Population Control of Dog’s in India: A Need of an Hour

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Abstract:

Among the domesticated pets, dog have been revealed as one of the friendliest and reliable companions to man. Dogs are most faithful and loyal pets to their masters. India has the largest number of stray dog’s population in the world. They cause threat to the properties and human beings. WHO recommended ABC Programme to control the population of dogs, and also recommended vaccination against rabies. Dogs are major reservoir for zoonotic diseases. They transmitted several viral and bacterial diseases to human. Diseases transmitted through infected saliva, aerosols, contaminated urine and feces. Although dogs can be beneficial to the mental and wellbeing of their owners, people should be aware that dogs of any age including puppies can sometimes carry harmful germs, that can make people sick. Apex court also directed to local bodies to strictly implement Animal Birth Control Programme with the coordination of members of animal welfare organization. Hence the author wish to study the need for control of dog’s population with reviewing ABC plan and its viability of implementation.

Keywords: Saliva, Aerosols, Olfactory, Zoonotic, Rabid, Hydrophobia, Veterinary, Canine.

Introduction:

It is an unpleasant scene to witness stray dogs roaming and sleeping freely in the colonies, streets, shopping centers and also inside/ outside tourist places. It leads to create a depressing image of the local administration in the city. These stray dogs cause threat to human beings and to their properties. Causing menace in the society. That is why there is an urgent need to resolve the issue of stray dogs to protect public health. And how to minimize the nuisance is an attempt to get deep insights into the problem and to suggest suitable remedies to get effective solutions for the same. The intensity of the free roaming dog problems was negatively correlated with the value of the UN’s human development index. Dogs control Programme were more widely used among the more developed countries, than undeveloped countries. Killing methods are not recommended on animal welfare grounds.
Importance of Dog:

The scientific name of dog is canis lupus familiar and subspecies is wolf. There are near about more than two hundred breed of dogs are in the world. Most popular dog breeds in India are Beagles, Boxer, Labrador, German shepherd, Great Dane. Pomeranian, Retriever, Belgian Malines, Blood hound Dutch shepherd etc., In police and military these dogs are specially trained to assists them and also other law enforcement personnel. Two Indian dogs have gone viral on social media and also received a special mention during P.M. Narendra Modi’s Manki Bat Programme, where he urged people to adopt and raise local breeds. Two Indian army dogs Sophie and Vida, P.M. spoke about their bravery during counter infiltration and counter terrorism operation. These two dogs were awarded by Chief of Army Staff on 74th Independence Day. The training of police dogs in Maharashtra falls under the purview of the Pune head quarter criminal investigation department (CID) of the state police, established in 1962. Dogs train for four tasks first is to track for crime detection, second is narcotic, third is for patrolling, guarding and fourth is for explosive and bomb detection. Currently Maharashtra has 352 police dogs in the service. Just like humans, the dog has five sense organs, but the dog use senses very different ways than how we do. It has been estimated that a dog’s sense of smell is more powerful than human. Scientists think that dogs have about two billion olfactory receptors while human beings have forty million. Dogs are capable of hearing sound four times further away than the human. Their ears are also better designed and have fifteen different muscles that can move in all directions. Dogs vary in their reaction to touch. Dogs have a wider angle of view than human, and have an additional reflective layer in the eyes that reflects light back into the receptor cells of the eyes. This is not only increases their night vision, but also gives the appearance of eyes glowing in the dark. Just like human taste is closely linked to the sense of smell. Dogs have many positive effects on the lives of their owners. They influence social, emotional, and cognitive developments in children’s, promote an active lifestyle, provide companionship and have even been able to detect incoming epileptic seizures. Dogs also help to relieve stress and anxiety in the people. Dogs are known to be man’s best friend and the most loyal animal. They are popular domesticated mammals and omnivorous animals. Among the domesticated pets dog have been revealed as one of the friendliest and reliable attendant to man. Dogs are most faithful and loyal pets to their masters. In Japan, there is a memorial dedicated to Hachiko an Akita dog. He is remembered to this day in Japan for his loyalty to his owner, for whom he waited for nine years post his death. Hachiko till his own death kept visiting the Shibuya station every day hoping that his owner would return. A Hollywood narrates the story of the dog is unshakable loyalty. One needs to look at stray dogs with empathy. The poor creatures are born and die on the roads, pups get crushed under moving vehicles and many are run over by reckless drivers leaving them paralyzed and maimed for life. They eat whatever they find, having understood this, what can be solution of this? The solution lies in population control, and that is going to be gradual process. Female dog to have a maximum of three litters a year. Female dogs can go into heat around the age of six to twelve months and do not go into menopause. Assuming a dog lives to average age of eleven, a dog could have upto thirty litters, and gives five to eight puppies at a time. It means one female dog in its life time gives birth to 150 to 280 puppies. Imagine
how the population of dog is rapidly increase. Among this 70% of the dogs are homeless, and without shelters and roaming on streets.

