

# Pamela Anderson

The Honourable Manmohan Singh  
Prime Minister of India  
New Delhi  
India

15 November 2010

Dear Prime Minister:

Ten years ago, I had the privilege of narrating PETA's video exposing horrendous cruelty to cattle in the Indian leather trade.

The reverence and love for animals felt by people in your beautiful country is deeply moving, yet one thing fills me and all compassionate people with horror: India's leather trade. It still profits from the skins of animals who have been transported to and killed in slaughterhouses, including illegal ones, in unspeakably cruel ways. In 10 years, it seems nothing has changed.

Police are bribed to turn a blind eye to severely crowded vehicles in which animals are suffocating and dying on their way to slaughter for leather, illegal slaughterhouses operate with impunity throughout the country, and municipal slaughterhouses even fail to follow the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, or the slaughterhouse rules promulgated under it. The government has also failed to set up any effective scheme whatsoever to address this crisis despite appeals from caring people all around the world and despite PETA's offers of tangible assistance.

As you know, India's laws prohibit animals from being crammed onto vehicles in such high numbers that their bones break, ban handlers from smearing chilli seeds into cows' eyes and breaking their tails, and prevent animals from standing in their own blood and being hacked to pieces in front of each other while still conscious, yet all this continues to go on, involving countless animals every day.

I have given up hoping that the leather trade will ever take even one step towards reducing this appalling cruelty to cattle. So now I am calling on every kind person in India and throughout the world to join me in rejecting all leather products in order to help put an end to the suffering. I am asking every individual – man, woman and child – never to buy leather shoes, bags, jackets, belts or anything else made of animal skin.

I love India and the reverence for animals held by most Indians. I know they support me in asking: Will the government act at all to help these cattle? Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pamela Anderson', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

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