

About CART

Established in 1983 as a small voluntary group of concerned citizens, Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) expanded its activities and CUTS CART was set up in 1996 as a programme centre to pursue the cause of common consumers, initially being undertaken by CUTS as the mandate.

The programmes of the Centre are primarily aimed at generating awareness, creating a more responsible society and encouraging changes at the policy level by advocating with the government machinery and sensitising it to the issues of concern of the common man. The Centre has spearheaded several campaigns and pioneered consumer empowerment.

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Unlocking Consumer Power

A New Vision for the Global Marketplace

The 20th Consumers International (CI) World Congress took place in Brasilia, Brazil during November 18-21, 2015 under the theme 'Unlocking Consumer Power: A New Vision for the Global Marketplace'. The CI World Congress is held every four years and marks a seminal moment in the international consumer rights calendar. The CI World Congress brings together CI members and supporters from all around the globe and attracts leaders from the corporate sector, policymakers, funding bodies, academics and civil society groups.



Alongside the formal business of electing a new Council and President, the core aims of the World Congress are for delegates to build cross-border partnerships on consumer rights issues; network with CI Members, government agencies and other stakeholders; and hear from world-renowned speakers on major consumer concerns and emerging trends.

The 20th World Congress was co-hosted by CI with Brazil's National Secretariat for Consumers, SENACON. SENACON is the National Consumer Secretariat of the Ministry of Justice of Brazil. Brasília, the host city, is the federal capital of Brazil and seat of government of the Federal District. The Congress started with various side events which took place on November 18, 2015 organised by CI members and partners from across the world.

The event was formally opened by Her Excellency Dilma Rouseff, President of Brazil who warmly greeted over 700 delegates from all over the world. She was joined by CI Director General Amanda Long, CI President Jim Guest, Brazil's Minister of Justice, José Eduardo Cardozo; Juliana Pereira da Silva the National Secretary of Consumers for the Ministry of Justice in Brazil and Guillermo Valles, Director of the Division for International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, UNCTAD who delivered a message from UN General Secretary Ban Ki-moon. Amanda Long in her opening speech called on the CI members to work together to be more impactful in our fast changing world.

George Cherian, Director, CUTS International represented CUTS in the World Congress. He was one of the speakers in the session on 'How do we root out bad practices and drive responsible lending' held on November 20, 2015. Kate McKee, Senior Adviser, Consultative Group to Assist the Poor, USA chaired the session. Dmitriy Yanin (Russia), Maria Inés Dolci (Brazil) and Norma P. Garcia (USA) were other speakers in the session. Cherian also spoke in two sessions in the side event organised by Swedish Society for Nature Conservation on the Green Action Week.

Representatives from all eight full members and one Associate member of CI from India along with the Department of Consumer Affairs (as member in the Government Supporter category) represented by C Vishwanath, Secretary to Government of India, DoCA participated in the congress and also actively participated in the proceedings and in the General Assembly.

Promoting Organic Farming in Rajasthan

A State Level Advocacy cum Dissemination Meeting of the ProOrganic project was conducted at Jaipur on October 28, 2015. More than 85 participants attended the meeting. Cherian stated that there is a need of integrated efforts from both the government and farmers side for promoting organic farming in Rajasthan.

Shital Prasad Sharma, Director, State Institute of Agriculture Management, Government of Rajasthan stressed on the need for development of climate smart villages in Rajasthan to promote organic farming. A K Gupta, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy, SKNA University, Jobner pointed out that organic farming is the process wherein both consumers and producers can be benefited.

S Mukherjee, Professor and Head, Department of Horticulture, Rajasthan Agricultural Research Institute, Government of Rajasthan said that organic product hubs should be created for domestic and export purposes. Vardhaman Bapna, Director, Morarka Foundation, Jaipur said that organic vegetables shops should be established at the *Gram Panchayat* level.



Strategy Planning Meeting in Stockholm

George Cherian visited Stockholm for the strategy planning meeting of Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) during October 05-09, 2015. The meeting was attended by about 40 participants, 20 representatives of partner organisations and 20 staff members of SSNC.



