



# 20.05.2026 NEWS

## EUTHANASIA OF DANGEROUS STRAY DOGS: SUPREME COURT PERMITS

- The Supreme Court ruled, for the first time, permitting the euthanasia of rabid dogs, incurably ill dogs, and dangerous stray dogs.
- » Suo Motu Investigation:
- Based on press reports regarding children and the elderly being affected and deaths occurring due to continuous stray dog bites, the Supreme Court took suo motu cognizance of this matter in July last year. On November 7 last year, it issued various orders to state governments regarding the removal of stray dogs and cattle roaming in public places.
- » Key Order:
- All stray dogs roaming in public places, including streets, schools, hospitals, and government offices, must be caught and removed.
- Stray dogs caught in this manner should not be released back into public places after vaccination or sterilization.
- Exclusive shelters must be established and maintained for them. Similarly, other cattle roaming in public places, including highways, must also be caught and kept in shelters for maintenance.
- The Supreme Court ordered government officials to ensure that these animals do not roam in public places again.
- Based on this, the Animal Welfare Board of India released a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for cattle roaming in public places.
- Numerous petitions were filed in the Supreme Court urging the withdrawal of this order.
- These petitions came up for hearing before a Supreme Court bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N.V. Anjaria.
- » Refusal to Withdraw Order:
- Dismissing those petitions at that time, the judges stated in their issued order : The animal birth control program for animals, including stray dogs, which includes sterilization and vaccination, is in a disorganized state due to a lack of adequate fund allocation.
- Due to this long-term inactivity, the problems caused by cattle and stray dogs roaming in public places have now become more severe.

» Permission for Euthanasia:

- In areas where the population of stray dogs has reached dangerous levels, or in places where frequent dog bite incidents or aggressive attacks pose a continuous threat to public safety, local bodies can carry out euthanasia of rabid dogs, incurably ill dogs, or dangerous stray dogs.
- Such euthanasia must be carried out only after following legal procedures and upon evaluation by veterinary experts.
- In addition, they ruled that this euthanasia must be implemented in compliance with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, the Animal Birth Control Rules 2023, and other related legal regulations.

## **INDIA AND ITALY: A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FOR THE INDO-MEDITERRANEAN**

- We are committed to deepening and diversifying our bilateral relationship, to achieving new goals, and to combining the mutual capabilities of both countries.
- Reflecting Italy's status as an industrial superpower, we aim to create a powerful synergy between Italian design, manufacturing capability, and world-class supercomputers, and India's rapid economic growth, engineering talent, with its more than one hundred high-investment unicorn companies, 2,00,000 startups, and its vast operational, innovation, and entrepreneurship ecosystem.
- The Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and India leads to an increase in trade and investment in both directions.
- Focusing on sectors such as defense and aerospace, clean technologies, machinery, automotive components, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, textiles, agro-food, and tourism, we desire to reach and exceed a trade target of 20 billion Euros (Rs. 2.24 lakh crore) between Italy and India by the year 2029.
- In this context, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) is a visionary perspective aimed at connecting our regions through modern transport and infrastructure, digital networks, energy systems, and resilient supply chains. To realize this vision, India and Italy are committed to working together with other partners.
- By leveraging the deep partnership and enduring cultural bonds between India and Italy, we can face our common challenges.
- In Indian culture, the concept of 'Dharma' instills a sense of responsibility that should guide our actions. At the same time, in this interconnected digital age, the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (the world is one family) resonates strongly.
- Such values are naturally reflected in Italy's humanist tradition rooted in the Renaissance period. It highlights the dignity of every individual and the power of culture to bring people and societies together.
- Therefore, our shared vision aims to lay the foundation for a strong and progressive India-Italy partnership that is people-centric.