**Zoonotic diseases:**

Zoonotic diseases mean infectious diseases which are transmitted from animals to human beings and vice-versa. Dogs are a major reservoir for zoonotic infections, they transmit several viral and bacterial diseases to human, disease transmitted through saliva, aerosols, contaminated urine and feces. Viral infection are rabies and norovirus and bacterial infections such as Pasteur Ella, salmonella, Brucella, Leptospira. People are more interested and attracted to wards exotic breeds of dogs, so we see exotic breeds of dogs are in the house where as local breeds of dogs are roaming on roads. Cancer especially venereal glaucoma is more common in roaming male dogs and vaginal tumor, and breast cancer is common in female roaming dogs, and there are possibilities of transferring this cancer from roaming dogs to pet dogs. Bone cancer is common in Grade Dane and Retriever breeds because of the larger size of bones. Brain tumor, liver, lungs cancer is also seen in dogs. Cancer is more common in Dalmatian, Golden Retriever breeds.

**How Diseases is transmitted:**

Diseases is transmitted via the bite of rabid animals which shed infectious virus with their saliva. Among these rabies is an acute, progressive viral encephalomyelitis. The disease is fatal. Rabies is single strand RNA virus caused by Lisa viruses belonging to the Rhebok virus family. Rabies is an ancient disease with high mortality rate in human and animal. Rabies is found throughout the world. The virus enters the body through transdermal inoculation (wound) or direct contact of infectious materials (such as saliva, cerebrospinal fluid, and nerve tissue) to mucous membranes or skin lesions.

3. Lokmat Newspaper (Hello Nagpur 04/10/2022)

The virus cannot penetrate to intact skin. After entry the virus binds to cell receptors. Viruses may replicate within striated muscle cells or directly infect nerve cells. The virus then travels via retrograde ax plasmatic transport mechanism to the central nervous system. Both motor & sensory fibers may be involved depending on the animal infected. Once it has reached to the central nervous system, rapid virus replication take place causing pathological changes in the nervous cells. The virus then moves from central nervous system to peripheral nerves leading to infection of some of the adjacent non nervous tissues, such as secretory cells of salivary glands with shedding of infectious virus in saliva. Here the cycle of rabies is completed. The disease shown in three stages, first stage is characterized by behavior changes and is known as prodromal stage, second stage is the recitative stage and third is the paralytic or dumb stage and is caused by damage to motor neurons. The incubation period for rabies varies between four days to several years, depending on the location of the inoculating wound and the amount of induced viruses. Patient shows agitation, anxiety, confusion, hallucination and hydrophobia. Post exposure prophylaxis with frequent dose of human rabies immunoglobulin within 14 days after the suspected dog bite can prevent the disease Washing the wound with water and liquid soap can reduce the probability of rabies infection. Noroviruses are a heterogeneous single
strand RNA virus belonging to the caliciviridae family. Norovirus are the main cause of sporadic and epidemic gastroenteritis in humans. Few countries claim to be free of the disease, because of either successful elimination Programme or their island status and enforcement of rigorous quarantine regulations.

**Threats:**

India has a 30 million stray dogs, causes threats to human beings and properties, transmitting rabies, over population, crowding, obstruction, bite, and injured to humans and others animals. Almost all the cases of rabies in India are due to stray dogs, which acts as a reservoir for the diseases. According to the national Institute of communicable Diseases based in Delhi, almost all the stray dogs are not vaccinated against rabies.

4 From 1 October to 31 December 2009. 200 stray dogs were captured on or near the runways of the Indira Gandhi International Airport. In 2010, a runway at Chatrapati Shivaji International Airport in Mumbai was shut for 20 minutes after a stray dog was spotted. In a similar incident at the same airport in January 2016, one domestic flight was forced to take-off while four others were made to hover in the skies for more than 15 minutes after a dog strayed onto the runway. Stray dogs are a significant threat to air safety at the HAL Bangalore International Airport. On 27th March 2008 a King Fisher Airlines air craft hit a stray dog the runway at the airport, resulting in the aircraft’s landing gear collapsing, the aircraft skidded off the runway and its nose collapsed and four passengers were injured.

