

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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Community's Vital Role in Waste Reduction and Environmental Protection

CUTS is working towards developing a culture of sustainable consumption and production by engaging consumers in selected seven cities of Rajasthan under the ProScop project. Recently, stakeholders' sensitisation programmes were organised in these cities to sensitise relevant stakeholders, including government officials, public representatives, policymakers, consumer groups, organisations working on environmental issues and the media. Thoughts about sustainable consumption and best practices for sustainable lifestyles were shared by the speakers and participants during these programmes.



The Mayor of Bharatpur Municipal Corporation, Abhijeet Kumar, attended a programme in Bharatpur city as the Chief Guest on August 11, 2023. He highlighted the importance of the collective role of the community in reducing waste and environmental protection to achieve sustainable development goals. Community awareness and participation were said to be important for waste management and maintaining cleanliness. He said that our culture encourages cleanliness and a healthy lifestyle but, due to ignorance, we are misusing our natural resources. We have to make changes in our consumption and behaviour practices.

Other similar programmes were organised in Chittorgarh on July 20, 2023; Bhilwara on July 21, 2023; Kota on August 04, 2023; Jodhpur on August 10, 2023, and Churu on August 25, 2023, respectively.

Health Warning through Front of Pack Labelling is Crucial

Given the fast-paced nature of modern society where convenience often takes precedence over nutrition, it becomes vital to increase awareness about the health impact of ultra-processed foods and the crucial role that Front of Pack Labelling (FoPL) could play in addressing this concern. This need for awareness is significant in light of the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in both urban and rural areas of India, as recently indicated by a study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research-India Diabetes (ICMR-INDIAB).



To promote healthier choices and address the role of certain ingredients in contributing to NCDs, incorporating simplified nutrition information on the front of food packages proves to be a cost-effective strategy. By providing clear and easily understandable information about the content of salt, sugar and fat, consumers can be guided towards making informed choices and avoiding unhealthy options.

Moreover, implementing such easy-to-understand warning labels would compel food industries, which have shown little commitment to safeguarding consumer health, to reformulate their products by reducing harmful ingredients and enhancing their nutritional content. Such a move would lead to an overall enhancement in the healthiness of the available food options.

These were the opinions expressed by experts in the state-level consultation organised by CUTS in Bangalore on July 28, 2023, in partnership with Public Affairs Foundation (PAF), to generate awareness on FoPL and the role it could play in curbing NCDs among wider stakeholders.

Deepak Saxena, Associate Director, CUTS International; Uma, Joint Director, Department of Health & Family Welfare (NCD Cell), Government of Karnataka; Sanjay Pandey, National Consultant, Global Health Advocacy; Sarika, Founder, Principal Consultant, Food Safety; and Simi TB, CUTS International presented the status of NCDs in India.

Similarly, another consultation was organised at Bhopal with the National Centre for Human Settlements & Environment (NCHSE) on August 17, 2023, where Dr Prabhakar Tiwari, Chief Medical Health Officer; Dr Varuna Pathak, Head of Department, Obstetrics Gynaecology, R K Medical College, Bhopal; Devendra Dubey, Senior Food Safety Officer, Food & Drugs Administration, MP; and Dr Pradip Nandi, Director General, National Centre for Human Settlements and Environment (NCHSE) presented their views.



Conclusion of Decade Long Partnership

As the conclusion of ProScop Phase II aligns with the culmination of a decade-long partnership with SSNC, the initiatives undertaken from July to September 2023 were notably impactful. These included village-level awareness campaigns, inception meetings to establish school clubs and foster kitchen gardens, as well as knowledge-sharing sessions regarding seed cell systems and activities associated with model organic villages.

These endeavours spanned across 12 districts. Remarkably, the enthusiasm and dedication of all stakeholders, particularly farmers and consumers, remained as vibrant and committed as it had been a decade ago.



Road Safety: State-Level Stakeholder Consultation

CUTS, in collaboration with the Kerala Road Safety Authority and Centre of Environment and Development, organised a state-level stakeholder consultation for policy advocacy on road safety in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, on August 25, 2023. In the meeting, Antony Raju, Transport Minister of Kerala, Transport Commissioner, Transport Secretary and Additional Transport Commissioner, IG Traffic, Executive Director of Kerala Road Safety Authority and Traffic SP participated.



