

Rupali Ganguly

Shri Narendra Modi ji
Honourable Prime Minister of India
Government of India

Dear Honourable Prime Minister,

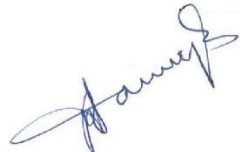
As someone who shares your respect for wildlife and as a supporter of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals India (PETA India), I write with deep sadness about Chanchal, the captive elephant in Rajasthan who was painted bright pink and used as a prop for a photoshoot—and who is reported to have died—and about other elephants still used for rides. This incident has upset people across India and beyond, reflecting how strongly the public now feels against elephant exploitation.

I have learned that the owner quoted in reports—Saddik Khan—is the same individual associated with Malti, an elephant who was beaten twice and ultimately rescued following efforts by PETA India. While the photoshoot has horrified the public, elephants used for rides—at places like Amer Fort—endure an even harsher daily reality: they are kept chained when not in use and often controlled through weapons. Frustrated, they have been known to attack humans or each other.

On World Wildlife Day, you shared the importance of wildlife protection. It is in this spirit, I respectfully urge that India end all elephant rides as Indonesia has now done, and that robotic elephants, decorated electric vehicles and other non-animal alternatives be encouraged for use to protect our national heritage animal from use in cruel spectacles.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Respectfully,



Rupali Ganguly