**Menace of Stray Dogs in Urban Area**

5 Study was conducted in metro cities and recorded the impact of municipal solid waste and animal birth control in stray animal, there is linkage between human population, solid waste and stray dog population. The first international meeting to discuss the threat to public health was held in 2003 in Rio de Janerio capital of Brazil Problem is worldwide particularly in Urban areas. Diseases spread by dog population include, rabies, hydrated disease and to lesser extent anthrax, pasteurellosis, leptospirosis, human injuries inflicted by stray dogs, which may lead to infection, fractures, and sprain in old people and children, and also cause road accidents. Stray dog may damage property particularly gardens with their faces and over turning dust bins. Domestic animals may be injured or killed. Barking howling causes a nuisance to the community. The problem of stray dogs is no taboo to commuter and pedestrians, be it several prominent avenues, fly over or interior roads, stray dogs roaming or seating often pose obstacle to traffic. The increasing stray dogs in the City are proving out to be an additional trouble for the people in city. The incidence of road traffic accidents is increasing every day. They are causing too many accidents in the city as they roam around over the highway as they come in contact with the speeding motorist and cars moving on the roads.
Reason for menace:

With the rapid urbanization, the increasing population of stray dogs has become a serious social problem. There are several causes for the rise in the number of stray dogs. It has been observed from the detailed literature review that there are numerous studies conducted on stray dogs all over the world. The studies reviewed pertain to various aspects of stray dogs like problems of freely roaming dogs, spread of disease due to dogs, technology to track stray dogs rising animal violence, administrative responsibilities to tackle stray dogs around the globe etc. Canine menace is increasing day by day creating problems for those venturing out into streets. Main reason for the menace is open garbage in streets. Stray dogs scavenge on garbage. Nowadays, the population of stray dogs is increasing at break-neck speed. There is close relation between urbanization, open drainage, solid waste, food waste and dog population. People’s general awareness and efforts of municipalities are inadequate to control dogs menace. Countries that have garbage kept in bins and are cleaned regularly, see lesser number of stray dogs.


What is Animal Birth Control:

Animal Birth Control is a Programme by which stray dogs are sterilized and vaccinated against rabies with the aim of controlling both dog population and rabies. Animal Birth Control (Dog) is multifaceted concepts which aims to improve the health and well-being of free roaming dogs. Roaming dogs have coexisted with the human from the Vedic ages. Animal Birth Control may be enacted for numerous animal welfare, public health, safety and economic reasons. Animal Birth Control (ABC) is the only most widely used remedy to control the population of dogs.

World Health Organization (WHO) estimate that worldwide 40000 to 70000 people die due to rabies every year, nearly 20 million cases of dog bites and 30000 deaths due to rabies every year occurs in India; said ‘Derek Lobo of the WHO communicable disease department in New Delhi. Also said that almost 96% of rabies cases in India are caused by stray dog. Therefore, to protect the humans from the menace caused by stray dog as well as to protect their own lives, the WHO has formulated the ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL (ABC) Programme, which is regarded as the pragmatic approach to not only control the over population of stray dogs but also to exterminate rabies as well. The Government of India has adopted WHO’s ABC Programme by enacting the Animal Birth Control (dog) Rule 2001. With this enactment Government of India has made it mandatory for the local bodies to implement the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme to control the population of stray dog and to prevent rabies.

Tools for Reproductive control:

Both permanent and temporary methods of reproductive control are available. Permanent sterilization is preferably used, where rabies control is the object. Whereas temporary sterilization will be more appropriate where owners may wish to breed the dog in the future. In permanent method surgical sterilization will be used. In this method reproductive organs are removed by qualified veterinarians by using good aseptic techniques. Surgical sterilization provides lifelong reproductive control and also reduce problematic behavior such as some forms of aggression. Surgical sterilization also reduces the probability of cancer and other disease in both male and female. Effect of sterilizing females is more significant than that of sterilizing males in term of reducing population. In non-surgical method include physical restraint of females and males as well as injectable, and oral contraceptives. Female dogs treated with hormones which may cause uterine infection and other complication. Surgical sterilization is most widely used technique as it produces a permanent solution, is available for both sexes.

