**ADDENDA TO AGENDA**

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| **Name of the Committee** | **No. of Meeting** | **Date** | **Time** | **Venue** |
| Animal Husbandry and Equipment Sectional Committee, FAD32 | 1st | 3 April 2023  (Monday) | 11 00 hrs | Hybrid(Physical + Virtual through WebEx) |

**5.2 Comments Received on IS 3916 : 1966 Code of Practice for Pig Housing**

Comments on IS 3916 has been received from People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India as given below;

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| **Sl.**  **No.** | **Clause/ Subclaus e/ para/table**  **/fig. no. comment** | **Commentator/ Organization/ Abbreviation** | **Type of Comments (General/Editorial**  **/Technical)** | **Justification** | **Proposed change** |
| 1 | 0.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | General | To be updated per revision year and circumstance. | 23 December 1966 Day/Month/Year  (and any other change required for factual accuracy) |
| 2 | 0.2 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, | General | 5 million swine need to be changed – as per [20th livestock](https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1813802) [census](https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1813802) | There are, at present, about 9.065 million swine in the country reared on various sized, but only a  very negligible portion of |

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|  |  | Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India |  | Welfare standards have a direct impact on animal health and profitability. Poor welfare results in stressed pigs susceptible to infections, disease and mortality. | the present stock is run on scientific principles in well-organized farms. The vast majority of the swine population is in the hands of those who are ignorant about the industry with the result that, pig-keeping in the country, has poor welfare outcomes and instead of becoming a profitable business often becomes a liability. Proper attention towards pig- keeping should, therefore, be considered essential not only for improving the conditions of the stock and their efficient management, but also to provide them with proper housing facilities so that the pig industry would be placed on a proper  scientific and economic footing. |
| 3 | 0.2.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | General | Farmers may opt to keep pigs in a free- range system. As such, proper housing of pigs does not necessarily mean restricted in a structure.  The housing should comply with the legal requirements in India. | Experiments carried out by workers interested in the development of piggeries all over the world have shown that housing of pigs properly in proper structures is essential to profit. In view of the extremely variable climatic conditions prevailing in different parts of the country, provision of suitable standards for housing of pigs is of great importance. The housing should also provide proper hygienic conditions required to maintain the healthy growth of these animals and be legally  compliant. |

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| 4 | 0.2.2 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | General | There is increased concern among consumers today for the welfare of the farmed animals and their humane treatment. A February 2020 article in the peer-reviewed scientific journal *Animal* reads, “In the current socioeconomic  situation, consumers’ concerns about farm animal welfare can prevent them from buying some products, and this influences the sustainability of intensive systems….There is an increasing appreciation of animal welfare parameters over other quality attributes, and animal-friendly products are considered healthier, safer, tastier, more hygienic, authentic, environmentally friendly, and traditional by many consumers.” [https://www.ncbi.nlm](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7143148/)  [.nih.gov/pmc/articles/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7143148/) [PMC7143148/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7143148/) | Housing of pigs is dependent upon the system of farming, which may vary according to the prevailing conditions of the locality and also on the financial resources of the farmer. Moreover, with increased consumer demand for improved animal welfare,the existing heavy pressure on land for production of food crops and also in view of ever-increasing population, it is considered desirable that the system of pig farming should be so adapted as to minimize the pressure on land no matter the system, minimum basic standards must be met. The system may be indoor, semi- indoor or outdoor/extensive. |
| 5 | 0.2.3 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, | General | Even though the design and layout of the pig house may vary depending on geographic factors, minimum basic standards must be  met. | In India there are divergent soil and climatic conditions in different regions. The design and layout of the pig house will, therefore, vary.  Similarly, materials for construction and fittings |

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|  |  | PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India |  |  | would also vary according to means, availability and suitability under local condition. However, minimally care must be taken to ensure adequate space allowances for welfare including safety and legal compliance, cleanliness and hygiene. |
| 6 | 0.3 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | General | The code should be considered the minimal requirements which can be improved upon.  Enrichment for pig welfare is an example of a welfare requirement related to pig housing. | Keeping the above factors in view, an attempt has been made in this code to specify minimal dimensions of various structures of pig housing and related welfare requirements so as to serve general purpose in different regions of the country. However, it may be necessary to modify the structural designs under an available expert opinion suiting local conditions, especially in those places, where extreme climatic conditions prevail. |
| 7 | 0.4 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy  Advisor, | General | Basic animal welfare is necessary for the health of the pigs and in turn profitability of the farmer. | For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the minimal requirements must at least be met. the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test, shall be rounded off in accordance with IS 2:1960\*. The number of significant places retained in the rounded off value should be the same as that of the specified value in this standard. |

