

The Public Newsense

Quarterly newsletter of Citizen consumer and civic Action Group

April to June 2024

Dear friends

We are pleased to share with you the second edition of our newsletter. We have had a busy quarter with the release of several key reports on a range of subjects. (All of these are available on our website, under 'Resources'). These data gathering, analysis exercises inform much of our work, and also serve to break down technicalities around governance, for the benefit of the public.

Our capacity building exercises in the field of electricity governance in five states (TN, Karnataka, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Tripura) has received much acclaim. We are confident that this will go a long way to strengthening consumer protection in this sector. We have conducted several events in each of these states, all of them well attended by policy makers and the media. We have also been working towards consumer protection in other sectors, with written representations to the government asking that lawyers remain under the Consumer Protection Act, and the recent draft guidelines on greenwashing issued by the CCPA.

Our work on road safety and sustainable mobility continues to engage with the government and the public in matters of safety and sustainability. Our most recent work has been looking at the regulations around child helmets, and public attitudes on helmets for kids.

Climate action is an area of focus for CAG, and one that gathers urgency with each passing day. Over August, our climate action efforts are set to gain steam with the Climate Action Month celebrations. This will be a month-long celebration across Chennai, with activities, talks and shows - each carefully designed and executed with the singular aim of turning the spotlight on the need for climate action - now. All events will be advertised on our social media pages, and our website. Stay tuned. We want to see you there!

We have several other exciting projects meanwhile, that we will keep you informed on. We are in the process of creating a textbook on climate change for primary school students. This is following our very well received textbook

on the same, for middle grade students.

As with INC-3 (International Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution), we had a delegate representative at the INC-4 that happened in Canada. These have been excellent opportunities for CAG to represent the consumer, and ask that governments place consumers at the heart of deliberations.

We are so pleased that you choose to be a part of the work that we do. If you would like more information on what we do, please do not hesitate to contact us. All our latest work is on our website, and on our social media pages. Do follow us to know more.

Regards,
S.Saroja
Executive Director



Alternate renewable energy sources in transportation

India's rapid economic growth has led to increased road transport, significantly raising CO₂ emissions and air pollution. As a major oil consumer, India faces urgent environmental and health challenges. Embracing electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel cells, and biofuels offers potential solutions, but each faces unique hurdles. Sustainable development in this sector requires innovation, infrastructure investment, and a shift towards renewable energy sources.

⌚ 9 min read



A breath of fresh air: Supreme Court's verdict propels climate justice to the forefront in India

The Supreme Court of India has recognised climate change as a violation of fundamental rights, setting a historic precedent. This landmark ruling demands comprehensive legislation, strengthened institutional capacity, and inclusive community engagement to turn judicial recognition into impactful action.

⌚ 5 min read



Ottawan affairs: Custodians of the oil-plastic industrial complex prevail over people and planet

What did the INC-4 towards an international legally binding treaty to end plastic pollution achieve towards real solutions? A inside look at the deliberations from the event.

⌚ 5 min read



Does self-certification for advertisement build transparency and accountability?

The recent self-certification regulation for advertisements might help curb the number of misleading ads. However, it is unlikely that this can be accomplished without empowered and informed consumers.

⌚ 6 min read

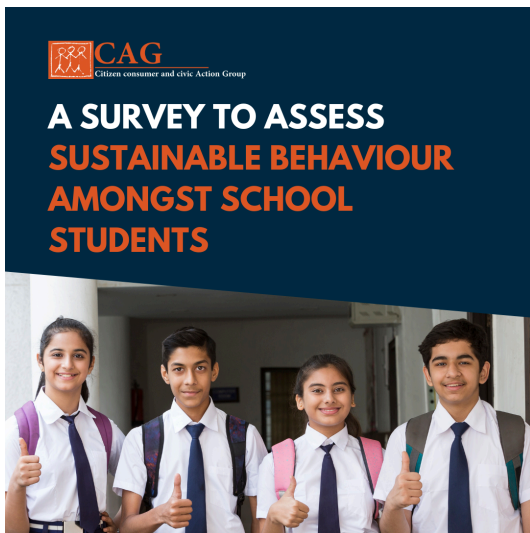


Consumer-centricity: An introduction to access to information within the electricity sector (Part 2)

An introduction to a consumer-centric approach, this article sheds light on the importance of adopting a consumer-centric approach even within the public sector.

