

# CUTS CRC Activity Report

April-June 2018

## ONGOING PROJECTS



### Consumer Broadband Labels for Greater Transparency

CUTS International in collaboration with The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Kolkata, and Deepalaya organised a regional Seminar entitled 'Information Disclosure for Broadband Services: Empowering Informed Choices in the 4G Era' at Kolkata on May 16, 2018.



More than 155 participants across various stakeholder categories (viz. internet service providers, civil society organisations, Bureau of Indian Standards and various industry members) from East and North East India participated. Sadhan Pande, Minister-in-Charge, Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of West Bengal was the Chief Guest at the seminar.

[www.cuts-ccier.org/broadbandlabel](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/broadbandlabel)

### Green Growth and Energy Transformation

CUTS International with support from Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) organised a half-day consultation with the Seed Community Members at Kolkata on May 18, 2018. The West Bengal Seed Community comprises technical and financial experts, academia, project developers, users and beneficiaries, officials from industry associations, ex-policymakers and regulators.

The consultation mainly focussed on validating the solar training module, prepared jointly by CUTS International and Bask Research Foundation. The module will be used as the key reference document for training and capacity building of officials from educational and financial institutions. The West Bengal Seed Community provided their valued inputs and suggestions on the training module presented by Simran Grover, Founder and CEO of Bask Research foundation.

[www.cuts-ccier.org/Grow-GET/](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/Grow-GET/)



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



## Non-Tariff Barriers to India-Bangladesh Trade in Agricultural Products

CUTS International with the support of US Agency for International Development (USAID) and IBI, International conducted an in-depth study on ‘Demystifying Non-Tariff Barriers to India-Bangladesh Trade in Agricultural Products and their Linkages with Food Security and Livelihood’. The study identified NTBs with particular emphasis on agricultural trade between India and Bangladesh through seven selected corridors.

In this regard, CUTS organised a half-day Stakeholder Consultation Workshop in Kolkata on June 19, 2018 to deliberate on the study research findings, share insights and list out specific and prioritised solutions and action agenda to boost the volume of bilateral trade between two countries, keeping the aspect of livelihood and food security.

The event witnessed participation from a cross-section of stakeholders involved in India-Bangladesh trade including exporter and importer associations, Customs House Agent (CHA) and Clearing and Forwarding (C&F) associations, government officials and multilateral agencies. Sanjeev Chopra, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal chaired the panel discussion. More than 30 participants attended the discussion.

[www.cuts-citee.org/ntbagr/](http://www.cuts-citee.org/ntbagr/)



### REPRESENTATION



- Bratindra Bhattacharya, Indranil Ghosh, Sumanta Biswas, Debolina Mukherjee participated in a two-day Regional Policy Dialogue at New Delhi on May 02-03, 2018. The event aimed at deliberating on issue pertaining to facilitating implementation of Motor Vehicles Act in the Bangladesh, India, Bhutan, Nepal (BBIN) region.
- Bratindra Bhattacharya, Arnab Ganguly and Sayantan Sengupta participated in a seminar on Solar Rooftops organised by Solar Quarter in Kolkata, West Bengal on May 11, 2018. Ganguly was a speaker at a Panel Discussion entitled ‘Rooftop Solar – Policies and Business: Next Growth Driver For Solar Industry’. The conference focussed on discussing the existing solar ecosystem, latest solar technologies available in the market and also explored solar business opportunities in the state, especially in the rooftop solar space.
- Sayantan Sengupta attended a Webinar on ‘Moving towards Clean Energy’, organised by ET Energy and PWC on May 21, 2018.