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|  |  | PETA India |  |  |  |
| 8 | 2.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Right definition | Boar— Adult male pigs used for mating with sows and gilts. A uncastrated male pig. |
| 9 | 2.2 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Right definition | Sow —Adult female pigs that have farrowed at least once. |
| 10 | 2.3 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects,  PETA India | Technical | Right definition | Gilt — Young adult A female pig which has not farrowed. |

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|  |  | Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India |  |  |  |
| 11 | 2.7.2  New Addition | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | Technical | Gestation crates are a feature of factory farming. Numerous countries are now prohibiting their use. Most Indian states have a position against their use as they are deemed to be in violation of Section 11(1)(e) of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, which prohibits the confinement of any animal to a receptacle that fails to offer a reasonable opportunity for  movement | Gestation crate—a housing pen for pregnant pigs that is prohibited from use as it does not allow natural movements such as turning around. |
| 12 | 2.7.3  New Addition | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy  Advisor, | Technical | Similar rationale to the one above. | Farrowing crate—a housing pen for pigs to farrow that is prohibited from use as it does not allow natural movements such as turning around. |

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| 13 | 2.11 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Instead of rounding numbers, space allowances and so on given in the code should be considered the minimal to be met. | Sick Sty — A dwelling place for sick pigs particularly meant to be segregated from healthy stock.  \*Rules for rounding off numerical values (revised). |
| 14 | 5.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | Technical | “Required” so there is no ambivalence between this text and the chart.  The recommendation is to keep the higher existing requirement for boars, and to increase the space requirement for dry sows and gilts, for floor area.  To avoid confusion and redundancy, only the floor area required per animal is kept in the chart.  Insufficient space can increase aggressive behaviour, particularly during feeding and mixing. This can lead to high rates of skin lesions, physical injuries and | Covered Floor Area Requirement — The covered floor area required and typical dimensions adopted in general for each animal shall be as given in Table 1.  TABLE 1 COVERED FLOOR AREA REQUIREMENT PER ANIMAL  SL. NO. TYPE OF ANIMAL COVERED FLOOR AREA PER ANIMAL  m2   1. Boar 7.50m 26.25 to 7.50 2. Farrowing sow 7.50 ,, 9.00 3. Weaner/fattening pig 0.96 ,, 1.80 |

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|  |  |  |  | greater variation in condition throughout the group. Detailed requirements for space allowance according to body weight are obtained from recognised allometric equations which estimates the space required for lateral lying and general activity.  It must also be factored in that domesticated pigs are increasingly bred to be larger.  Adult boar pens must be of such dimensions so as to enable animals to turn round easily and lie fully stretched and have a total minimum lying area of 7.5m2.  Fighting for social dominance in a newly-formed group is a temporary activity and more space should be provided to allow pigs to move away from each other. | iv) Dry sow or gilt  >3m2 1.80 ,, 2.70 |
| 15 | 5.1.1  New Addition | Dr Kiran Ahuja, PETA India | Technical | Nineteen state/UT governments in India have issued circulars against confining pigs to gestation and farrowing crates.  Gestation and farrowing crates | The use of gestation and farrowing crates for sows is prohibited. |

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|  |  |  |  | violate Section 11 (1)  (e) of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 which makes it an offense if any person - 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.  Confining animals in this way is illegal, a position confirmed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research’s National Research Centre on Pig. |  |
| 16 | 5.2 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | “Required,” so there is no ambivalence between this text and the chart title. | Open Yard Area Requirement — The open yard area required for each animal shall be as given in Table 2. The open yard area for the particular type of animal shall be adjacent to its sty. |
| 17 | 6.0 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, | Technical | Pigs are highly social animals with a high level of curiosity and well-developed  exploratory | The animals shall be minimally kept in sties (see 2.7) which shall be divided into one or more  pens (2.7.1) each with |

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|  |  | Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India |  | behaviour. Under natural conditions they live in family groups typically consisting of several pigs and their young. Stress and aggression among pigs is likely to be minimised if pigs are housed in small groups as soon as possible after weaning in appropriately designed, managed and enriched group housing system.  Individual housing in stalls is detrimental to the physical and psychological well- being of pigs and the clear welfare advantages of housing pigs in groups. | suitable enrichment. Each pen may have a single animal or a group of animals depending upon the age, sex, and purpose and temperament, however, sows should be housed in groups immediately after weaning piglets. Boars can be kept alone with enrichment or in small groups with opportunity to exercise if familiar with each other, and pigs for fattening can also be kept in groups. All groups should be kept small, and consist of pigs of similar size and weight, housed together and familiarized prior to puberty. The number and dimensions of pens shall depend upon the number of animals to be kept and the floor area (see 5.1) specified per animal, however, the larger the area per pig, the more enrichment and opportunity for exercise the better the welfare outcomes will be. In the case of extensive system of pig-keeping, where the pigs are in pasture, the pens and sties shall be constructed separately to provide them shelter.  FIG. 1 EXAMPLE TYPICAL LAYOUT PLAN OF A PIGGERY UNIT |

