Catalyst





Quarterly E-Newsletter

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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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CUTS Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CART)

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Also at Delhi, Calcutta and Chittorgarh (India); Lusaka (Zambia); Nairobi (Kenya); Accra (Ghana); Hanoi (Vietnam); Geneva (Switzerland); and Washington DC (USA).

State-Level Road Safety Policy Advocacy Consultation

CUTS, in collaboration with the Public Affairs Foundation (PAF), conducted a daylong state-level Stakeholders Consultation on Road Safety Policy Advocacy in Karnataka, Bengaluru on November 23, 2023. The primary goal was to advocate for effective policies and guidelines related to speed management, two-wheeler safety, and protecting vulnerable road users in the state.

The inaugural session of the event featured key figures, such as Yogesh A.M (IAS), Transport Commissioner; J Ghanendra Kumar, Additional Transport Commissioner; J Purushottam, Additional Commissioner and Member Secretary of Karnataka Road Safety Authority; and HD Manjunatha, RTO, Bengaluru.

Technical sessions included insights from experts like Anita B. Haddannavar (IPS); Pradeep BS, Professor from National



Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences Hospital (NIMHANS); Srinivas Alavalli, Chetan Sodaye from World Resources Institute; Pratiksha Surpuriya from the Global Design of Cities Initiative (GDCI); Satya Shankaran (Bicycle Mayor); and Indira (General Secretary, Bengaluru Nav Nirman Party). The event, coordinated by Annapoorna and Sheeba Das from PAF, saw participation from NGOs, media, and academic institutions, with 55 participants. Madhu Sudan Sharma of CUTS delivered a detailed presentation during the inaugural session.



The consultation aimed to address critical road safety issues and advocate for impactful policies in Karnataka. Subsequently, a Regional Level Stakeholder Consultation was conducted by the Centre for Environment and Development in Thrissur, Kerala on December 08, 2023, The consultation

witnessed the top officials of road safety of the district. The discussion was focused on effective speed management, two-wheeler safety and better implementation of key risk factors related to provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 2019 in the district.

Exploring Sustainable Consumption: Insights from Community Consultations

Two community-level stakeholder consultations were organised by local partners Rajesh Malakar and BR Sharma in their respective areas. BR Sharma organised a consultation at Karni Palace Road on November 03, 2023, which was attended by more than 50 women participants. Amar Deep Singh attended the consultation.

Rajesh Malakar organised a community-level consultation at the Jagannath Puri area on November 06, 2023, which was attended by 30 women participants. Rajdeep Pareek and Dharmendra Chaturvedi attended the workshop. Artist Srajan



Mishra also attended both consultations to gain insights into community sustainable consumption.



World Day of Remembrance, 2023

C(WDoR) in Rajasthan and Kerala on November 19, 2023. The theme of this year's WDOR, 2023 was 'Remember. Support. Act.' Several media creatives focussing on various key risk factors, road safety issues especially #over speeding, #two-wheeler safety # child safety # NRSB #speed management guidelines # two-wheeler safety guidelines etc. were



developed. In Kerala, road safety awareness programmes with youths, college management, nursing staff and students, print and electronic media reach and several activities were conducted.



Recognising FoPL as a Fundamental Consumer Right

A State Level Consultation on "Significance of FoPL in Addressing NCDs" organised by CUTS with local support from Ram Krishna Shikshan Sansthan was held at Kota, Rajasthan on October 12, 2023. The event aimed to raise awareness about Front-of-Pack Labelling (FoPL) and its role in combating Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) among diverse stakeholders.

Yudhishter Chansi, Secretary, Ram Krishna Shikshan Sanstha, Kota welcomed the guest speakers and the participants providing a brief overview of the programme. Deepak Saxena, Associate Director, CUTS highlighted that FoPL empowers consumers to make informed purchasing decisions by swiftly identifying unhealthy ingredients, emphasising its cost-effectiveness.

Dr Jagdish Soni, Chief Medical Health Officer, Kota, in his keynote address, acknowledged the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI) decision to implement Voluntary Health Star Labelling from mid-2023 and welcomed any discussion in the interest of public health. Dr Ratna Jain, Gynaecologist and Former Mayor, stressed FoPL as a consumer right, urging regulators to recognise and implement an effective labelling system tailored to Indian consumers.

Dr Sanjay Pandey, National Consultant at Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI), presented the 'Status of NCDs in India and Rajasthan and the role of FoPL.' Other speakers included Dr R.C. Sahni, Deputy Superintendent (Retd.), MBS Hospital, Kota; Yashwant Sharma, Director, Vibrant Academy; Yagyadutt Hada, Retd. Director, Medical and Health; Gunjan Sanadya, Home Scientist, Food Processing and Value Addition Unit, Kota; Ashok Maheshwari, General Secretary, Vyapar Mahasangh, Kota; Pankaj Sharma, Chairman, State Consumer Counselling Centre Kota; and Hari Vallabh Meghwal, State President, Journalist Association of Rajasthan, Jaipur.



