

Stray dogs and ABC rules:

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Supreme Court orders removal of stray dogs from public places.

Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023

The Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 were notified on 10 March 2023 under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, replacing the earlier ABC Rules, 2001.

Objective: The rules aim to control the population of stray dogs and cats through humane sterilization and immunization, ensuring public safety and animal welfare.

Implementing Authority: The programme is to be carried out by local bodies (Municipalities, Panchayats) in coordination with recognized Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs) and under the supervision of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI).

Key Provisions:

oOnly AWBI-recognized agencies can perform sterilization and vaccination.Dogs must be returned to the same area after recovery post-surgery.

oMandatory anti-rabies vaccination during sterilization.

oGuidelines provided for grievance redressal and humane treatment.

Significance: The rules promote scientific and ethical management of stray animal populations, reducing dog bites, rabies transmission, and human-animal conflict.