

## **CUTS Appointed as the RRA for Rajasthan**

The Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), Government of India (GoI) has appointed Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS), Jaipur, as the Regional Resource Agency (RRA) for Rajasthan under the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) for three years, i.e. from 2006-07 to 2008-09. CUTS Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CUTS CART), one of the CUTS' programme centres, is entrusted with the responsibility to performing as the RRA.

The MoEF, GoI, has been organising the NEAC every year since 1986. The NEAC is a flagship campaign of the MoEF with the objective of creating environmental awareness at the national level. In total, 34 organisations located in different parts of the country have been designated as RRAs this year for assisting the MoEF in conducting and coordinating the NEAC.

The theme for NEAC for the year 2006-07 is: 'Solid Waste Management'. The Ministry has further identified sub-themes for conducting the campaign, which include: management of household waste/municipal waste; bio-medical waste; plastic waste; electronic waste; and industrial waste such as fly ash, composting/vermin-composting and waste management at higher altitude.

Several non-governmental organisations (NGOs), educational and training institutions, professional associations, scientific bodies, community organisations and a whole range of other agencies are expected to participate in the campaign. These bodies, singularly or in partnership with other organisations, would organise programmes for creating environmental awareness followed by field action at the local, regional and national level.

In view of the wide range of inter-related environmental problems facing the country, the activities of the NEAC aim to focus on environmental issues, especially those that are related to the theme. Due emphasis is put forward for devising concrete, action-oriented activities against the issue/problem identified at the local level. Moreover, the Campaign is being planned and overseen by the Ministry of Environment & Forests. The decentralised mechanism adopted for conducting NEAC since 1993 is being continued this year too.

For more information, please contact:

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