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| 18 | 6.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | Technical | Pigs are highly social animals with a high level of curiosity and well-developed exploratory behaviour. Under natural conditions they live in family groups typically consisting of several sows and their young. Group housing system is likely to minimise stress and aggression in pigs.  Pigs must be kept in stable groups with as little mixing as possible, but subdivision is permitted as pigs grow. | In large scale commercial piggeries having large number of animals, for the convenience of better management there may be different types of sties as indicated below for housing different types of animals. For small scale operations instead of providing different sties the animals may be housed under the same roof as a small group or with provision of separate pens for the purpose of separated small groups. Such sties are:   1. Boar sty, 2. Dry sow and gilt sty, 3. Farrowing sty, 4. Fattening sty, and 5. Sick sty, |
| 19 | 6.1.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Pigs are highly social and bear well when housed in small groups however, care must be taken to prevent stress and bullying by providing separation and enrichment. | Boar Sty — Each boar sty shall normally have not more than 24 pens under one roof and each pen shall include at least one animal or a small group with adequate space for separation and enrichmentaccommodate not more than one animal. |

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| 20 | 6.1.7  New Addition | D Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | Technical | Practical measures to prevent infection | *Quarantine shed/sty*—The number of pens under this sty shall depend upon the number of animals kept in farm. Normally a minimum accommodation for 33 percent of the stock shall be provided for housing newly purchase pigs. This sty shall be situated at a reasonable distance from the other sties to have an effective segregation from the old stock. The construction and internal planning of the sty shall be the same as for the other sties. Provisions for feeding and watering shall be made in the sty itself. |
| 21 | 6.2 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | The dimensions of the housing would depend on the number of pigs. | All dimension in meters  FIG. 2 DETAILS OF BOAR, DRY SOW, FATTENING AND WEANER STY |
| 22 | 6.2.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, | Technical | Farrowing accommodation must allow pigs to turn around easily at all times, without any  hindrance from | The farrowing sty must shall be minimum 7.8m2 and so designed to allow the as to provide sufficient room for the nursing sow  and piglets to sleep, and |

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|  |  | Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India |  | fixtures and fittings present in the farrowing pen. In order to satisfy nest building behaviour the straw provided needs to be of sufficient length to enable the pigs to pick it up, manipulate it etc. Farrowing sty must be designed to offer some form of protection for piglets from crushing. In some cases giving greater amounts of straw may reduce stillbirths and offer protection for piglets. | for the piglets to move stand up, and turn around without any hindrance and without contact with the sides of the pen or need to touch another pig. There should be separation of functional areas (lying/nesting, feeding and dunging areas); designed to maximise nestbuilding and maternal behaviour. The well- designated nest site should have 3 solid walls and  anti-crushing features like sloped walls as opposed to rails or raised bars. There should be an attractive and safe creep area, inaccessible to the sow, spacious (i.e. at  least 1-1.2m2 based on an average litter size of 14 piglets) with bedding. The sty should include an area of solid floor in the nest area, large enough to allow nest building (~50% of total floor area for the sow), and allow for hygiene maintenance (e.g. through a slatted dunging area, sloped flooring, perforated floors).  Substrate should be provided to promote nest building behaviour: sufficient prior to farrowing (i.e. above a depth of 5cm; or 2 kg/sow/day) and made of material with longer structure (e.g. long cut straw). Post farrowing, straw should available at all times for physical and  thermal comfort. The sty should allow for easy |

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|  |  |  |  |  | observation and safe access to the sow and the piglets. Waste management should be designed with the flooring and bedding system in mind.  Along the walls, compartments for piglets shall be provided in one or two rows. Each such compartment shall measure 2.5 × 0.75 × 1.2 m high (*see* Fig. 3). An opening of 300 × 225 mm shall be provided in each compartment facing the nursing sow. Watering and feeding troughs shall be provided in each pen. Guard rails shall be provided 25 cm above the floor level. |
| 23 | 7.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | Technical | The wording additions are to help avoid injuries to pigs and to facilitate cleaning.  Additionally, the [World Organization](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [for Animal Health’s](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [2018 Terrestrial](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [Animal Health Code](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) states that “Flooring, bedding, resting surfaces and outdoor yards should be cleaned as conditions warrant, to ensure good hygiene, comfort and minimise risk of diseases and  injuries. Areas with excessive faecal | Floor — The floor shall be non-slip, non-abrasive hard and warm, comfortable for rest, impervious to water, and easy to clean and part- slatted. The floor may be of cement concrete (*see* IS 2571:1963\*) or paved with cement concrete flooring tiles (*see* IS 1443:1959†), stone slabs or bricks (*see* IS 1077:1957‡) and set in cement mortar (see IS 2250:1965§) or lime mortar (*see* IS 1625:1962║). Wherever necessary the flooring may be suitably insulated. If the floor is made of stone slabs or bricks, the joints shall |

