

Harshil Maheshwari

Subject:

FW: ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ రాష్ట్రంలో కోళ్ళ హేచరీలు అవాంఛిత మరియు మగ కోడి పిల్లలను చంపేందుకు ప్రస్తుతం ఉపయోగిస్తున్న అమానవీయ మరియు అక్రమ పద్ధతులను మరియు అభ్యాసాలను నిషేధించవలసిందిగా అభ్యర్థన.

Attachments:

Annexure 1 LTR_AH Andhra pradesh (Telegu).pdf; Annexure 2 order MP, Maharashtra and UP with translations (1).pdf; Annexure 3 AWBI advisory and LCI report.pdf; Annexure 4 Article 7.6.14 of OIE guidelines.pdf; Annexure 5 The Swiss Parliament decision (English).pdf

From: Dr. Manilal Valliyate

Sent: 11 May 2020 20:35

To: 'tappal-ani@ap.gov.in' <tappal-ani@ap.gov.in>

Cc: 'mpoonam@nic.in' <mpoonam@nic.in>; 'prlseacy_ahf@ap.gov.in' <prlseacy_ahf@ap.gov.in>

Subject: ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ రాష్ట్రంలో కోళ్ళ హేచరీలు అవాంఛిత మరియు మగ కోడి పిల్లలను చంపేందుకు ప్రస్తుతం ఉపయోగిస్తున్న అమానవీయ మరియు అక్రమ పద్ధతులను మరియు అభ్యాసాలను నిషేధించవలసిందిగా అభ్యర్థన.

డియర్ సార్,

అవాంఛిత కోళ్ళను చంపేందుకు ప్రస్తుతం ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ రాష్ట్రంలోని పౌల్ట్రీ హేచరీలు ఉపయోగిస్తున్న అక్రమ మరియు క్రూరమైన పద్ధతులపై నిషేధం విధించవలసిందిగా కోరుతూ నేను పంపిన ఈ కింది ఈమెయిల్స్ మరియు లేఖకు ఈ లేఖ అనుసరణ (లేఖ కానీ **Annexure-1**గా జతచేయబడింది).

మా అభ్యర్థన తరువాత, పౌల్ట్రీ హేచరీ పరిశ్రమలు **మగ మరియు ఇతర అవాంఛిత కోళ్ళను** చంపేందుకు ఉపయోగిస్తున్న **అక్రమ మరియు క్రూరమైన పద్ధతులను** ఆపవలసిందిగా కోరుతూ మధ్యప్రదేశ్, మహారాష్ట్ర మరియు ఉత్తరప్రదేశ్ రాష్ట్రాల పశు సంవర్ధక శాఖలు ఉత్తర్వులు జారీచేశాయి (అన్ని రాష్ట్రాల ఉత్తర్వుల కాపీని **Annexure 2**గా జతచేయడమైనది) మరియు ఎనిమల్ వెల్ఫేర్ బోర్డు ఆఫ్ ఇండియా (ఎడబ్ల్యుబిఐ) మరియు లా కమిషన్ ఆఫ్ ఇండియా (ఎల్సిఐ) సిఫారసు చేసిన పద్ధతులను అమలుచేయవలసిందిగా తమ అధికారులను ఆదేశించాయి (ఎడబ్ల్యుబిఐ అడ్వయిజరీ మరియు ఎల్సిఐ రిపోర్టు కాపీ **Annexure 3**గా జతచేయబడింది).

