

Sahibzada Muhammad Mehboob Sultan
Federal Minister
Ministry of National Food Security & Research

06 February 2019

Via e-mail: fm@mofa.gov.pk; drtanveeri786@yahoo.com; helpdesk@commerce.gov.pk

Subject: Request that you boost earnings through mechanisation, instead of donkey export

Dear Honourable Minister,

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India and our more than 1 million members and supporters to express concern over Pakistan's plan to send donkeys to China in order to be slaughtered.

In Pakistan, it's illegal to cause animals unnecessary pain and suffering under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1890, but China has virtually no laws whatsoever to protect animals, and as documented in this [eyewitness exposé](#), on Chinese farms, donkeys as young as 5 months old are struck on the head with sledgehammers for products such as gelatine. Some continue to breathe and move after being bludgeoned. Their throats are then cut, and they're left to die. Others face the same terrifying death after enduring a long journey to the abattoir.

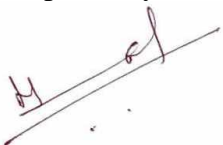
At every farm visited by PETA Asia's observer, donkeys were confined to small, filthy concrete-floored pens. Kept outdoors, they were only partially protected from the elements by a tin roof, and many were seen standing in their own waste. The only water available to them was filthy and green with algae. One donkey was so malnourished that his ribs stuck out. Another was so sick that she couldn't walk, so she was dumped into the bucket of a tractor and hauled away. Workers confided to the observer that they were concerned that environmental inspectors would fine them or shut down the facility.

At a donkey market, the observer documented that hundreds of doomed animals were forced to wait in crowded pens in the hot summer sun for their turn to be bought and sent to a farm for slaughter. Terrified donkeys were beaten with sticks, including one who was hit and screamed at when she attempted to escape through a gate that had been left open.

Pakistan could boost its economy and increase both productivity and efficiency by developing plans for industries to employ tractors and other types of mechanisation, instead of using donkeys and exporting them for slaughter. We urge you to spare donkeys suffering by developing plans to modernise Pakistan's industrial sector.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



Dr Manil Valliyate
CEO and Veterinarian
PETA India

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