



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

Fight Factory Farming: GO VEG!

Rapidly increasing egg and meat consumption in India has led to the expansion of industrial animal production facilities, or factory farms. A typical egg or chicken meat factory farm houses thousands of birds in a single shed. Several sheds may be located on a small piece of property. Thus, huge numbers of animals are packed into very small parcels of land to accommodate India's growing fast-food/junk-food, meat-eating habits.

Nearly 200 million egg-laying hens on factory farms in India are confined to tiny battery cages so restrictive they can't even spread their wings. With no opportunity to nest, dust bathe, perch, forage, or exhibit most other natural behaviors, these birds endure lives wrought with suffering. Billions of broiler chickens, though not confined in cages, also experience crowded confinement, unnatural lighting regimes, poor air quality, and stressful handling and transportation.





Environmental Destruction

Waste from factory farms pollutes the water, air, and soil. It harms wildlife habitat and contributes significantly to the climate crisis. The United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization and the American Public Health Association have identified factory farming as a serious threat to the environment and public health.

Public Health Threats

Factory farms jeopardize the health of farm workers, and neighboring human communities. Their crowded, stressful, and unsanitary conditions foster the development of diseases that could affect humans, including bird flu. The animals become more susceptible to infections, which can be passed on to humans via eggs and meat. Antibiotics used in industrial egg and chicken meat production have led to the emergence of resistant strains of *Salmonella*, *Listeria*, and *E.coli*. Furthermore, instead of feeding the rural poor, an increasing number of factory farmed eggs and meat are being channeled into the fast-food and packaged/processed food industries. These very foods are contributing to a growing epidemic of obesity and other diet related illnesses amongst India's middle and upper class urban consumers.

You Can Help

Each one of us can help prevent animals from suffering in factory farms simply by selecting vegan food options. Visit hsi.org/compassion and sign a pledge never to eat eggs from caged hens.

About Humane Society International (HSI)

HSI is the international arm of The Humane Society of the United States, an animal welfare organization with 11 million supporters. HSI maintains programs around the world, including in India, to alleviate inhumane practices affecting animals. HSI's India Factory Farming Campaign seeks to improve the welfare of animals kept in industrial-scale intensive confinement systems, such as hens housed in battery cages for commercial egg production. For more information on HSI's campaign against factory farming, please visit hsi.org/desi.



Celebrating Animals | Confronting Cruelty
Worldwide



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