



**Competition
Commission of Pakistan**
Creating a level playing field

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CC "all other things being equal" P ETERIS PARIBUS

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Fine Imposed on PSO

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**THE GUIDANCE
ON COMPETITION
COMPLIANCE**

Increasing Private Sector Capacity for Competition Compliance

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ACADEMIA DRIVE

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CCP Awarded 3-Star Rating by Global Competition Review

Global Competition Review (GCR) is the world's leading antitrust and competition law journal and news service. GCR publishes independent annual ranking of the world's leading competition authorities thereby providing an extensive evaluation of their performance and how they compare with each other.

In the Rating Enforcement 2016 issued by GCR, CCP was awarded a 3-star rating thus bringing it at par with the competition authorities of Turkey, Portugal, Switzerland, Sweden, Singapore, Poland, New Zealand, Mexico and Austria.

Pakistan and India are the only two South Asian countries to have been included in the Rating Enforcement 2016. While the Competition Commission of India (CCI) was downgraded to a 2-star rating, CCP's ranking was elevated to 3 stars out

of 5 based on its performance during 2015. The factors contributing to this elevation included a balanced approach towards both enforcement and advocacy, a focus on the staff's capacity building, and improvement in internal processes. The GCR commented on the challenges faced by CCP: "There seems to be a consensus that CCP remains a relatively open and transparent body. Ultimately the CCP has improved in some areas, but it remains constrained by systemic pressures." The biggest challenge the CCP faces is in the judicial review process due to which many of its cases are stuck in courts.

The maximum rating of 5-stars was given to Competition Authorities from the developed world including France's Competition Authority, Germany's Federal Cartel

Office, Korea's Fair Trade Commission, US Department of Justice Antitrust Division, and the US Federal Trade Commission.



ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

FOR VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 3, 4 & 10 OF THE COMPETITION ACT, 2010

PKR 150 Million Fine Imposed on Pakistan State Oil (PSO) for Deceptive Marketing Practices

The Commission received a complaint alleging that since 2003/2004, PSO had been deceptively claiming that the use of its products "Premier XL" and "Green Plus" was environment friendly, resulting in more mileage and improved performance of the vehicle's engine due to use of various additives.

An inquiry conducted by the Commission revealed that even though in 2012/2013, PSO had discontinued the use of these additives in its fuel, the names of the products were not changed and the marketing campaign including the associated branding/insignias launched alongside the products in 2003/2004, remained in place.

During hearings, PSO was unable to provide any scientific justification for the 'environment friendly' claims it had made in the first place or explain how it could continue making these claims even after the discontinuation of the use of additives in 2012/2013. PSO's false claims led consumers to believe that the fuel they were purchasing was superior to others

and, therefore, hampered market competition.

The Commission's bench comprising of Chairperson Vadiyya Khalil and Members Dr. Shahzad Ansar and Ikram Ul Haque Qureshi imposed a penalty of PKR 150 million on PSO for running the deceptive marketing campaign for its products, "Premier XL" petrol and "Green Plus" diesel in violation of Section 10 of the Competition Act, 2010.

In addition to imposing a penalty, the Commission also directed PSO to immediately cease the use of 'Green' and 'Premium' in all its branding and marketing materials, and to make appropriate changes within thirty (30) days to dispel the impression that its fuel products were premium and environment friendly.

PSO was further directed to inform the general public regarding discontinuation of the use of additives in its products through appropriate clarifications in all English and Urdu dailies for a period of one (1) week and to file a compliance report with the Registrar of the Commission within a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of issuance of the Order.

Edu Entity Fined for Trademark Violation and Deceptive Marketing

The Commission received a complaint from the CFA Institute, the USA-based global association of investment professionals, against the Lahore-based Society of Accounting Education (SOAE), for misleading the general public by using the Institute's acronym and registered trademark in its promotional material.

An inquiry conducted by the Commission found that the SOAE was indeed using the CFA Institute's acronym and registered trademark in its promotional material and website, using the acronym 'CFA' in various misleading forms such as ACFA, DCFA, and FCFA etc. Moreover, SOAE also claimed in its promotional material that upon completion of their courses, the students would be given CFA Membership.