The G20 Championing the Consumer Movement

CUTS International organised a webinar on 'The G20 Championing the Consumer Movement' on August 23, 2023. The G20 webinar served as a resounding call to action, underscoring the pressing need to prioritise consumer protection within the G20 framework.

The speakers of the webinar were Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International; Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of UNCTAD; Cherish Deshpande, Chairman, Mumbai Grahak Panchayat (MGP); Vijay K. Nambiar, Principal Coordinator (Sherpa), Civil20India; Fernando Blanco, Former National Director for Consumer Defence, Argentina; Teresa Moreira, Head of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch at UNCTAD; Athayde Motta, Executive Director, Brazilian Institute for Social and Economic Analyses (IBASE); Thezi Mabuza, Acting Commissioner, National Consumer Commission, South Africa; Saroja Sundaram, Executive Director, Citizen Consumer and Civic Action Group (CAG), India and Member, General Council of the Consumers International; Igor Rodrigues Britto, Director, International Relations, Brazilian Institute for Consumer Protection (IDEC), Brazil; and Dr. Nava Subramaniam, Dean, School of Business, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore.

CUTS in Chief Secretary's Transport Committee

A virtual meeting of the 15th Transport Management Committee was convened by Transport Department and the office of the Chief Secretary on September 29, 2023. In the meeting, Usha Sharma, Chief Secretary, ACS, Home, Transport Commissioner, Road Safety Cell officials and Additional Director General (ADG) of Traffic participated. Amrat Singh and Madhu Sudan Sharma participated on behalf of CUTS

The Chief Secretary inquired about the preventive measures implemented by the government. She recommended that the ADG of Traffic take additional precautions during the election period.

World Heart Day

CUTS commemorated 'World Heart Day 2023' on 'Use Heart to Beat Cardiovascular Diseases' with school children, teachers and senior citizens at Jaipur in association with Hardev Shikshan Avam Jan Kalyan Sansthan. Dr Amit Patodia, a general physician, was the subject expert.



WEBINARS/MEETINGS/VISITS/NOMINATION

- Simi TB attended a meeting of Consumers International Food Member Connect organised by Consumers International on July 04, 2023. She also attended a G20/T20 on 'Challenges and Opportunities of Sustainable Energy Transition organised by Integrated Research and Action for Development' on July 04, 2023.
 - Amar Deep Singh participated in the workshop on 'Role of NGOs under Swachh Bharat Mission' organised by the Department of Local Self Government, Government of Rajasthan, at Jaipur on July 06, 2023.
 - Simi TB attended a webinar on 'Medical Device Regulations' organised by AiMED and Consultants Consortium of Chennai on July 26, 2023. She spoke on 'Consumer Viewpoint on Inclusion of Information on Medical Device Packages.'
 - Jayesh Mathur and Madhu Sudan Sharma attended the C20 Summit in Jaipur from July 29-31, 2023.
 - Deepak Saxena attended a webinar on 'Limitations on Warranties, Indemnities & Claims in Sale Agreements' organised by Khaitan and Company on August 08, 2023.
 - Amar Deep Singh attended the launch of the book 'Social Innovations in Urban Sanitation in India' and a discussion on urban governance organised by Participatory Research in Asia online on August 09, 2023, through online mode.
 - Simi TB attended a webinar on 'Towards Effective Implementation of Mission LiFE: From Consumer Duties to Consumer Rights' organised by the Centre for Responsible Business on August 10, 2023.
 - Madhu Sudan participated in the state-level discussion organised by the Road Safety Cell, Transport Department, Government of Rajasthan at Transport Bhawan on August 28, 2023.
 - Simi attended a webinar to release the WHO Report on Hypertension – The Race Against a Silent Killer organised by WHO, Bloomberg Philanthropies and Resolve to Save Lives on September 19, 2023.
 - Madhu Sudan participated in a webinar on 'Suposhan Bharat Abhiyaan' organised by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of India, on September 20, 2023. He also attended the stakeholder consultation organised by the Transport Department for NGOs working on road safety in Integrated Road Accident Data software at the State Road Safety Institute, HCM RIPA on September 21, 2023.
 - Amrat Singh, Deepak Saxena and Simi attended the online launch of the Report – The Junk Push & The National Consultation for Effective Policy Response organised by Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest - India and Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India on September 22, 2023.
 - Simi attended the online 8th E-dialogue series 'Let's Fix Our Food' organised by the National Institute of Nutrition on 'Double Duty Actions to Promote Healthy Food Environment for Adolescents' on September 29, 2023.
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- Milind Mahaske, CEO of Praja Foundation, along with her colleague Pooja, visited the CUTS office on July 26, 2023, to discuss issues of possible collaboration.
 - Basavaraju R Shreshta and Bhagavan Bidarakote, Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement visited the CUTS office on July 28, 2023, and discussed possible collaboration in different programme areas.
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- Simi TB, on behalf of CUTS, has been nominated to the Airport User Consultative Committee of Cochin International Airport Ltd.
 - Madhu Sudan met with Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, Governor of Kerala, in the Raj Bhawan, on August 26, 2023. He handed over to the Governor, a set of CUTS publications and a representation on different aspects of road safety in the state of Kerala and the country. In continuation, Madhu Sudan also met Shri Kalraj Mishra, Governor of Rajasthan with a representation on the status of road safety in Rajasthan and the required necessities on the issue in the state.



