

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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Waste Segregation and Management a Priority in Jaipur

“**W**aste segregation and its management is a severe concern in the city of Jaipur and now it is high time that it should be put on the top of the agenda,” said Jaipur Heritage Mayor Munesh Gurjar. She addressed the participants as Chief Guest in the Stakeholder’s Consultation organised by CUTS International, marking the culmination of the Green Action Week (GAW) campaign of 2021 in Rajasthan. She urged that every Jaipur resident should support the government in this waste segregation and management drive.

Zila Pramukh of Jaipur Rama Chopra spoke about the need for garbage management and reduced consumption of goods and services. Chopra said that ‘Kitchen Gardening’ during the pandemic has been very effective, and this habit should be adopted and carried forward by others. This will prevent many of us from the pandemic situation when we are afraid to buy vegetables from the market. She called for awareness and more extensive spread of the GAW campaign among school children, focusing on waste management.

In his opening address, George Cherian, Director, CUTS International, said in 2021, humanity has again used all biological resources that our planet regenerates during the entire year by July 29, 2021, termed Earth Overshoot Day. From Earth Overshoot Day, humanity operates on ecological deficit spending until the end of the year, and hence there has to be an added thrust on protecting the natural resources.

Deepak Saxena, Assistant Director CUTS International, in his welcome address, said that GAW is a global campaign for promoting sustainable consumption and being observed every year in October.

V K Singhal, Chief Environmental Engineer, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, and Soumna Datta, retired Professor of Botany, University of Rajasthan, spoke on the theme. Nimisha Sharma, Programme Officer, CUTS, delivered a presentation on the entire campaign.



Green Action Week (GAW) India

A Partners’ Meeting was organised to evaluate the activities conducted by partners and share experiences at Jaipur, on December 10, 2021, under GAW India. All partners attended the meetings and shared their experiences. The team monitored the partners’ activities under GAW, India Campaign at Bangalore, Wayanad, Madurai, Tirupati, Indore, Dehradun, Agartala. Human Rights Day was also observed as a “Light for Defenders” manifestation during the meeting.



Need Extensive Awareness on Good Samaritan in Rajasthan

“A round 58 percent of deaths occur due to traffic accident injuries. Suppose the injured sufferer is sent to the hospital right away. In that case, he may preserve his life,” said Biju George, ADGP (Vigilance), Government of Rajasthan. He was Chief Guest in a workshop on ‘Issues Focusing on Good Samaritan Guidelines: Challenges and Way forward’ organised by CUTS with the support of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India.



In continuation, Dr. Narottam Sharma, Chief Medical Health Officer, Jaipur, spoke about the Golden Hour and underlined the importance of making everyone aware of CPR. Nidhi Singh, Joint Transport Commissioner, Road Safety; Dr Girdhar Goyal, Trauma Care Expert, SMS Hospital Trauma Care Centre; and Dr L N Pandey, State Nodal Officer, Transport Department, Government of Rajasthan, spoke about insights of Good Samaritan in the technical session.

Saxena presented Good Samaritan Law while Madhu Sudan Sharma, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS, moderated the technical session. More than 60 road safety specialists and delegates attended the workshop.

Mayors' Conference

CUTS formed a ‘Rajasthan City Mayors’ Learning Platform (RCMLP)’ in 2015 with a specific objective to improve the urban governance in the state through enhanced sharing of experiences and learning from each other. Since then, a series of Mayors’



Conferences have been successfully organised in different cities of Rajasthan, where City Mayors and Deputy Mayors participate in discussing the challenges and opportunities of their respective cities.

With this background, CUTS organised a Mayors’ Conference in collaboration with NITI Aayog, Government of India, with the support of The Asia Foundation at Jaipur on November 26, 2021. The conference was attended by Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Chairpersons of selected ULBs and working committees of ULBs.

World Day of Remembrance

CUTS commemorated the ‘World Day of Remembrance’ in memory of road safety victims and organised a street play at Central Park, Jaipur, on November 21, 2021. The theme was the safe speed in the streets, presented through powerful messages through the *nukkad natak*. More than 50 people participated.