The Commission passed an order imposing a penalty of PKR 2 million on the Society of Accounting Education for deceptively showing its affiliation with the world-renowned CFA Institute in violation of Section 10 of the Competition Act.

In addition to imposing a penalty, SOAE was also directed to immediately stop using the CFA acronym, in all its forms, in its marketing and other materials, and to amend its Memorandum and Articles of Association to remove any references to the CFA acronym.



Auto Companies file Commitments to Comply with Competition Act

The Commission received a complaint from Atlas Honda Pakistan Limited against three companies, Shafique & Sons, Pak Hero Industries and United Motors Company, for fraudulently using its distinctive trademark 'Wing Device'. According to the complainant, the registered logo/trademark was an identity of Honda motorcycles and its fraudulent use by other companies was misleading customers and could harm the business interests of Atlas Honda Ltd.

After conducting an inquiry into the matter, a bench of the Commission comprising of Vadiyya Khalil, Chairperson, Dr. Shahzad Ansar, Member Office of Fair Trade & Advocacy, and Ikram Ul Haque Qureshi, Member Cartels & Trade Abuses and Legal, passed the Order.

The bench accepted the commitments of Shafique & Sons and Pak Hero Industries on the condition that their respective brand names 'JINAN' and 'PAK HERO' would accompany their

logos on all their products and promotional materials to avoid the likelihood of deception in future. The third company, United Motors Company, was recommended to use its brand names 'SHINE STAR' and 'UNITED SEVEN STAR' along with its logo on all its products and promotional materials.

After accepting the commitments filed by the companies to comply with the provisions of the Competition Act, the Commission passed an Order and disposed of the Show Cause Notices issued to Shafique & Sons, Pak Hero Industries and United Motors Company.

The Commission is striving to encourage and promote voluntary compliance of the Competition Law. Such a compliant competition culture will not only save consumers and businesses from financial losses, but it would also help to develop the national economy.

Show Cause Notice Issued to JCR-VIS for Predatory Pricing

The Commission received a complaint from the Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited (PACRA) alleging that JCR-VIS's submission of a token bid of PKR 1,100 for a rating assignment of Sukuk issue of PKR 100 billion by Neelum Jhelum Hydro power Company (Private) Limited (NJHPC) for ten years was predatory in nature and was meant to drive PACRA out of the market.

An inquiry conducted by the Commission found that JCR-VIS was dominant in the market for credit rating services in Pakistan and the submission of a token bid of PKR 1,100 was insufficient to cover JCR's costs. Therefore, it was determined that JCR had, prima facie, abused its dominant position by engaging in predatory pricing in violation of Section 3 of the Competition Act.

The Commission issued a Show Cause Notice to JCR-VIS Credit Rating Company for, prima facie, predatory pricing.

Predatory pricing is a concept in which the dominant market player prices goods and services below cost for a short run to drive its competitor out of the market so to reap profits in the long run.

Show Cause Notice Issued to Pharma Bureau for Collusive Activities

Pharma Bureau is the association of Multinational Pharmaceutical Companies (MPCs) and is part of the Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Taking a suo motu notice of the price increase of medicines, the Commission conducted an inquiry against the Pharma Bureau and its members for, prima facie, unreasonably increasing the prices of various medicines through collusive practices.

Formal and informal price-fixing agreements, understandings and decisions, along with exchange of commercially sensitive information by any means result in restriction of competition and ultimate harm to consumers. Section 4 of the Act, inter alia, prohibits trade associations from taking decisions on commercial matters of its members such as pricing, production, and sales etc.

As part of the inquiry, the Commission also conducted search and inspection of the Pharma Bureau offices during which the Bureau fully cooperated with the Commission's inspection team and handed over the relevant record for examination.