Envisioning a Sustainable Future

CUTS organised a Sustainable Consumption Envisioning Workshop during Green Action Week in Jaipur on November 09, 2023. The workshop, attended by 25 residents from the targeted community, including BR Sharma and Rajesh Malakar, aimed to gather ideas from community members and formulate a vision for a sustainable future. The participants were divided into two groups for collaborative work, facilitated by Amar Deep Singh, who guided them in generating ideas and envisioning a sustainable future.



Asia Regional Road Safety Conference

Adhu Sudan represented CUTS in the Asia Regional Road Safety Conference held at Manila, Philippines from December 5-7, 2023. The conference was organized by The Asian Develop-

ment Bank, the Asia-Pacific Road Safety Observatory (APRSO), the Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) and International Road Assessment Programme (iRap) jointly at ADB headquarters. This APRSO Annual Meeting and the GRSP Regional Road Safety Seminar is a high-profile combined regional event on road safety having stakeholders from 53 countries.



PUBLICATIONS/ARTICLES/OP-EDS

- Three issues of Gram Gadar of October, November and December 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/gram-gadar-issues/)
- Combined issue of ONW of September-October 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/onw-12-sep-oct-2023.pdf) and November-December, 2023
- One issue of Panchwan Stambh of July-September 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/paanchwa_stambh_3-2023.pdf)
- One issue of GSK Alert of July-September 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/gsk_alert_jul-sep_2023.pdf)
- Consumer Dialogue of May-August 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/consumer-dialogue_may-aug-2023.pdf)
- Catalyst of July-September 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/catalyst19-3-2023.pdf)
- City Matter of July-September 2023 (https://cuts-cart.org/pdf/city_matters-3-2023.pdf)
- What Ails Health Claims (https://cuts-cart.org/what-ails-health-claims/)
 Financial Express, December 29, 2023

VISITS AND APPOINTMENTS

N M Prusty and Namrata from the HCL Grant Team visited CUTS on November 20, 2023. Amrat Singh along with Deepak Saxena, G C Jain, Amar Deep Singh, Gauhar Mehmood and Rajdeep Pareek attended the meeting with the team at the CUTS conference hall. During the meeting project proposal, the organisation's profile, achievements and governance structure were reviewed.

On November 21, 2023, the HCL team visited CUTS CHD for evaluation of the fieldwork. A field visit was organised at Bassi *Gram Panchayat*, where they interacted with self-help group (SHG) members, and reviewed various accounts and organisational documents of the SHG. They also visited the Gadiya Lohar community.

INTERNSHIP AT CUTS CART

Tashreen Khan and Krishna Sharma from Vivekananda Global University for a month and Kashika Gupta from Symbiosis School of Liberal Arts for a month completed an internship with CUTS CART at different times in 2023.

WEBINARS/MEETINGS/VISITS/NOMINATION

 Simi TB attended a meeting on "Ultra-Processed Products Webinar: Latest Evidence and Policy Implications with Professor Carlos Monteiro" organised by the University of Sao Paulo, and Global Health Advocacy Incubator on October 05, 2023.

She also attended a meeting conducted by Cochin International Airport, represented by its officers, for CIAL's apron expansion and associated Terminal 3 works.

- Madhu Sudan Sharma attended the GRSP India Partners Annual Strategic Meeting in Chennai from October 11-13, 2023.
- Simi TB attended a webinar on "Protecting children from the harmful impact of food marketing: Unpacking the evidence to guide policies to prevent harmful impacts of marketing" organised by WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia on October 11, 2023.
- Amardeep Singh attended an online launch of the national report "Empowerment of Women Elected Representatives" organised by Praja Foundation on October 27, 2023.

He also attended a webinar on 'Capacity Development for Financing a Sustainable Urban Future for All' organised by the IIHS Capacity Development Forum (CDF) on October 31, 2023. Ravikant Joshi, an Urban Financial Management Expert was the main speaker and spoke on the sustainable finance of Urban Local Bodies and the need for capacity building.

- Simi TB attended Intermediating Sustainable Consumption and Production Presentation by Allison Marie Loconto organised by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem on November 01, 2023.
- Dharmendra Chaturvedi attended the Consumer Outreach Programme organised by TRAI, Jaipur on November 04, 2023.
- Simi TB attended a Zoom meeting with CADE representatives to discuss the G20 Consumer Summit to be held in Brazil in 2024 on November 08, 2023.
- Madhu Sudan Sharma participated in an online road safety workshop organised by Tremmers Private Limited based in the UK on November 09, 2023.