One thing that the researcher has observed and faced, on feeding rounds, some residents come and confront the feeder”s volunteers for feeding the stray dogs and talk illogically like “take these dogs to your home” etc. What they don”t understand is that by feeding the stray dog, the feeder, volunteers are able to win their trust and it is easier for them to get the dogs vaccinated and sterilized. The worst thing is that if you hit, beat, trouble or kill the dogs, they will aggressive in their self-defense and may bite you or any other passerby. Let them live in peace. The localities in which we live, belongs to them, as much as to us. There have been some terrible cases of dogs being culled and killed all over the country. It is nothing but short of murder and punishable offence as per law. If any person kills, poisons, maims, then the person will be chargeable under the 4IPC section 428 and 429, the person shall be punished with imprisonment of two years or with fine or both. India”s street dogs have been given their legal charter of rights and duties in land mark judgment by the Delhi High court. The court ruled unequivocally that „community animals (stray dogs) have the rights to food and citizens have the rights to feed to community dogs”. The court warned that in exercising this rights care and cautions should be taken to ensure that it does not impinge upon the rights of others or cause any harm, hindrance, harassment and nuisance to other individuals or members of the societies. The court added the importance of stray dogs in our community is of great significance. Being territorial animal, they live in certain areas and play the role of guard by protecting the community. Every dog is a territorial being, and therefore, the street dogs have to be fed and tended to at places within their territory which are not frequented or less frequented, and sparingly used by the general public and residents. In his ruling the judge quoted 6Article48A of the constitution which lays down that the state must protect forest and wild life, and also asserted that 7Article 21 offer the right to life and also be extended to animals. The judge said animal breath like us and have emotions. The animal require food, water, shelter, normal behavior, medical care and selfdetermination. “Animal have a right under law to be treated with compassion, respect, and dignity”. The court declared in its ruling that goes strongly in the favor of man”s best friend. Animals are

3. https://apps.who.int rabiesabout
5. IPC 428,429
6. Protection of life and personal liberty article
7. Directives principle of state policy protection and improvement and safe guarding of forest and wildlife Article48A
sentient creatures with an intrinsic value. Therefore, the protection of such beings is the moral responsibilities of each and every citizen, including the government and non-government organization.

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**Legal frame work for the protection of Animals:**

The constitution of India under Article 51-A (g) provide all citizens of the country to have compassion for living creatures. The preamble of the Prevention of cruelty to Animal Act.1960 (Referred to as PCA Act) also emphasizes to prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals for that purposes to amend the law relating to the prevention of cruelty to Animal. Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Programme involves a process of sterilization to control the population of stray dogs. This Programme also associated with inoculation of anti-rabies vaccination to prevent rabies diseases.

Animal Birth Control Rules 2001 has been enacted under section 38 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act. 1960 to reduce the dog population by sterilization. And this Programme is with the active support and assistance of Animal Welfare Organization, private individuals, and local authorities. The meaning of Animal Welfare Organization is the societies works for Prevention of Cruelty to Animal and is registered under the societies Registration Act.1860 (21 of 1860) or any other but recognized by Animal Welfare Board of India. Animal Welfare Board Also referred to as (AWBI) is a statutory advisory body governed under the ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairy. And established under section 2 and reconstituted under section 5 A of the Act. It was established with the objectives to ensure that Animal Welfare Laws in the country must be follow lawfully.

**As per the rule 3 of the Act,** all the dogs shall be classified in to two categories

a) Pet Dogs

b) Stray Dogs

c) The owner of pet dogs shall be responsible for controlled breeding, immunization, sterilization and licensing. Stray dogs shall be sterilized and immunized by participation of Animal Welfare Organization, private individuals and the local authorities.

d) **As per the rule 4 of the Act,** there must be committee, consisting of commissioner or chief of the local authority, who shall be the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee, a representative of the Public Health Department of the local authority, a representative of Animal Welfare Department, a veterinary doctor, a representative of the district Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animal, at least two representatives of Animal Welfare Organization, a representative of the people who is a humanitarian or well-known individual who has experience in animal welfare in the locality.

**As per the rule 5 of the Act,** Function of committee: - Issue instruction for catching, transportation, sheltering, sterilization, vaccination, treatment and relocate. 