PUBLICATIONS

- Three issues of Gram Gadar of July, August and September 2023 (<https://cuts-cart.org/gram-gadar-issues/>)
- Combined issue of ONW of July-August, 2023 (<https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/onw-11-july-august-2023.pdf>)
- One issue of Panchwan Stambh of April-June, 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/paanchwa_stambh_2-2023.pdf)
- One issue of GSK Alert of April-June, 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/gsk_alert_apr-jun_2023.pdf)
- Consumer Dialogue of May-August, 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/consumer-dialogue_may-aug-2023.pdf)
- Catalyst of April-June, 2023 (<https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/catalyst19-2-2023.pdf>)
- City Matter of April-June, 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/city_matters-2-2023.pdf)

कार्डियोवास्कुलर रोगों को हराने के लिए हृदय का उपयोग करें



हिन्दुस्तान एक्सप्रेस

और सामान्य स्वास्थ्य के महत्व को बढ़ावा देना है, ताकि लोग स्वस्थ

सभी व्यापारी उद्यमी पेक् फूड सामग्री में गुणवत्ता का विशेष ध्यान रखें: कोटा व्यापार महासंघ



ಬಿಎಂಎಸ್‌ಸಿಎಲ್‌ನ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರಾದ ಡಾ.ಅನಿತಾ ಎಫ್.ಎನ್. ಡಿ'ಸೋಜಾ ಅವರು ಎಲ್ಲ ಗಣ್ಯರನ್ನು ಸ್ವಾಗತಿಸಿದರು. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳ

द्विभागी संवेदीकरण कार्यशाला का किया आयोजन



।मुदायिक बीज की मूल्यांकन बैठक आयोजित

जनसेवक समाचार भीलवाड़ा। (योगेश लिमानी) कटस इंटरनेशनल संस्थान एवं स्वीडिश सोसाइटी फॉर नेचर
वैज्ञान, स्वीडन के सहयोग से राजस्थान में जैविक उपभोक्ताओं की भागीदारी सुनिश्चित करते हुए सतत उपभोग की
विधि एवं जैविक उपभोग में उत्पादन को

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सतत उपभोग की जीवन शैली एवं संस्कृति विकसित करने हेतु परियोजना विषय पर कट्स इंटरनेशनल की तरफ से कार्यशाला का आयोजन



सतत उपभोग की जीवन शैली को विकसित

सतत उपभोग की जीवन शैली को विकसित करने के लिए कार्यशाला आयोजित



शहरों के लिए चैलेंज बना कचरा निस्तारण



शहर सन्निधि में है।

पर जोर, गार्डन का किया मूल्यांकन



से अपने वाली किरदार के लिए

प्रोत्साहित करने के लिये मूल्यांकन बैठके सम्पन्न