Cherian delivered the opening address. He said 80 percent of road accident victims in India do not receive emergency medical care within the critical first hour after an accident. There is a need to change the behaviour of police, the response of hospitals and generate public awareness on Good Samaritan Law.

Mahendra Soni, IAS, Transport Commissioner, Government of Rajasthan as special guest, highlighted that people should be aware of the term ‘Good Samaritan’ and that simply rewarding them is insufficient. They should support the government’s efforts in reducing road fatalities. He shed light on the government’s ‘Jeevan Rakshak Yojana’ plan.

In continuation, Dr. Narottam Sharma, Chief Medical Health Officer, Jaipur, spoke about the Golden Hour and underlined the importance of making everyone aware of CPR. Nidhi Singh, Joint Transport Commissioner, Road Safety; Dr Girdhar Goyal, Trauma Care Expert, SMS Hospital Trauma Care Centre; and Dr L N Pandey, State Nodal Officer, Transport Department, Government of Rajasthan, spoke about insights of Good Samaritan in the technical session.

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Capacity Building of Enforcement Officials on MVA Act, 2019

CUTS organised a consultation with the road safety enforcement officials in partnership with Public Affairs Foundation (PAF), Bengaluru, in Mysuru on November 18, 2021. Discussions were held on general road safety scenarios in Karnataka, key provisions of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act, 2019, and risk factors.

Ajay Kumar Singh, former DGP of Karnataka; CT Murthy, Joint Commissioner of Transport, Mysuru; Ashish Verma, Ph.D., Transport Engineer, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru; Bharat Kumar Pathivada, Transport Engineer, Ph.D., IIT Mumbai; Chetan Kumar, Traffic Superintendent, Mysuru and Annapoorna from PAF spoke about road safety issues and solutions.



A divisional level consultation on ‘Generating Demand for Effective Implementation of MVA, 2019’ was conducted at Mangaluru on December 15, 2021. In the meeting, the Chief Guest was Rajendra K V IAS, District Collector Mangaluru. George Cherian delivered the opening address. Akshay Sridhar, Commissioner, Mangaluru City Corporation; Giridhar Prabhu, Director, Achal Industries, Mangaluru; Sudhakar Rao Trauma Surgeon, Natraj, ACP (Traffic) Mangaluru; Kumara IAS, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad and Annapoorna Ravichander, Executive Director, Public Affairs Foundation, Bengaluru spoke in various sessions.

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SDG-12)

CUTS, in partnership with the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC), conducted a study on 'Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) from a Consumer Perspective' in India, with a particular focus in five states, namely Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The study aimed to frame an understanding of SCP beyond SDG-12 targets and expand it from current sustainable consumption and consumer perspectives.

The fourth state-level consultation was organised in collaboration with NITI Aayog, Government of India, at Jaipur on October 27, 2021. Sundar Narayan Mishra, Senior Consultant-SDGs, NITI Aayog, Government of India, delivered his keynote address on SDG 12. Anand Mohan, Member Secretary, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, Punita Singh, Joint Director, Department of Tourism, Rajasthan and Hitballabh Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Rajasthan spoke as special guest. Seven departments shared their department-specific progress and programmes related to SDG12. More than 50 participants attended the meeting.

The fifth state-level consultation was organised in collaboration with the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Government of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram, on November 16, 2021. Joy Elamon, Director General, KILA; Josephine J., Chief, Decentralised Planning Division, Kerala State Planning Board (KSPB); S S Nagesh, Chief, Agriculture Division, KSPB; Sreekumar B., Director (i/c), PIEM Department spoke as a special guest on SDG 12. Eight departments shared their department-specific progress and programmes related to SDG12. More than 34 participants attended the meeting.

Promoting Organic Consumption in Rajasthan

A total of 36 different activities were organised in all the target districts under the project ProOrganic II.

- Two block-level and three district-level awareness meetings to create awareness among the consumers and farmers and gather the information for the project's next phase.
- Five feedback meetings on community-managed seed cells to strengthen and increase the members.
- 10 GAW activities in project districts on the theme 'Sharing Community'.
- Five advanced farmer trainings and exposure visits for capacity building and practical demonstration of organic farming techniques to farmers who want to shift towards organic farming.