సెక్స్ డి సెమెన్ టెక్నాలజీని అమలుచేసేందుకు మీరు తీసుకున్న పురోగామిక చర్యను మేము ప్రశంసిస్తున్నాము. పాడి పరిశ్రమ “నిరుపయోగకరమైనవి”గా పరిగణించబడే మగ దూడలు పడుతున్న బాధ మరియు నొప్పి కారణంగా, ఆవులు ఆడ దూడకు జన్మనిచ్చే అవకాశాలను ఇది పెంచుతుంది. విదేశాల్లో అభివృద్ధి చేయబడిన మరియు భారతదేశంలో త్వరలో వాణిజ్యపరంగా లభించే ఇలాంటి లింగనిర్ధారణ టెక్నాలజీ, ఎదుగుతున్న ప్రారంభ దశలోనే మగ భ్రూణాలు గల అండాలను కడుపులోనే ధ్వంసం చేసేందుకు అండాలను అనుమతిస్తుంది, తద్వారా ప్రాణమున్న కోళ్ళు భయంకరమైన మరణం సంభవించడాన్ని నివారిస్తుంది. ప్రాణమున్న మగ కోళ్ళను ముక్కలుచేయడాన్ని నిషేధించేందుకు ఫ్రాన్స్, స్విట్జర్లాండ్ మరియు జర్మనీ (లింగ-నిర్ధారణ టెక్నాలజీలో €5 మిలియన్లు పెట్టుబడిపెట్టింది) సకల చర్యలు తీసుకున్నాయి, ఈ దేశాల్లో దీనిని మామూలుగా ప్రాక్టీస్ చేస్తాయి (కోళ్ళను ముక్కలు చేయడాన్ని నిషేధించేందుకు స్విట్జర్లాండ్ ఫెడరల్ అసెంబ్లీ తీసుకున్న నిర్ణయం కాపీ **Annexure-4**గా జతచేయబడింది).

పశు సంవర్ధక, పాడి మరియు మత్స్య పరిశ్రమ శాఖ విడుదల చేసిన ప్రాథమిక పశు సంవర్ధక గణాంకాల రిపోర్టు 2019 ప్రకారం, దేశంలో కోడిగుడ్లు ఉత్పత్తిచేసే ప్రధాన రాష్ట్రాల్లో ఒకటైన ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్, ఇన్ ఒవ్ లింగ నిర్ధారణ ఔక్నాలజీ వాణిజ్యపరంగా లభించిన వెంటనే దానిని అమలుచేయడాన్ని ప్రత్యేకంగా తప్పనిసరి చేయవలసిన అవసరం ఉంది.

ఈ సమాచారం దృష్ట్యా, వెంటనే ఈ కింది ఆదేశాలు జారీచేయవలసిందిగా నేను మీకు మనవి చేస్తున్నాను:

1. రాష్ట్రంలోని పౌల్ట్రీ హేచరీలు అవాంఛిత కోళ్ళను చంపే అక్రమ మరియు క్రూరమైన పద్ధతులన్నిటినీ నిషేధించవలసిందిగా మరియు వరల్డ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్ ఫర్ ఎనిమల్ హెల్త్ జారీచేసిన మరియు ఎడబ్ల్యుబిఐ మరియు ఎల్సిఐ కూడా సిఫారసు చేసిన మార్గదర్శకాల్లోని ఆర్టికల్ 7.6.14లో (Annexure 5) ప్రిస్క్రయిబ్ చేసిన పద్ధతిని అవలంబించవలసిందిగా మనవి చేస్తున్నాము.
2. ఒక రోజు వయస్సు కోడిపిల్లలను చంపే పద్ధతిని నిషేధించవలసిందిగా మరియు వాణిజ్యపరంగా లభించిన వెంటనే ఇన్ ఒవ్ లింగ నిర్ధారణ ఔక్నాలజీని అవలంబించవలసిందిగా మనవి చేస్తున్నాము.

త్వరలోనే మీరు దీనిపై స్పందిస్తారని ఆశిస్తున్నాను. ఈ ముఖ్యమైన విషయాన్ని పరిశీలించేందుకు మీ ముఖ్యమైన సమయం కేటాయించినందుకు మీకు ధన్యవాదాలు. నన్ను ManilalV@petaindia.org లో లేదా +91 99108 17382 లో సంప్రదించవచ్చు.

మీ విశ్వాసపాత్రుడు,
Dr Manilal Valliyate, CEO

PETA India

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Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Dr. Manilal Valliyate <ManilalV@petaindia.org>

Sent: 01 May 2020 19:36

To: tappal-ani@ap.gov.in

Cc: mpoonam@nic.in; prlsecy_ahf@ap.gov.in

Subject: Request for a ban on all inhumane and illegal methods and practices currently being used for killing unwanted and male baby chicks by the poultry hatcheries in the state of Andhra Pradesh

Dear Sir,

This letter is a follow-up to my below e-mails and letter, requesting a ban on illegal and cruel methods that the poultry hatcheries in Andhra Pradesh are currently using to kill unwanted chicks (copy of letter appended as **Annexure 1**).