**As per the rule 6 of the Act,** Obligations of the local authority: -Establishment of sufficient number of dog pounds including animal kennel/shelters, requisite number dog vans with ramps for the capture and

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9. *Fundamental duties Article51A (g)*

transportation of street dogs, one driver and two trained dog catchers, an ambulance-cum-clinical van for sterilization and immunization, incinerators to be installed for disposal of carcasses.

**As per the rule 7 of the Act**, capturing of dogs shall be based on specific complaints, time date and nuisance shall be recorded.

**As per the rule 8 of the Act**, Identification and Recording: - Sterilized dogs shall be vaccinated before release and the ears of these dogs should either be clipped or tattooed for being identified as sterilized or immunized dogs. Branding of dogs is not permitted. In addition, the dogs may be given token or nylon collars for identification and detailed records of such dogs shall be maintained.

**As per the rule 9 & 10 of the Act** of the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules 2001 emphasize controlling and killing of incurable ill, mortally wounded and rabid dogs. Hence every citizen needs to know about the basic provisions to prevent the mass killing of dogs and protect them with due care and precaution.

Both the parliament and state legislature have the powers to make the laws with respect to the prevention and control of animals. India already has some of the most favorable laws especially for dogs. 42nd 1976 amendment to the constitution of India added Article 48 A which comes under the directive principles of state Article 48 A of the constitution, which lays down that the state must protect forest and wild Life. Articles 51 A (g) which enshrines in respect for animals, saying people must have compassion for living creatures, the said articles not only protect the life of human beings but also protect the life of animals. Article 51 A (g), part of the fundamental Duties read as “It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment. These two articles are often read together with Article 21A i.e. right to life by courts.

The 1960 Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act is the legal basis of animal protection in India. This Act is an Act of Parliament of India enacted in 1960 to prevent the infliction, unnecessary pain or suffering of an animal and to amend the laws relating to the prevention of cruelty to animal. As per the provision of the law the Government of India formed the Animal Welfare Board of India. Animal similar to human beings have the capability of comprehending physical and mental pain. Therefore, they can understand the severity of any physical and mental harm, that is inflicted on them. This earth belongs to them as much as it belongs to human being. Thus it is imperative that other living creature are allowed to live and thrive just like us with this vision the Prevention of Cruelty Act, 1960 was passed, purporting to punish severely the persons indulging in cruelty against the animals. This Act enshrines the provisions relating to the establishment of an Animal Welfare Board, its constitution, power & function. Section a of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 make it illegal for anyone to capture, incite or bait street animal with intent of causing harm. According to section 428 and 429 of IPC it is against the laws to cause any sort of injury to any street animal.

It held at Article 51 A (g) of the constitution is the “Magna Carta Animal Rights” and made several observations to safeguard the life of animals under article 21. As per Prevention of Cruelty Act, 1960 under section 11 (1) following rules were framed for street animals,

1) It is not illegal to feed stray dogs
2) It is illegal to poison stray dogs
3) It is illegal to cause harm to stray dogs under I.P.C. 428 & 429 and also under PCA,1960
4) It is against the laws to relocate stray dogs from their territory
5) It is illegal to deliberately starve stray animals
6) Govt. issues IDs to people who feed stray dogs (Issued by Animal Welfare Board.)

Maharashtra Animal Preservation Act 1976. This Act extended to the whole of the Maharashtra state. This Act is for giving effect to the policy of the state towards securing the principles specified in Article 48 of the constitution of India.

Minister of state in the Ministry of Home Affairs on 2nd Aug 2016 given the answer to the question asked by members of parliament that Government is aware of the menace caused by stray dogs and safety of citizens from attacks by stray dogs in the country. The increasing population of stray dog is due to ineffective implementation of the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules 2001 by the local bodies in the country. Menace of stray animals has adverse effect on human beings.

Legal action by animal rights activists to thwart attempts to control the stray dog population has been led by the recently ousted minister Menaka Gandhi who also instigated a ban on animal experimentation in the scientific institution alleging ill treatment.

Judicial Announcement in regards to Animal Especially Dogs:

In the case of All India Animal Welfare Association v. Mumbai Municipal Corporation 2017 the High court of Bombay considering a writ petition and issued the directives that to form an action plan for the control of stray animals and to prevent the serious threat of stray dogs.