- Nine media interface meetings and organic fairs to inform media friends about organic farming and provide a common platform for farmers and consumers for organic products.
- Two main activities at the state level, viz organic fair and stakeholder's consultation meeting. Many participants, including farmers, consumers, media friends, and government officials, attended the programmes.

National Consumer Day

Every Year December 24 is observed as National Consumer Day with a specific theme in India. This year's theme of the day was 'Consumers: Know and Assert Your Rights. In a state-level function of



the Department of Food and Consumer Affairs, Government of Rajasthan, Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary-General, and Deepak Saxena, Assistant Director, CUTS, attended the ceremony on December 24, 2021.

Pratap Singh Khachariyawas, Cabinet Minister in the Government of Rajasthan; Naveen Jain; Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Food & Civil Supplies, Rajasthan; Banwari Lal Sharma, President, State Consumer Redressal Commission Rajasthan were key dignitaries. Mehta delivered a session on the key 'Amendments in 'ECommerce-Consumer's Perspective'.

National Consumer Convention

National Consumer Convention (NCC) was organised by Consumer Protection Association Agartala in collaboration with the Consumer Coordination Council (CCC) of India at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi, on December 19, 2021. More than 30 consumer organisations (CCC members) from 21 states attended the NCC. CUTS facilitated a technical session on Front of the Pack Labelling (FoPL).



Governor released SDG 12 study report

Arif Mohammed Khan, Governor of Kerala, released a study entitled “Sustainable Consumption and Production – A Consumer Perspective” at Raj Bhavan, on December 30, 2021, by giving a copy to Cherian. The study prepared by CUTS International mainly looks at SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) from a consumer perspective based on The United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection (UNGCP). The Governor appreciated CUTS efforts to undertake research on such a vital topic and hoped that it would prove helpful to stakeholders concerned.



REPRESENTATIONS

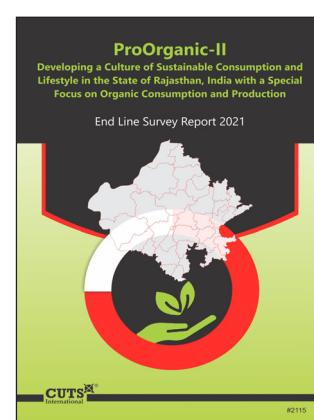
- Amar Deep Singh attended a webinar ‘Scaling-up Citizen Engagement for Inclusive Urban Governance’ organised by Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) on October 20, 2021.
- Pratibha Jain attended a session under ‘Indo-Pacific Business Forum’ on October 28, 2021.
- Amit Babu attended the virtual Launch of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030 organised by World Health Organisation on October 28, 2021.
- Simi TB attended a webinar on ‘Plastic Waste Management and its Impact on Human Health’ organised by The Energy & Resources Institute on October 08, 2021.
- Satyapal Singh attended a report launch webinar entitled, ‘Behind the Labels: Big Food’s War on Healthy Food Policies’ organised by Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI) on November 16, 2021.
- Deepak Saxena attended an online panel discussion on ‘ISI Standards in Toys and Footwear’ organised by Patrika T.V. on December 02, 2021.
- Saxena attended a meeting organised by the Food and Consumer Affairs Department of Government of Rajasthan on Legal Metrology under their ongoing ‘Shudh ke Liye Yudh Abhiyan’ as one of the speakers on December 10, 2021.
- Dharmendra Chaturvedi and Amit Babu attended the National Level Programme on the occasion of National Consumer Day organised by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on December 24, 2021.
- Simi TB attended a National Webinar “Front of package labelling (FOPL): A Way forward to address NCDs” jointly organised by All India Institute of Medical Sciences Gorakhpur & All India Institute of Medical Sciences Rishikesh on December 27, 2021.
- Madhu Sudan Sharma participated in the two-day meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture and the regional meeting of the National Highways Authority of India, Odisha held at Puri, Odisha on December 29-30, 2021.