⌚ 5 min read

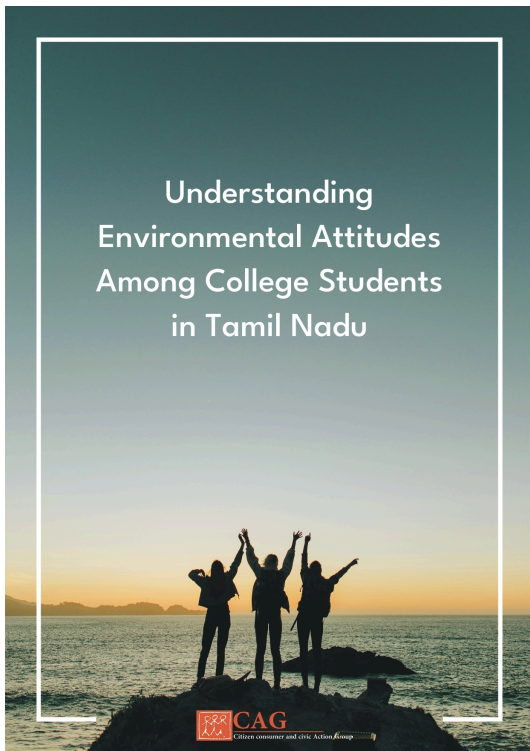
Resources for you



A survey to assess sustainable practices amongst school students

This report analyses sustainable practices among school students in Chennai, through a range of questions on their daily routines. It looks particularly at sustainable mobility, electricity consumption, water usage, and waste disposal, offering valuable insights to drive positive change.

⌚ 15 mins read

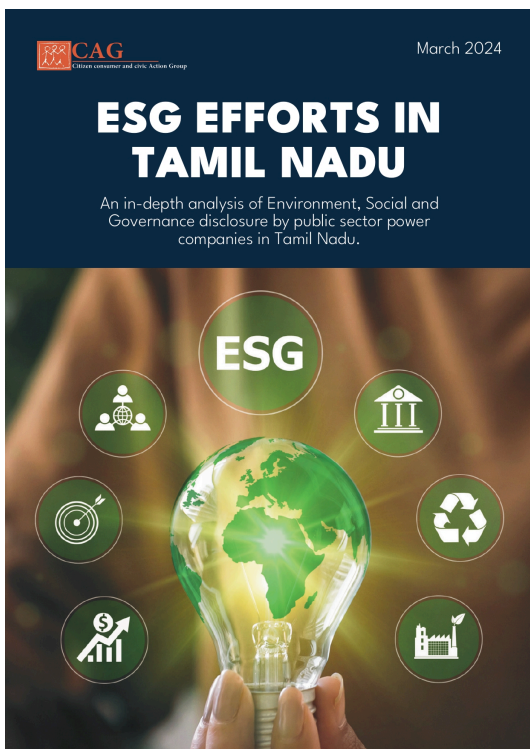


Understanding Environmental Attitudes Among College Students in Tamil Nadu

Understanding environmental attitudes among college students in Tamil Nadu

Delving into the environmental attitudes of college students in Tamil Nadu, our study reveals that students have a fondness for nature, a commitment to conservation, but show neutrality on key issues such as eco centric concern. Additionally, we convened a workshop involving academicians, researchers, environmentalists, and journalists to revisit the existing UGC environmental studies curriculum. The outcome report and model syllabus from this workshop serves as an addendum to the main report.

