

The Public Newsense

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF CITIZEN CONSUMER AND CIVIC ACTION GROUP

OCT-DEC 2022

Dear friends

It gives me great pleasure to write to you with the final edition of our newsletter for the year 2022. We have had a very busy end of the year, with several events, activities and reports marking our calendar. As part of our work towards safe nutrition, we continue asking for warning labels on the front of processed foods. The recent draft regulations passed by the FSSAI propose star ratings; but we continue putting across the need for warning labels, especially given the soaring rates of non-communicable diseases and death in our country. Towards this, we have organised events with stakeholders and made representations to the government.

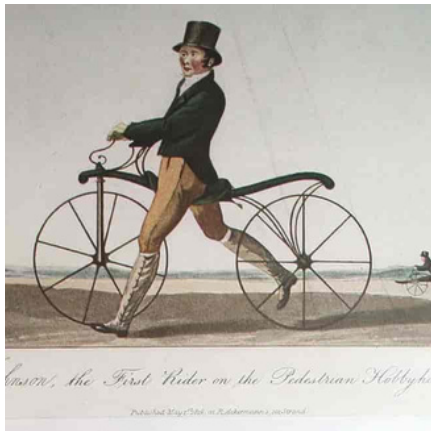
Our work towards safe and sustainable roads has had exceptional outcomes as recently the Tamilnadu government began enforcing the fines recommended by the MVAA 2019. This has been one of our many requests over the years. We commend the State Government for this important move. We continue working with our partners to push for policies that prioritise the needs and safety of vulnerable road users. The World Day of Remembrance for Road Accident Victims (19th November) was marked with events in Thiruvavur, Tirunelveli and Chennai. The event in Chennai was presided over by Thiru Shankar Jiwal, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Chennai.

We continue to work towards sustainability in several ways - we recently added online stores to our Zero Waste Shop Locator, and have created an app for assessing the energy efficiency of a household. The last of our Climate Change 101 videos was released last month - and well received by the public. In January, two important pieces of work that we've been working on will be released - CAG's plastic brand audit report and the Climate Change school curriculum. The pilot project for the curriculum will be deployed in two city schools just after Pongal. We have participated in / closely followed the COP 27 and the Global Plastics Treaty. Both these international events have much relevance to our sustainability targets.

In this edition of the newsletter, we bring to you articles, reports, podcasts and videos, from all areas of our work. We hope you enjoy perusing through this and getting to know us and our work a bit better. If you would like any more information, please feel free to get in touch with us. Also, we have very active social media pages - do follow us to stay up to date on all our activities.

We look forward to the new year with its opportunities and challenges; and we wish you a Happy New Year too!

Regards,
S. Saroja
Executive Director



Rise, Fall, Repeat? The cycle over the ages

In its 150 odd years, the cycle has been through a rollercoaster. In its many avataars (draisine, Penny Farthing, velocipede) it has been at the forefront of invention and public imagination. Yet today, the cycle is neglected, at least as a means of commuting. It is seen as an interloper on the roads it helped build. Will it ever regain its heyday?

🕒 3 minute read



COP27 - A hit or miss?

On 20 November, the 27th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP27), which took place in the Egyptian coastal city of Sharm el-Sheikh came to end. The outcome proved to be a mixed bag.

 3 minute read



Chennai's Third Master Plan - a sustainable revival?

Chennai has taken an unusual yet much needed multidisciplinary approach for devising the city's Third Master Plan. This blog discusses the various possibilities that the development authorities should factor in to translate sharing of ideas by the public into prioritized executable actions.

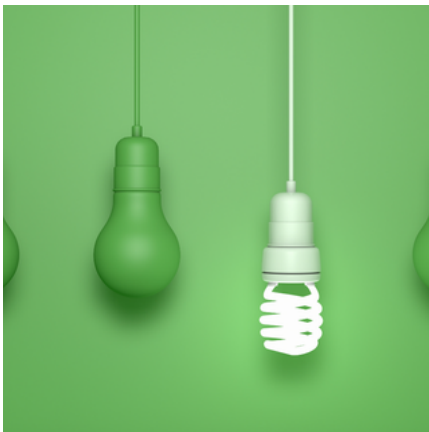
🕒 4 minute read



[Regulating online gambling- a cat and mouse game](#)

A spate of suicides have driven state governments to attempt banning online gaming sites. The Union Government has stepped in with new draft regulations to regulate the sector - but are these sufficiently strong? Or is the industry going to continue playing a cat and mouse game, seeking its own advantage?

🕒 3 minute read



[Energy Standards and Labelling in India](#)

-
This article provides an overview of the Standards & Labelling program implemented in India along with key takeaways for consumers to be energy efficient.

🕒 5 minute read

Resources for you



[Accessing Public Transport Information in Chennai](#)

A study on how commuters in Chennai are accessing public transit information. Accurate, easy to access information on routes, fares, service and frequency of public transport services is key to promoting public transport. How does Chennai fare in this?

🕒 30 minute read

Podcasts



[Spotify](#)

[iTunes](#)

[Google](#)

[CAG Website](#)

Our latest videos



A farming school supervisor is watering with sun and changing the course of agriculture, one solar pump at a time! You can be a changemaker too, switch to solar pumps!



Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG)

All content in this resource, that does not specify a third-party source, is the property of CAG and licensed for use under the CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0

Our address is:

No.103 (First Floor), Eldams Road, Teynampet, Chennai 600 018

Ph: +91-44-2435 4458 / 2435 0387

Email helpdesk@cag.org.in