Following our request, the animal husbandry departments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh issued orders (copy of orders of all the states is appended as **Annexure 2**) to stop **illegal and cruel practices** used for killing **male and other unwanted chicks** by poultry hatchery industries and directed their officials to implement methods recommended by both the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) and the Law Commission of India (LCI)- (copy of AWBI advisory and LCI Report appended as **Annexure 3**)

We appreciate your progressive move for implementing sexed semen technology, which increases the odds that a cow will produce a female calf, in view of the suffering and pain that male calves, who are considered "useless" by the dairy industry, undergo. A similar sex-determination technology, which has been developed abroad and will be commercially available in India soon, allows eggs with male embryos to be destroyed during an early stage of development, thereby sparing live chicks a horrific death. France, Switzerland, and Germany (which has invested €5 million in sex-determination technology) have all taken steps to ban the shredding of live male chicks, which was commonly practised in those countries (a copy of the decision by the Federal Assembly of Switzerland to ban the shredding of chicks is appended as **Annexure 4.**).

Andhra Pradesh is one of the major egg-producing states in the country – according to a 2019 report on Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics released by the Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries – making it especially imperative that it implement *in ovo* sex-determination technology as soon as it's commercially available.

In light of this information, I urge you to issue the following directions immediately:

1. Ban all illegal and cruel methods of killing unwanted chicks by poultry hatcheries in the state and adopt the method prescribed under Article 7.6.14 (**Annexure 5**) of the guidelines of the World Organisation for Animal Health, which are also recommended by the AWBI and the LCI.
2. Prohibit the practice of killing day-old male chicks and adopt *in ovo* sex-determination technology once it's commercially available.

I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. I can be reached at ManilalV@petaindia.org or on +91 9910817382.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Manilal Valliyate, CEO

PETA India

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From: Dr. Manilal Valliyate <ManilalV@petaindia.org>

Sent: 13 February 2020 21:12

To: tappal-ani@ap.gov.in

Cc: mpoonam@nic.in

Subject: RE: Request for a ban on all inhumane and illegal methods and practices currently being used for killing unwanted and male baby chicks by the poultry hatcheries in the state of Andhra Pradesh

Dear Sir,

Please refer to the attached letter for taking necessary action in respect of the above mentioned subject.

I am happy to assist you further in the matter. Please feel free to contact me at ManilalV@petaindia.org or on +91 9910817382 in case of any clarification/ information.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Manilal Valliyate, CEO

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From: Dr. Manilal Valliyate <ManilalV@petaindia.org>

Sent: 12 February 2020 12:54

To: tappal-ani@ap.gov.in

Cc: mpoonam@nic.in

Subject: Request for a ban on all inhumane and illegal methods and practices currently being used for killing unwanted and male baby chicks by the poultry hatcheries in the state of Andhra Pradesh

Importance: High

Dear Sir,

I am writing from PETA India, requesting you to immediately issue directions to all poultry hatcheries in your state to ban inhumane, cruel, and illegal methods of killing unwanted and male baby chicks, as the same are in clear violation of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960, and to further direct these hatcheries to adopt humane method for killing, as recommended by the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) and the Law Commission of India.

As you may know, millions of male baby chicks and chicks who are deformed, sick, or otherwise considered "useless" are killed via cruel and inhumane methods, which include drowning them, tossing them into fires, crushing or suffocating them by dumping them into large drums or trucks, transporting them to fish farms and tossing them into ponds to be eaten by fish, and tossing them into large grinders while they're still alive. Some baby chicks are also dyed with harmful chemicals and distributed or sold in villages to children, which leads to baby chicks enduring a painful death in a couple of days. Photographs taken from certain hatcheries in India depicting the cruelty towards the rejected baby chicks are annexed as **Annexure 1**.

Adopting such cruel methods of killing unwanted and male baby chicks is a clear contravention of various provisions of Section 11 the PCA Act and is punishable under the law. A copy of Section 11 of the Act is annexed as **Annexure 2**.

Since **Andhra Pradesh** is the highest egg-producing state in the nation (producing **197545.20** lakhs in 2018–2019), as per the report on Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2019 released by the Ministries of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, it is imperative that the hatcheries in your state be directed immediately to ban the use of illegal and cruel practices for killing unwanted and male chicks and instead adopt legal and humane methods, as recommended by the AWBI and the Law Commission of India. A copy of the relevant section of the report on Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2019 is annexed as **Annexure 3**.