He also visited the office of the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety on November 16, 2023, and met with Sanjay Mittal, Secretary of the Committee. He provided factsheets detailing the recently published road accident data for Rajasthan, Kerala, and Karnataka.

- Amrat Singh along with Amar Deep Singh, GC Jain, Veena Vidhyadharan, Gauhar Mahmood, Madan Giri, and Gayatri Mod attended an online meeting with the HCL tech grant team on November 16, 2023.
- Amrat Singh, Amardeep Singh along with Gauhar, and Madan Giri visited various CSR/Foundations based in Chittorgarh
 on November 22, 2023, to explore possible collaboration and support. They met with Vijay Singh, CSR in charge of Aditya
 Birla Foundation; Mahaveer Singh, CSR Head, Wonder Cement and Sudhir Kumar, CSR Manager, Nuvoco Vistas.
- Simi TB attended the Airport User Consultative Committee Meeting organised by Cochin International Airport Limited at Nedumbassery on December 08, 2023.
- Amar Deep Singh and Simi TB attended the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Expert Group Online Meeting on 'Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in South Asia through Inclusive Transport' on December 13, 2023.
- Simi TB attended an online workshop on Simplifying Sustainability for MSMEs: The What and Why of Sustainability organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry on December 14, 2023.
- Madhu Sudan Sharma attended the release of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Status Report of Road Safety, 2023 on December 13, 2023.
- Amar Deep Singh attended state state-level workshop on Biomedical Waste Management organised by WHO, Department of Health & Family Welfare and Toxics Link at Jaipur on December 18, 2023.
- Madhu Sudan Sharma met Kishore Kumar, Joint Secretary, Planning, Education Department, Government of India on December 20, 2023.
- Amar Deep Singh, Amrat Singh, Deepak Saxena and Simi TB attended a Zoom meeting with officials of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) on the Child-Friendly City Initiative on December 20, 2023.
- On December 21, 2023, a virtual meeting took place involving Sabrina Gander, Senior Officer of Advocacy and Grants, Nalin Sinha, India Coordinator for GHAI, and participants including Amrat, Rajdeep, Deepak, Gauhar, and Madhu Sudan from CUTS.
- Madhu Sudan attended a meeting organised by RTO, Jaipur with NGOs to discuss MoRTH's report on Road Accidents, 2021 and Global Status of Road Safety Report, 2023 on December 28, 2023.
- Deepak met lawyers Bhaskar and Tarun Agarwal in their chamber on December 29, 2023, to discuss and explore the ways to file the review petition in the National Green Tribunal.

• एफओपीएल पर राज्य स्तरीय परामर्श कार्यशाला बीमारियों से बचाव के लिए खान-पान पर विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरतः सीएमएचओ

कोटा । एफओपीएल पर एक राज्य स्तरीय परामर्श कार्यशाला स्टेशन रोड स्थित एक होटल में हुई। कार्यशाला में कोटा व्यापार महासंघ के महासचिव अशोक माहेश्वरी, सीएमएचओ डॉ. जगदीश सोनी, नगर निगम की पूर्व महापौर डॉ. रत्ना जैन, डॉ. आरसी साहनी डॉ. एस पांडे. रिछपाल पारीक



लालसोट में दूरसंचार उपभोक्ता जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित

जागरूक करना होगा और रयकता है। पूर्व महापौर ी होती है, उसने कौन सी लेखी जाएं। डॉ. एस पांडे गैर संचारी रोग के कारण क माहेश्वरी ने कहा कि गुणवत्ता का ध्यान रखें।

पुर।

ावकासत करन

किचन गार्डन विकसित करने से त्वास्थ्य एवम पर्यावरण को लाभ



दूरसंचार उपभोक्ता जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित उपभोक्ता जागरुकता



भारकर न्यूज | लालसोट

उपखंड मुख्यालय पर राजकीय कन्या महा विद्यालय में कंज्यूमर यूनिटी एंड ट्रस्ट सोसायटी जयपुर द्वारा भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक

जानकारी एसोसिएट ने प्रस्तुती की कार्या कट्स वे

चतुर्वेदी

गालसोट के राजकीय कन्या कॉलेज में उपभोक्ता जागरुकता कार्यक्रम में जानकारी दे लालसोट @ यूनिटी एंड ट्रस की ओर से

कार्यक्रम आयोजित



सभी व्यापारी उद्यमी पेक् फूड सामग्री मे गुणवत्त का विशेष ध्यान रखेः कोटा व्यापार महासंघ

पर्यावरण सुरक्षा के लिए सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक का प्रयोग नहीं करने के लिए किया प्रेरित