The meeting commenced with Sustainable Consumption (SC) Group Discussions on October 05, 2015. The Strategy Planning meeting was held on October 06-08, 2015 and was an important part of the strategic planning of SSNC for the Global Programme 2017-2020. On October 09, 2015, SC group discussed the theme of Global Action Week for next phase. It was decided to take a final decision in Brasilia on November 15-17, 2015.

Public Procurement

Experiences and the Way Forward

A dissemination-cum training workshop with key stakeholders on 'Public Procurement Experiences, RTPP Act, Rules and Way Forward' was held at Jaipur on November 30, 2015. The meeting saw the participation of 130 Public Procuring officials of various government departments and agencies; entire State Procurement Facilitation Cell (SPFC) at Finance Department; officials from Asian Development Bank; resource persons from Competition Commission of India; and some other retired government officials as resource persons.



CUTS Elected to the CI Council (2015-19)



CUTS first time contested in the elections to the Governing Council of CI, got elected in the General Assembly held in Brasilia, Brazil on November 21, 2015 and is represented by George Cherian, Director, CUTS. He was nominated by all the CI full members from India as the unanimous candidate from India, supported by several other countries and is the only representative from South Asia in the CI Council.

Bart Combee was announced as CI's new President. He is also President of the Netherlands' consumer organisation, Consumentenbond. Gilly Wong, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Consumer Council, was appointed as the Vice President of CI.

In the inaugural session, observatory findings were shared with the SPFC and present stakeholders. Hiroyuki Maruyama, Principal Resident Procurement Specialist, India Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank, New Delhi shared his experiences on the need of public procurement reforms in South Asia. He appreciated the approach undertaken by the Rajasthan Procurement Observatory.

Arvind Deewan, Chief Accounts Officer and Yogendra Bagda, SPPP in-charge from SPFC team facilitated technical sessions on RTPP Act and Rules in an interactive manner. Several queries were raised from the participants, which were suitably answered.

Study Tour of Municipal Government Officials from Mongolia

15 officials from Municipal Government of Mongolia along with two representatives from The Asia Foundation (TAF), India visited Jaipur from December 07-11, 2015 on study tour on urban governance. The visit was organised by CUTS with the support of TAF, India.

This tour included in-house sessions on urban governance. Visits to Department of local bodies, Government of Rajasthan and Jaipur Municipal Corporation were also arranged to meet officials and understand the scenario of urban governance.

The group also participated in the international conference on Sustainable Habitat and Smart Cities (*Municipalika*) where they met with the Chief Minister of Rajasthan Vasundhara Raje. Field visit was organised at Ward-17, where members got an opportunity to attend an interface meeting and interact with ward-level officials, councillors and local citizens. Visit was made to Participatory Research in Asia office to know about another urban initiative at Jaipur. The group also visited CUTS to participate in debriefing meeting and applauded the efforts of CUTS.



Celebrating National Consumer Day 2015

The DoCA, Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution, Government of India organised the National Consumer Day 2015 with the theme 'Safe & Healthy Food: Combating Food Adulteration' at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on December 22, 2015.



The programme was inaugurated by Ram Vilas Paswan, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. Justice D K Jain, President, National Consumer

Disputes Redressal Commission, New Delhi delivered the keynote address and Ashish Bahuguna, Chairman, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) delivered the theme address. C Viswanath, Secretary, DoCA, Government of India and Virdha Swarup, Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution was also present.

George Cherian and Dharmendra Chaturvedi participated in the event. Cherian was felicitated on the occasion on being elected as a member of Governing Council of CI. He spoke about CI and revision of United Nations Guidelines on Consumer Protection.

A State Level Function on National Consumer Day organised by the DoCA, Government of Rajasthan was held at *Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj and Gramin Vikas Sansthan*, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur Rajasthan on December 24, 2015. The theme of the programme was 'Safe and Healthy Food: Combating Adulteration'. Hem Singh Bhadana, Hon'ble Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies was the Chief Guest. Hanuman Singh Bhati, Divisional Commissioner, Jaipur chaired the function. Cherian was one of the speakers and spoke briefly on the theme.

