

7<sup>th</sup> February 2008

Hon'ble Union Minister,  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,  
Nirman Bhawan,  
New Delhi – 110011.

Dear Sir,

We are writing to you on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals – India to draw your attention to the pain and distress suffered by countless animals used to test cosmetics; to highlight the existence of superior non-animal testing methodologies that are faster, cheaper and more effective than animal tests; and to humbly request that you ban cruel and archaic animal tests in favor of modern testing methods.

In most countries the law simply states that cosmetics and toiletries must be safe for human use. Indeed, over 550 manufacturers of cosmetics, toiletries, and household products – including profitable and innovative industry leaders such as Revlon, Avon, and Clinique – do not conduct any animal tests. While some companies establish safety by using ingredients that are generally recognized as safe through years of use by humans, other companies use alternative testing methods to evaluate the safety of new ingredients.

Cosmetics tests on animals have been roundly criticized, not only for the barbarity of the tests but also because results gleaned from cosmetic tests on animals are *qualitative* rather than *quantitative* in nature. Consequently, the determination on whether the test product is safe or not is a highly subjective matter, producing indeterminate results. Some critics have maintained that animal test data is only used to defend the companies against consumer lawsuits – leaving consumers vulnerable to unsafe products marketed by unscrupulous, greedy companies.

Such companies commonly use animals in tests for eye and skin irritancy; skin absorption; and phototoxicity. While these tests cause acute, protracted suffering for the animals involved, none of these tests have ever been validated to ensure that the results obtained accurately reflect human response. I have attached a number of information sheets summarizing the nature of the animal tests and examples of validated alternatives to these tests.

We implore you to consider that as per European Union directive, there will be a complete ban on the testing of cosmetics on animals within the EU from the year 2009, including a ban on the marketing of cosmetics



PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

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[www.PETAIndia.com](http://www.PETAIndia.com)

AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
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THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS

People for the Ethical  
Treatment of Animals India

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products tested on animals. This aims at preventing the sale of cosmetics that have been tested outside the EU by European or non-European companies

As the world moves away from the use of animals in cruel and archaic testing of products of vanity, India must not be left behind. Hence, we respectfully urge you to take initiative in this direction and ban use of animals for testing any cosmetic products.

Please keep us apprised of the action taken. I may be contacted on (0) 9821215661 or by email on [DharmeshS@petaindia.org](mailto:DharmeshS@petaindia.org)

Sincerely,

Dharmesh Solanki  
Senior Vivisection Campaign Coordinator



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