⌚ 10 mins read



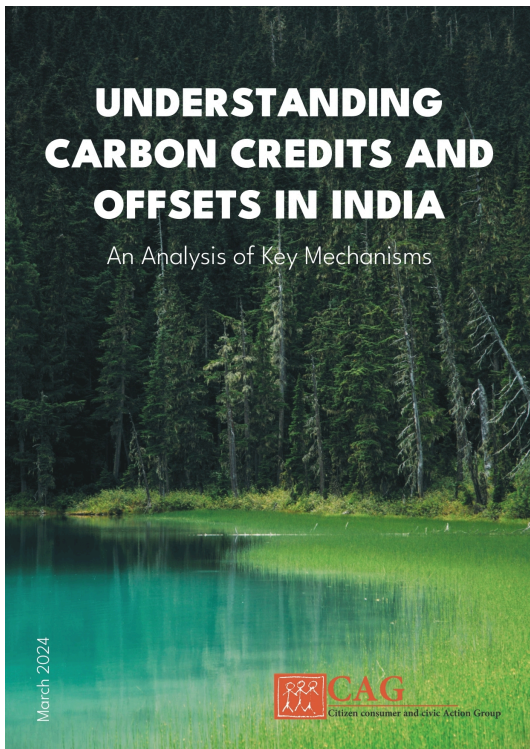
ESG EFFORTS IN TAMIL NADU

An in-depth analysis of Environment, Social and Governance disclosure by public sector power companies in Tamil Nadu.

An in-depth analysis of Environment, Social and Governance disclosure by public sector power companies in Tamil Nadu.

This report analyses the environment, social, and governance disclosure practices within Tamil Nadu's power sector. It meticulously evaluates current practices, identifies gaps, and suggests strategies for improved sustainability. By aligning with industry standards and offering actionable recommendations, it seeks to bolster transparency, accountability, and pave the way for a greener, more sustainable future in the state's energy sector.

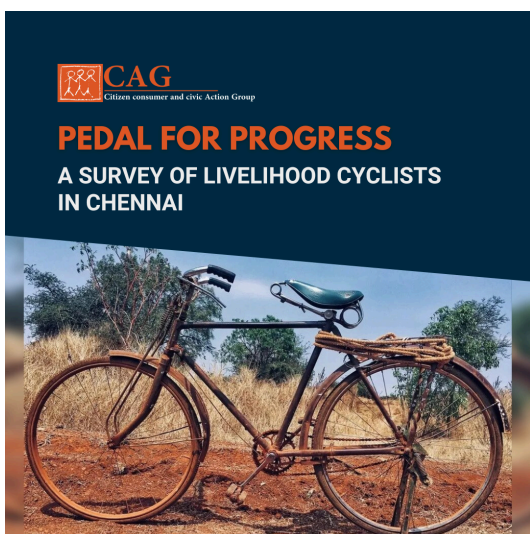
⌚ 20 mins read



Understanding carbon credits and offsets in India: An analysis of key mechanisms

This report analyses various carbon offset methods implemented in India to facilitate effective climate action. The approach involved conducting an in-depth analysis of secondary literature and interviewing field experts. It aims to inform policy making, raise awareness of genuine offset options, emphasize the irreplaceable importance of actual emission reduction, and steer clear of false solutions.

⌚ 15 mins read



Pedal for progress- A survey of livelihood cyclists in Chennai

CAG's survey in Chennai highlights the everyday challenges faced by livelihood cyclists. Cyclists reported a stark lack of safe cycle paths and parking facilities. Better infrastructure and courteous motorists will go a long way to creating safer spaces for our cyclists.

⌚ 15 mins read

[Check out our latest videos](#)



டிஜிட்டல் பரிவர்த்தனைகளுக்கு மாறிப்போன நவீன உலகம் நம்மை பல நேரங்களில் நன்மைகளுக்கும் சில நேரங்களில் சோதனைகளுக்கும் உள்ளாக்குகிறது. இங்கே நமது லக்கி ஸ்டார் எப்படி பக்குவமாக தன்னை ஆபத்தில் இருந்து பாதுகாத்துக்கொண்டாள் என்று பாருங்கள்.



எப்போதாவது ATM ல் பணம் எடுக்கும் பொழுது உங்கள் பணம் வராமல் வெறும் பணம் எடுத்தது போல் செய்தி மட்டும் வந்திருக்கிறதா? பயப்படாதீர்கள் இது உங்களுக்கான காணொளி.



A reminder that digital financial transactions on public computers (like in an internet cafe), or when signed into a public network must be avoided at all times. Important security details can be stolen from you, putting you and your assets at risk



If it's too good to be true, it probably is! Don't fall for messages offering you rewards, prizes or free holidays. These are phishing messages with the intention of stealing from you. Don't be tempted to click on them.



CAG

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group



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