In July 2017, the Law Commission of India released its 269th report titled "Transportation and House-Keeping of Egg-Laying Hens (Layers) and Broiler Chickens", wherein the inhumane killing of male baby chicks in the poultry industry was acknowledged. Rule 16 of the draft Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Egg Laying Hens) Rules, 2017, specifies that "The hatcheries shall use animal euthanasia to euthanise male chicks using a combinations of inert gases by the method of controlled atmospheric killing". A copy of the report is annexed as **Annexure 4**.

The AWBI in the year 2012 and 2014 had issued two advisories concerning culling birds for disease control purposes, which stated that the board supports the use of nitrogen and inert gases p for culling animals. Copies of the AWBI advisories dated 9.03.2012 and 27.11.2014 are annexed as **Annexures 5** and **6**, respectively.

In 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India issued a draft notification dated 29th April, 2019 being Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Egg Laying Hens) Rules, 2019 ("Draft Egg Laying Hens Rules"). Rule 12 mandates that hatcheries must use one of the procedures for the euthanasia of male chicks prescribed in the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines. A copy of the rules is annexed as **Annexure 7**.

Article 7.6.14 of Chapter 7.6 of the guidelines issued by the OIE prescribes use of nitrogen and inert gases for killing poultry which is also recommended by the Law Commission of India. The said humane method ought to be adopted to euthanise unwanted and male baby chicks in the state. Relevant extract of the OIE guidelines is annexed as **Annexure 8**.

In light of this information, I urge you to issue directions immediately to all poultry hatcheries in your state to ban inhumane, cruel, and illegal methods of killing unwanted and male baby chicks and to direct hatcheries to adopt the humane method for killing prescribed under Article 7.6.14 of Chapter 7.6 of the OIE guidelines, which is also recommended by the AWBI and the Law Commission of India.

I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. I can be reached at ManilalV@petaindia.org or on +91 9910817382.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Manilal Valliyate, CEO

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Dr. G Somasekharan
 Director of Animal Husbandry
 Government of Andhra Pradesh

21 February 2017

Re: Baby Chicks Ground Up, Burned, Drowned, Crushed, Fed Live to Fish by Major Indian Poultry Companies

Dear Dr. Somasekharan,

We are writing to you from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India, the best-known Indian animal-protection organisation, on behalf of our members and supporters, to call to your attention to recently obtained video evidence from several hatcheries and farms in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh revealing that millions of male chicks, who are considered useless to the egg industry, as well as other unwanted chicks, are commonly ground up, drowned, burned, crushed, thrown into rubbish bins, and even fed to other animals while still alive by top players in the Indian egg and meat industries.

We have enclosed the detailed report and video footage with this letter for your quick reference.

As seen in the video, various killing methods used by companies Diamond Group; Suguna Foods, a household name in the poultry sector and India's number one producer of chickens for meat; SH Group, whose flagship company, Srinivasa Hatcheries Ltd, "commands a staggering 95% of the Layer market in the poultry sector in its area of operations", according to its website; and SR Group, whose production of chicks for the meat industry stands at 60,00,000 per month, while its breeder farms house 5,00,000 birds have been revealed. The video also shows sexing practices by Venkateshwara Hatcheries Pvt Ltd, commonly referred to as Venky's –also a household name–as well as the cruel transport of chicks from Skylark Hatcheries Pvt Ltd of Skylark Group, one of the largest poultry producers in India.

The following issues were documented:

- Chicks were drowned in bins full of water as they tried desperately to escape for up to 30 minutes.
- Some chicks were tossed into a fire and burned to death.
- Others were crushed or suffocated by being dumped en masse into large drums or trucks.
- Workers also transported chicks to fish farms, tossing them into ponds to be eaten alive, and if they tried to escape, they were kicked back into the water.

PEOPLE FOR
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011-27489902/2060182/03217

- Male and other unwanted chicks were tossed into large grinders while still alive, along with eggshells and dead birds.
- Problems with incubators caused deformities, such as protruding organs, in chicks.
- Workers pressed hard on chicks' sensitive genitals in order to determine their gender.
- Large portions of chicks' beaks were cut off with a searing-hot blade –and without painkillers –in order to prevent them from pecking one another out of frustration caused by the close confinement commonly seen in the egg industry.