An inquiry report concluded that the Pharma Bureau and its members were apparently sharing strategic and commercially sensitive information regarding cost, profits, demand, and the industry as a whole. This information was used to prepare recommendations, agreements and take decisions of price hikes by the companies through the platform provided by the Pharma Bureau. This practice of competitors sharing information amongst themselves constitutes, prima facie, violation of Section 4 of the Competition Act. On recommendations of the inquiry report, the Commission issued Show Cause Notices to Pharma Bureau.

REAL ESTATE SECTOR

Show Cause Notice Issued to Green Field Developers

The Commission issued Show Cause Notice to a real estate company, Green Field Developers (Pvt.) Ltd for alleged, deceptive marketing practices in one of its residential housing schemes, near Islamabad, by the name of 'Green City'.

An inquiry conducted by the Commission under Section 37(1) of the Competition Act, found that Green Field Developers launched 'Green City' in Fateh Jang after obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Tehsil Municipal Administration (TMA). However, the company claimed in its marketing campaign, through the website, brochures and advertisements that the housing scheme 'Green City' was located in Islamabad. The company also claimed affiliations with various government departments and bodies through the display of logos on its website and brochures.

The Commission's inquiry established that the company failed to substantiate its claims regarding the location of the housing scheme, 'Green City', and thus, prima facie, resorted to deceptive marketing practices in violation of Section 10 2(a)(b) of the Competition Act.

Show Cause Notice was issued under Section 30 of the Competition Act and the company was directed to respond within fourteen days.

“By running a deceptive marketing campaign, the company not only deceived the consumers but was also capable of harming the business interests of its competitors in Fateh Jhang as well as in Islamabad.”

Show Cause Notice Issued to Shainal Foods for Deceptive Marketing

National Foods lodged a complaint with the Commission against Shainal Al-Syed Foods for, allegedly copying its trademark and logo in packing, marketing, supply and sale of various food products. The company also informed that the color scheme and design of the packaging of 'Shainal Foods' products was similar to the packaging of 'National Foods' products thereby intentionally misleading consumers.

An inquiry conducted by the Commission concluded that, prima facie, Shainal Foods resorted to the fraudulent use of logo, packaging, color scheme, and design of National Food's products, thus potentially harming the National Foods as well as misleading the consumers.

The Commission issued a Show Cause Notice to Shainal Foods for imitating the branding of National Foods Limited in violation of Section 10 of the Competition Act.

The Commission directed Shainal Foods to reply in writing to the Show Cause Notice within 14 days.



'Abuse of Dominance' Show Cause Notice Issued to Bahria Town

Section 3 of the Competition Act prohibits its businesses with market power (dominant position) from abusing it to, inter alia, exclude competitors, conduct business on unfair terms, discriminate amongst different trading partners, and refusing to deal.

The Commission conducted an inquiry after receiving an email from a resident of Bahria Town Rawalpindi alleging that the Bahria Town management had restricted consumer choice and competition in the market for cable, internet and telephony (CIT) services by not allowing Nayatel to provide CIT services and only allowing PTCL to operate in Phase 1 – 6 of Bahria Town, Rawalpindi.

The inquiry report found that Bahria Town had a dominant position in the relevant market for grant of right of way for provision of CIT services in Phase 1-6 of Bahria Town, Rawalpindi

and that it had, prima facie, abused this dominance by not granting right of way to Nayatel. This refusal was discriminatory and resulted in loss of any choice for consumers and restriction of market competition.

The Commission issued a Show Cause Notice to Bahria Town (Private) Limited for, prima facie, violation of Section 3 of the Competition Act by abusing its dominant position and not allowing Nayatel to provide CIT services in Phase 1-6 of Bahria Town, Rawalpindi.

In terms of the Show Cause Notice, Bahria Town was provided an opportunity of hearing before the bench of the Commission.

The CCP continues to work towards promoting a healthy competition in all spheres of commercial and economic activity and to protect consumers from anti-competitive behavior.

GRANTING APPROVALS TO

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Under Section 11, the undertakings intending to acquire the shares or assets of another undertaking, or two or more undertakings intending to merge and meet the pre-merger notification thresholds stipulated in the Merger Regulations, have to apply for clearance from the Commission. The Mergers & Acquisitions Department of the Commission processes the pre-merger application in light of the law and approval is granted in the form of an Order issued within thirty days after receiving a complete pre-merger application. In case of the Phase-II review, the pre-merger application is processed and an Order is issued by the Commission within ninety days.