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|  |  |  |  | accumulation are not suitable for resting.” | be filled in properly with the binding material. The surface of the floor shall be suitably patterned to give a rough surface. This floor shall be cleaned as conditions warrant and slope towards the drains (*see* 7.6). The details of construction shall vary from place to place depending on the climatic conditions and shall be constructed on the recommendation of the local housing experts. |
| 24 | 7.5 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India | Technical | Ventilation will have an immediate and long-term impact on pig well-being, we suggest requiring that ventilation fans must be regularly inspected and kept in good working order.  The [World](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [Organization for](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [Animal Health’s](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [2018 Terrestrial](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) [Animal Health Code](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/2018/en_chapitre_aw_pigs.htm) states that “Exposure of pigs to sudden or prolonged loud noises should be avoided to prevent increased aggression, stress and fear. Ventilation fans, feeding machinery or other indoor or outdoor equipment should be  constructed, placed, | Ventilators —The ventilators shall be provided if the sties are closed on the sides. The number of ventilators to be provided shall depend upon the dimensions of the sty. Ventilation fans must be quiet, regularly inspected and kept in good working order. Each ventilator shall be 0.6 m high and 1 m long. The top of each ventilator shall be 0.5 m from the highest point of the wall. Each ventilator shall be covered from outside by wire netting. Efforts must be made to ensure that the thermal environment is not so hot or so cold as to significantly affect production or cause distress. |

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|  |  |  |  | operated and maintained in such a way that they cause the least possible amount of noise.” |  |
| 25 | 8.1 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Right terminology | 8.1 Over and above the general means of housing the pigs described above a big commercial or research piggery may require few subsidiary buildings like weighing yard, store building, loading and unloading ramp, skim milk tanks, manure pit, cooking equipment garbage boiling vat, boiler room and wallowing tank. |
| 26 | 8.1.3 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | To ensure safety during loading and unloading. | *Loading and Unloading Ramp —* The farm shall have a permanent loading and unloading ramp. The general construction of the ramp may be as given in Fig. 6 (*see* P 16) and be of the same height as incoming vehicles to ensure level unloading. |

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| 27 | 8.1.6 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Given the risks associated with feeding garbage to pigs, it is recommended feeding suitable species-specific food. | *Cooking equipmentGarbage Boiling Vat and Boiler Room —* A shed or room shall be constructed for boiling the food garbage either in big vessels or in jacketed vats. The boiling may be done with fire or with steam generator from a boiler. |
| 28 | 8.1.7 | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Given pigs’ susceptibility to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, suggest changing this to  “must.” | *Wallowing Tank* — Wallowing tanks must be provided in pens pig breeding farms situated in hot zones. The wallowing tank may be made of cement concrete the dimensions of which shall not be less than 2.5 × 1.2 × 0.15 m.  Alternatively, overhead sprinkles or showers must be provided in order to keep the animals cool. during summer. |
| 29 | 9. ENRICH MENT  9.1  New Addition | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India | Technical | Pigs must, at all times, have access to effective environmental enrichment materials in sufficient quantities to allow and encourage proper expression of rooting, | Enrichment objects or well-designed pig toys must be provided in pens that have part-slatted floors for cleaning. Bedding (straw or other materials such as saw dust or rice hulls peat, compost, and various wood chips, has the highest potential to |

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|  |  | Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor, PETA India |  | pawing and chewing behaviours.  In barren conditions, pigs can redirect their chewing behaviours towards pen fittings and other pigs including their tails and ears. Bitten tails can bleed and then attract other pigs so that the behaviour can quickly spread throughout the whole group. Rather than mutilating pigs to prevent this, it can easily be prevented by providing an enriched environment that offers stimulation. | provide successful enrichment. |
| 30 | 9.2 New addition | Dr Kiran Ahuja, Manager of Vegan Projects, PETA India  Dr Nithin Krishnegowda, Veterinary Policy Advisor,  PETA India | Technical | Good hygiene is required for enrichment and minimizes risk of diseases, injuries and mortality. | Cleaning as much as necessary must be considered an essential aspect of ensuring welfare and enrichment to avoid pigs sitting in soiled bedding or with soiled enrichment. |