

National Seminar On Implementation Issues Underlying National Foreign Trade Policy (NFTP)

Background

Several steps have been taken in NFTP, 2004-09, to enhance labour intensive Indian exports in major markets but many Indian producers (especially small producers) are mostly unaware of these issues. Moreover, the policy was adopted without much consultation with the larger affected stakeholder community, nor have systematic social impact analyses been conducted.

Given this background, CUTS has undertaken a three-year project in the period 2007-2010 titled GRANITE, Phase 2 which is being implemented in eight states in partnership with civil society organizations (CSOs) working at the grassroots. The overall goal of this project is to generate inclusiveness in the impacts and formulation of economic policies, especially trade policies. Economic literacy initiatives such as workshops and participatory outreach meetings have been used. A coherent civil society voice on mentioned issues will be the tangible outcome of the project.

The overall goal of this project is to foster equality and accountability in economic governance in India, ensure better economic literacy at the grassroots and generate a more coherent civil society voice on economic governance in India, given the effect of globalisation on livelihood of the poor, marginalized populations and women.

Objective

The consultation will provide a coherent platform

- To review the content and implementation of NFTP, 2004-09 and to thereby generate forward looking recommendations for the implementation of NFTP 2009-14
- To review the processes used to formulate NFTP 2009-14, especially in regard to the extent of stakeholder participation
- To generate new and relevant networks that involve civil society, business and business associations, government officials and inter-governmental organisations.