

**Submission
No 44**

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN
THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY**

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A society can be judged by the way it treats its animals. Chickens are sentient : they think, they respond to our emotions, they recognise us. As pets they calm us and delight us. As food they disproportionately sustain us. They deserve basic rights and protections. Any of us would do this if chickens and their welfare were ' in our face '. But they're not largely in our face. Their cultivation is hidden behind walls and huge barns. We are ' removed ' from their reality. But that doesn't remove our responsibility to give them basic rights. And to be a better society . It's even said in the bible that God knows when even the lowliest sparrow falls. Let's do something really significant about their welfare and be prouder of ourselves. Looking out for chickens is important .