

Need to address the stray dog menace in Kerala and other parts of the country.-laid

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): I would like to bring attention to the pressing issue of stray dogs plaguing our nation, particularly in Kerala. The data from Kerala is staggering, with dog bite cases rising consistently over the years: 1,19,191 in 2014, 1,21,693 in 2015, 1,35,217 in 2016, 1,35,749 in 2017, 1,48,899 in 2018, 1,61,055 in 2019, 1,60,483 in 2020, 2,21,379 in 2021, 2,94,032 in 2022, 3,06,427 in 2023, and 3,16,793 in 2024. This year alone, from January to May 2025, 16 deaths have been reported due to dog bites, in these 16, 5 deaths happened after receiving vaccinations. In 2024, there were 26 fatalities, and 25 in 2023. Given the inefficacy of the current Animal Birth Control rules in addressing this issue, I urge the Union Government to reconsider and amend these rules. Moreover, the State Government's plan to allow local bodies to carry out euthanasia of diseased stray dogs is insufficient. I request the Union Government to constitute an expert committee to study legislative measures and best practices, leading to effective legislation to prevent this menace and ensure public safety. Immediate action is crucial to protect the citizens of Kerala and our nation.