PUBLICATIONS

Briefing Paper



Monograph



'Behavioural Change is Required among Drivers & Pedestrians to Avoid Accidents'- DC Dr K V Rajendra

By Alfie Dsouza, Team Mangalorean. - December 16, 2021



कृत्स द्वारा राज्यस्तरीय जैविक मेला आयोजित

द्वालपार्ल न्यूज गई इस कार्यक्रम में जोधपुर जिले कीटनाशक टीमोंक रसायनिक कार्यक्रम से महालक्ष्मी जैविक कार्यक्रम मुक्त जैविक उत्पाद जो धोये एंड जयपुर। कर्स ड्वायर राज्य से महालक्ष्मी जैविक कृषि फार्म एवं सोनपुर जैविक एवं प्रकृति कार्यक्रम के लिए आयोजित आहार मेला, महीना जैविक कृषि फार्म एवं सोनपुर जैविक एवं प्रकृति कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन कीटन बाबू खान

Matters India
India's Complete Socioeconomic & Religious News

Consumer organizations demand front pack labeling regulations
BY: MATTERS INDIA / ON: DECEMBER 19, 2021 / IN: NATIONAL / TAGGED: CUTS (CONSUMER ANTI TRUST SOCIETY) INTERNATIONAL, FRONT OF PACKAGE LABELING (FOPL), GEORGE CHERIYAN

Need to educate people regarding traffic rules stressed

DHNS, Mangaluru, DEC 15 2021, 22:43 IST | UPDATED: DEC 15 2021, 23:10 IST



Road safety should be part of school curriculum, says DC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: Deputy commissioner K V Rajendra stressed on the need for inclusion of road safety laws in the school curriculum. He was speaking at the divisional level consultation organised by the Public Affairs Foundation and Consumer Unity and Society (CUTS) International, to identify implementation challenges of Motor Vehicles Amendment Act, 2019, held on Wednesday.

per 'Extent of road traffic accidents in Mangaluru city', a report prepared by the department of criminology and forensic science, School of Social Work, and published in the Jour-

nal's Road Safety Committee and the Integrated Command and Control Centre

सम्पूर्ण जैविक राजस्थान बनाने लिए लम्बी दूरी तय करना बाकी- जॉर्ज चेरियन



Consumer Organisations unanimously demand for immediate notification of FoPL regulations for public health safety

This Charter highlights immediate steps to be taken for the earliest notification of Front of Package Labeling (FoPL) regulation that has been long pending.

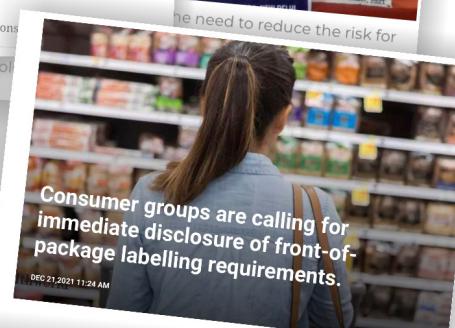
Written by FE Online

Updated: December 20, 2021 4:00:22 pm



Consumer bodies demand immediate notification of front of packaging labeling norms

In India, FoPL was first recommended in 2014 by an expert committee cons



Consumer groups are calling for immediate disclosure of front-of-package labelling requirements.

प्रो आर्गेनिक परियोजना के अंतर्गत जिला स्तरीय मीडिया कार्यशाला का आयोजन किसानों को जैविक खेती के लिए प्रेरित करने का सशक्त माध्यम है मीडिया : डॉ. कनोजिया



Consumer bodies demand immediate notification of front of packaging labeling norms

PTI - Last Updated: Dec 20, 2021, 02:07 PM IST
Synopsis
In a statement, CUTS International Director George Cheriyan said the Food Standards and Safety Authority of India (FSSAI) has already spent a number of years discussing and out with a strong regulation.



Demanded that a long-pending package labeling (FoPL) be in the interest of public safety.

at a long-pending regulation on front of the food products has already been disclosed in the interest of public safety. This demands that the Consumer Protection Council of India (CPCI) and the Consumer Protection Association, Agartala, intend to implement the FoPL in India. Since the implementation of the FoPL, CUTS has already spent a number of years educating