Supreme court banned indiscriminate killing of stray dogs and directed all local authorities, Gram Panchayat, other civic bodies in all state and union territory to strictly follow the ABC as per rule 2001 framed under ‘The Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act’. No high court will entertain any PIL in this matter henceforth. All such PIL with merit will be required to be filed in Supreme Court only.

In case of Animal Welfare Board of India v. People for elimination of stray troubles and others, the Supreme Court has ordered for the implementation of the ABC Programme to control the stray dog population in all the state of India to ensure that the Animal Birth Control Rules 2001 is implemented in letter spirit.

ABC Programme at International Level:

United State of America:

Animal welfare laws are strictly implemented, and those accused of cruelty will be punished. Dog park and dog grooming parlors are established.

12. https://www.casemine.co.judge
Philippines:

In the incidence of human death due to rabies government decided for mass killing of dogs which was opposed by Animal Welfare Organization. Canine vaccination and sterilization Programme strictly implemented.

France:

French people love their dogs like members of their family. For official identification, tattoo or kept microchips under the skin of dogs. Rabies has almost been eradicated due to strict implementation policy of sterilization and vaccination.

Romania:

Problem of street dog arises when people were force to leave their countryside home and settle in small apartments, these street dogs subjected to mass killing but was criticized by Welfare Organization. New animal welfar

Argentina:

The government encourages pet ownership and has promoted canine vaccination and sterilization programed.

Brazil:

The Brazilian pet market generated a revenue of BRL15.2 Billion in 2013. This exhibit the popularity of pets in Brazil. Strictly implemented law of Animal Welfare.

Limitations:

Uncontrolled breeding amongst stray dogs also resulting in increasing their population. Authority does not have any count of how much stray dogs are on the street and this becoming a bigger problem. There is no proper coordination between center and the state government, local authority and other stakeholders within the state. Main reason for violating the objectives of the Rules 2001 is the center and state government does not provide sufficient finance for this Programme.

The civic body is ill equipped with less man power to impound the stray dogs, as a result number of stray dog’s roam freely on the busy streets causing hindrance to traffic. The animal rights and welfare views is that dogs are part of community with ties to local people having different functions and they should not be seen as a threat but as a valuable part of daily life. Just like human population they deserve first aid and shelter when they are in distress. The efforts put in by the municipal authorities are not enough. They don’t seem to have a serious and planned approach to the problem. A lot of NGOs and animal welfare volunteers, activists supplement their efforts, but given the enormity of the problem, its still not enough. India has fewer government and NGO that deal with the stray dogs.

There are not enough Animal Welfare Organization and Veterinary services to conduct surgeries. The underlying assumption is that dogs are an unwanted species. After a large number of dogs are sterilized the project moves to another place, leaving the former area alone, without follow up and within one or two year the total dog’s population grows back because the unsterilized dogs have reproduced and without garbage control, there is plenty food. People abandon their domestic and pet due to several reasons like medical problems increasing cost of medicines, pet ownerships, lifestyle...
changes, housing problem etc. Dislocate the dogs is also important reason, while some of you may be irritated by the presence of too many streets dogs in your locality, trying to find quick fixes by picking them and dropping them in another location, is not going to help you, dogs are territorial animal, so if you dumped one in some other locality, the dogs of that area are going to attack the new comer, and dislocated dogs will become highly stressed. In this state of stress dogs may bite the other dogs and humans as well. Also relocating a dogs is illegal by law. Vaccination and Registration of dogs is not properly implemented.

Conclusion:

For canine population management in an urban area, a set of well-developed strategies is required to prevent over population. Insists on survey of stray dog population and health education programme on the prevention of dog bite. Although the dogs can be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of their owners, peoples should be aware that dogs of any age, include puppies can sometimes carry harmful germs that can make people sick, they cause threat and menace to the human beings and properties, therefore it is the urgent need to strictly implement the rules 2001 of Animal Birth Control (Dog). There was mass culling of dogs before ABC Programme. To avoid such cruelty WHO developed ABC which are adopted by government of India. The intention is to prevent the overpopulation of dogs by capturing them to neuter or sterilize them, vaccinate them against rabies, and release them back to the areas from where they were captured. There should be coordination between center, state government, local bodies and Animal Welfare Board. Government should provide proper funding and budget. Directions regarding shelter, feeding, medical care etc. given by Apex court and high court should be follow. Then only, we can say that dogs are our friends.

Reference:
