government is also aware of the discrepancy between the reported decline in animal bite cases and the ground reality;
- (d) whether the Government is open to reviewing and updating the existing policies and guidelines regarding the permission to kill dangerous and aggressive dogs in alignment with scientific advancements and best practices in animal behaviours and welfare;
- (e) whether the Government is aware that the current approval process by the AWBI can lead to delays in the implementation of ABC programmes at the local level; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI PAROSHATTOM RUPALA)**

- (a) Yes. Sir. It is a fact that the aggressive dogs when instigated may bite human being.
- (b) Yes. Sir. There is information that the Municipalities and Corporation are conducting ABC programme in unstructured manner without following the ABC Rules.
- (c) No. Sir. The information on dog bite cases are reported in the Integrated Health Information Platfor (IHIP) under Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme(IDSP) implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The data collection is happening through the hospitals itself as per the declaration of the patient.
- (d) As per the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960, euthanasia is allowed for those animals which are severely ill and incurable. However, the Act prohibits the culling of healthy animals and only effective way to control or manage the stray dog population is through Animal Birth Control programme. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP 691 of 2009 vide

its order dated 18.11.2015 has directed that no innovative method or subterfuge should be adopted by the local authority other than the methods prescribed under the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001 notified by the Government of India which has now been superseded by Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023. Any kind of laxity while carrying out statutory obligations, is not countenanced in law.

(e) & (f) No. Sir. The AWBI is expeditiously processing the applications received for Project Recognition for conducting Animal Birth Control Program so that the effective implementation of the ABC programme can be carried out at the local levels. Animal Welfare Organizations engaged by local authority having requisite infrastructure, training and expertise for carrying out ABC programme, are eligible to submit the online application through the web portal of AWBI www.awbi.gov.in for Project Recognition of each ABC Centre. Processes required for approval has been notified in the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023.
