DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
मत्स्यपाऱन, पशुपाऱन और डेयरी मंत्री
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the Kerala Government’s objection to
the Animal Birth Control (ABC) rules issued under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act
in the context of nuisance posed by stray canines;

(b) whether the ministry has any proposal to relax the provisions of the ABC rules in the
interest of addressing the stray canine nuisance in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(Shri Parshottam Rupala)

(a) The Central Government notified the draft Animal Birth Control Rules, 2022 vide GSR
656(E) dated 31st July, 2022 for comments by the public within a period of 60 days. No such
objections were received from the Government of Kerala during the draft stage. After that,
the Central Government has notified the final Animal Birth Control Rules 2023 vide G.S.R.
193(E) dated 10th March, 2023 under Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 after

However, recently, a representation has been received from Government of Kerala
vide letter dated 13.07.2023 stating that they want to operationalise at least one ABC Centre
in a Block with due project recognition from Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) for
effective management of dog population. They have requested to relax / amend the Sub-
Rule (8) of Rule 3 of the ABC Rules, 2023.

(b) & (c) No. Sir. 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now been superseded by Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023.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.

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