Every citizen of this country has a fundamental responsibility to protect animals. Article 51A(g) in The Constitution of India, 1949, states that it is the duty of every citizen of India to "protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures".

Section 3 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960, outlines the following duties:

Duties of persons having charge of animals: It shall be the duty of every person having the care or charge of any animal to take all reasonable measures to ensure the well-being of such animal and to prevent the infliction upon such animal of unnecessary pain or suffering.

The cruel ways in which the investigated companies transport, kill, and debeak chicks clearly cause unnecessary pain and suffering, which means they are in apparent violation of the PCA Act, 1960; the Indian Penal Code; The Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011; and The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001.

According to Section 11(1)(l) of The PCA Act, 1960, it's an offence when any human "mutilates any animal or **kills any animal** (including stray dogs) ...**in any ... unnecessarily cruel manner**"[*emphasis added*]. The only exemption applies, under Section 11(3)(e), to the "preparation for destruction of any animal as food for mankind**unless such destruction or preparation was accompanied by the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering**"[*emphasis added*].

Section 11 of The PCA Act, 1960, also makes it illegal for a person to behave in any of the following ways:

- (a) ... treats any animal so as to subject [him or her]to unnecessary pain or suffering or causes, or being the owner permits, any animal to be so treated

(d) conveys or carries, whether in or upon any vehicle or not, any animal in such a manner or position as to subject [him or her] to unnecessary pain or suffering

(e) keeps or confines any animal in any cage or other receptacle which does not measure sufficiently in height, length and breadth to permit the animal a reasonable opportunity for movement

(h) being the owner of (any animal) fails to provide such animal with sufficient food, drink or shelter

(i) without reasonable cause, abandons any animal in circumstances which tender it likely that it will suffer pain by reason of starvation [or] thirst

Under sections 428 and 429 of the Indian Penal Code, killing animals is a punishable offence. Section 429 makes the following provisions:

429. Mischief by killing or maiming cattle, etc., of any value or any animal of the value of fifty rupees.— Whoever commits mischief by killing, poisoning, maiming or rendering useless, any elephant, camel, horse, mule, buffalo, bull, cow or ox, whatever may be the value thereof, or any other animal of the value of fifty rupees or upwards, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both.

Section 428 sets out similar guidelines for animals of the value of at least 10 rupees, but the punishment for infringement is a prison term of up to two years, a fine, or both.

Allowing chicks to be crushed and suffocated in transit also apparently violates Chapter VII of the PCA Act, 1960, which covers the "Transport of Poultry by Rail, Road and Air", and the Transport of Animals (Amendment) Rules, 2001, as these contain provisions that are aimed to prevent such death and suffering.

The Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, require the protection of animals during transportation to the slaughterhouse, stating, "To avoid exhaustion, the animals shall be given humane treatment and care during transportation".

When it comes to slaughter, the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, are clear:

Stunning before slaughter should be mandatory. By inducing unconsciousness and insensibility, stunning can avoid and minimise reactions of fear and anxiety as well as pain, suffering and

distress among the animals concerned. Stunning methods induce temporary loss of consciousness and rely on prompt and accurate sticking procedures to cause death.

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001, also mandate stunning prior to slaughter, stating, "Every slaughter house as soon as possible shall provide a separate space for stunning of animals prior to slaughter, bleeding and dressing of the carcasses".

In response to these documented atrocities, we request that you please take the following actions:

1. Require that the egg industry undertake research of new in-ovo sexing technology developed abroad straight away and implement it so as to prevent the killing of live male chicks.
2. Ensure that when it's necessary to euthanize unhealthy chicks to prevent suffering, veterinary euthanasia via a painless method is used, since stunning and slaughter aren't appropriate for such young animals. Also, task the Animal Welfare Board of India to develop a written standard for this procedure.
3. Require that the egg industry raise chickens to enact minimum standards that ensure chickens have sufficient space and stop the painful practice of debeaking.
4. Ensure that stern action is taken against companies that mutilate and kill chicks in cruel ways.

We would like to meet with you in person to discuss this matter further at any time convenient to you. For any further queries, I can be reached through my colleague Mr. Nikunj Sharma on NikunjS@petaindia.org or 9910397382.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. We look forward to your unmatched leadership in addressing this matter as a high priority.

Sincerely,



Nikunj Sharma
Lead- Public Policy