विनियामक प्रा

शहर वे

न्युम सर्थिस/नवन्योति, दुर्गः।
नाहिलाओं को ओर से कीचन गार्डन
लगाने से घर परिवार स्वयं न से हैं,
साब द्वीर पर्यवारण संवर्धन में
सहयोग फिल दहा है। यह विचार
करम ग्रांचिनीच घर्मेन्द्र चतुर्वदेश ने
विकारोत्मेख संवर्धना होग आयोजित
कम्युनिटी स्टेक होल्डर कंस्प्रेशन
बैठक में दिए परियोजना कार्ये अर्थाजन
बैठक में दिए परियोजना कार्ये अर्थारण
वैठक में दिए परियोजना कार्ये प्रवारण
ते प्रवारण कार्योजना के में मार्थित कर्योजना के लिए
सार्थाजनेय के लिए परियोजन कर्योजनेय
के लिए सार्थाजनेय के तिल्ला
होन्स के लिए स्वार्थन व्युज्ञ
स्वार्थन के लिए स्वार्थन कर्योजनेय
दिन किया। महिलाओं ने कक्षाड
नुपाइ डोनेम के तहत पुराने कराई
स्वार्थन, कुला स्वार्थन के वितर्ला
स्वार्थन, फुल साला, आलर,

गमले इत्यादि की प्रदर्शनी भी लगाई। मिश्रा द्वारा महिलाओं को पर्यावरण जेग-नाथमरी

परंपराओं को काया नवीन विचारों को ज में उपयोग में लाने वे माध्यम से प्रेरित किया माध्यम संप्रीरत किया डॉ. राजेश मालाका यह गतिविधियां ग्री-2023 के तहत आ रही है संस्था महिला सारदा हीनी के नेतृ विधानसभा क्षेत्र की जागरुक किया जा जागरुक किया ज अवसर पर किचन । प्रदर्शन करने वाली

कम्युनिटी स्टेकहोल्डर कंसंद्रेशन मीटिंग का आयोजन

राजस्थान दर्शन

कारण घुभ्रपान | सेवन के साथ |क फुडएवं पेक किचन गार्डन से परिवार बनेंगे स्वस्थ

सभी व्यापारी उद्यमी पैक्ड फूड सामग्री में गुणवत्ता का विशेष ध्यान रखें

एफओपीएल के महत्व पर परामर्श कार्यशाला

का आयोजन संदेश न्यूज। कोटा.

न्द्स इंटरनेशनल के सह निदेशक पिक सक्सेना एवं रामकृष्ण गक्षण संस्थान कोटा के सचिव धिष्ठिर चॉनसी ने बताया कि कओपी्रएल पर एक राज्य स्तरीय ामर्श कार्यशाला का आयोजन शन रोड स्थित होटल लिलेक किया गया । इस कार्यशाला में व्यापार महासंघ के ासचिव अशोक माहेश्वरी एमएचओ डॉ. जगदीश सोनी निगम की पर्व महापौर



कार्यशाला को संबोधित करते हुए कोटा व्यापार महासंघ के महासचिव अशोक माहेश्वरी ने कहा कि पेक्ट फूड के व्यापारी उद्यमी फूड सामग्री गुणवत्ता का पूरा ध्यान रखें। साथ ही फूड एक्ट के नियम इतने कठोर होते है कि सैंपल लेने के दौरान कभी-कभी

एक्ट के नियमों में सरलीकरण हो ताकि फूड प्रोडक्ट के व्यवसाय में भी बढ़ोतरी हो सके। साथ ही सभी व्यवसायी फूड पैकिट में शामिल होने वाले सामग्री की मात्रा की जानकारी सरल भाषा में लिखी जाए ताकि लेने वाले व्यक्ति को

उस के बारे में पूरी जानकारी मिल

नौजवान व बच्चों में प् एवं जंक फूड खाने काफी मात्रा में बढ़ गया छोटी उम्र में बच्चे कई ह ग्रसित हो रहे हैं।

उसका कारण

वस्थ बन

'सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक का न करें उपयोग

जयपुर @ पत्रिका. ग्रीन एक्शन वीक के तहत विकासी-मुख संस्थान की ओर से त्रिवेणी नगर, गोपालपुरा स्थित जगत्राथपुरी में बैठक हुई। इस मौके पर धर्मेंद्र चतुर्वेदी सहित अन्य वक्ताओं ने कहा कि महिलाओं द्वारा घर में किचन गार्डन लगाने से परिना

किचन

पर्यावरण संबंधिन में भी सहयोग मिर रहा है। परियोजनां कॉर्डिनेट राजदीप पारीक ने महिलाओं को शेयरिंग कम्युनिटी के लाभ बताए। साथ ही सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक का उपयोग नहीं करने को