Consumer Awareness programme on Safety, Standardisation and Certification of Bureau of Indian Standards Machlandpur, District: North 24 Parganas <u>Date: 30 August 2013</u>

An awareness programme was organised jointly by CUTS International, Calcutta Resource Centre (CRC) and Bureau of Indian Standards, Kolkata, at the premises of the Atghara Sanhati Kendra on 30 August 2013. The programme was attended by 54 people from the locality.



At the outset, Mr. Palash Bardhan, Secretary of Atghara Sanhati Kendra welcomed the participants and the guests. He explained the reason for organising an awareness programme on ISI standard and hoped that the participants would learn and use the safety standards in their day to day transaction after this programme.

Mr. Gaurab Sen, Centre Coordinator of CUTS CRC explained how CUTS is working throughout India on consumer awareness and other issues. He expressed the hope that the participants would benefit from this programme. Mr. N.K. Sinha from CUTS CRC made a presentation on general ISI standards. He informed the audience how we are being cheat in our day to day transaction just because of our ignorance. But if we know the minimum safety standards and the ISI marks, we can buy the standard thing from the market.



Mr. R. Ghoshal from the Bureau of Indian Standard spoke on the technical aspects of the ISI standard and safety related issues. He outlined the history of the BIS and explained the activities carried out by the office. He told the participants to verify whether there is proper ISI marking on the product they buy. He also explained how BIS works to maintain and see whether products are as per the safety norms set by the BIS. All consumers can verify the safety standard on any product on their own if they are aware of the safety standard and norms, Mr. Ghosal mentioned. He elaborated on the safety standard through a power point visual presentation.

At the end of the session, a quiz competition was organised among the participants. There were simple questions based on the deliberation during the day. Top three scorers in this quiz competition received prize.

The programme ended with vote of thanks.

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