Global Green Action Week Partners' Meeting

George Cherian participated in the Global Green Action Week Partners' Meeting held at Brasilia during November 15-17, 2015. The objectives of the meeting were to evaluate GAW; thematic development of organic food production and marketing; jointly contribute to the development of future campaign; and add value to the thematic approach of GAW.

The meeting commenced with a field visit to the rural Brazil – interacting with groups and involving



in organic farming. Sara and Eva from SSNC facilitated the meeting and about 10 representatives from various partners attended it. Cherian delivered two presentations and actively participated in discussions and group activities.

REPRESENTATION IN MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS ETC.

Food Safety & Standards

George Cherian attended the 15th Meeting of the Central Advisory Committee of FSSAI in New Delhi on October 13, 2015. The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of the newly appointed Chairman of FSSAI, Ashish Bahuguna, former Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Government of India.

BSNL Open House Programme

Dharmendra Chaturvedi attended BSNL open house programme at Mansarovar, Jaipur on October 05, 2015.

10 Years of RTI in India

Madhu Sudan Sharma participated in a seminar '10 Years of RTI in India: Current Status and Way forward' organised by Transparency International India Rajasthan Chapter to celebrate the 10 years of enactment of RTI Act in India at Conference Hall, Prakrit Bharati Academy, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur on October 14, 2015.

World Standards Day

Deepak Saxena, Dharmendra Chaturvedi and Gajendra Khichir attended World Standards Day celebration organised by Bureau of Indian Standards, at Jaipur on October 17, 2015.



CART IN MEDIA

टैक्स नहीं देंगे तो कैसे स्मार्ट बनेंगे शहर

‘कट्टस’ कंज्यूमर इन्टरनेशनल की
गवर्निंग काउन्सिल में चेरियन

जयपुर। जयपुर स्थित प्रमुख उपभोक्ता संस्थाएँ 'कर्सेस अप्पोको संस्थाओं की अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महासभा' की गवर्नर नायर कार्यसिद्धि में चयनित हुआ है। 'कर्सेस' के प्रतिनिधि ने रूप में जारी घोषणा, निदेशक का चयन ब्राजील की राजनीती ब्रासिलिया में आयोगी अमास्पा में हुआ। कन्स्यूलर

पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता वेबसाइट का लोकार्पण

राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता दिवस : मिलावती
अभियान' पारम्पराग करने की घोषणा

मंगोलिया के अध्ययन दल ने शहरी प्रशासन की कार्यप्रणाली को जाना। यह अध्ययन परियोग, वर्तमान अवस्था के साथ सम्बन्धित है। यह अध्ययन परियोग, वर्तमान अवस्था के साथ सम्बन्धित है। यह अध्ययन परियोग, वर्तमान अवस्था के साथ सम्बन्धित है। यह अध्ययन परियोग, वर्तमान अवस्था के साथ सम्बन्धित है।

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കോമ്പാൻ കിണർസ്റ്റേമർ

കൗൺസിൽ അംഗം

New Project

Enhancing Financial Protection of Consumers in Particular Women through Financial Literacy Initiatives in the state of Rajasthan in partnership with Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India.

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George Cherian is CI member
George Cherian, Director

George Cherian, Director of the Jaipur-based consumer advocacy group Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS), has been selected to the Congress

He was the unanimous candidate from India. The CI, headquartered in London, is the world federation of consumer groups that serve as the only independent

राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता दिवस पर कार्यक्रम को संबोधित —

सरकार उपभोक्ता अधिकारों
के लिए संकल्पबद्ध : भडाना
जयपुर। खाद्य, नागरिक, आर्थिक

जयपुरा खाडा, नागरिक आरूपि
एवं उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग के मंत्री,
हेमसिंह भड़ाना ने कहा कि राज्य संस्कार
कार्यक्रमों के अधिकारों के संरक्षण
के लिए कार्यालय कदम उठाने के लिए
संकल्पित है।
इन्द्रनारायण पंचायतीज संस्थान
विभाग में राज्य उपभोक्ता दिवस पर
यात्रीयों समाज में मुख्य आतिथि
दिना ने कहा कि