Online Pre-Merger Application Filing System Launched

In order to promote a paperless environment and to facilitate stakeholders to file electronic pre-merger applications, the Commission launched an Online Merger Filing System. Through this system, there is now an option for undertakings to file a complete pre-merger application online, thus reducing the need for submitting piles of papers when applying for approval for mergers.

The system allows all undertakings to submit the required documents electronically using a pre-defined format through an online

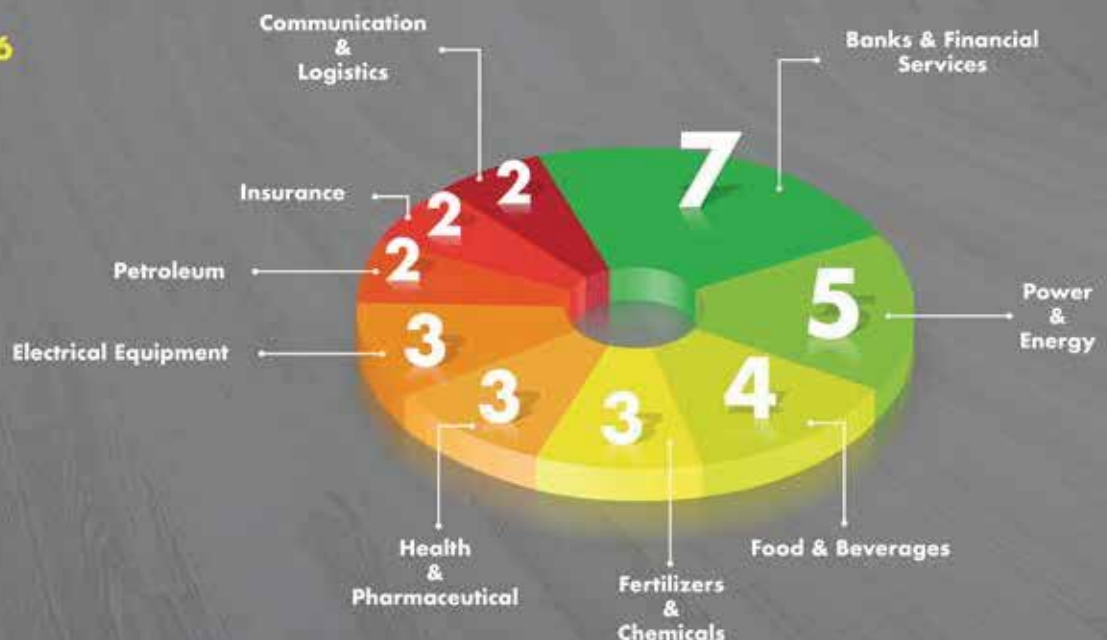
software application provided by the Commission. The safety of the documentation has been ensured by using secure certificates to keep communication between the Commission and the concerned undertaking confidential.

This online merger filing system not only aids to expedite the application process, but the undertakings can also easily trace the status of their applications online. The pre-merger applications can be submitted online at www.cc.gov.pk.

During July - December, 2016

Commission approved

31
Mergers



Policy Note Issued to Govt to Review Telecom Policy 2015

The Commission took notice of Clause 5.1 of the Telecom Policy, 2015 formulated and issued by the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecom (MoIT), which provides for the making of Competition Rules exclusively for regulation of ex-post competition issues in the telecommunication sector by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA). The draft Rules would provide for a process for remedying the anti-competitive behaviors (both ex-ante and ex-post) in the telecom industry.

The Commission issued a Policy Note to the Government of Pakistan recommending it to review the Telecom Policy, 2015 in terms of the Competition Rules for the Telecom Sector.

The Competition Act being an Act of Parliament takes precedence over the Rules being framed by MoIT. Hence the Competition Act shall prevail in the event of any conflict or overlap between the Commission's mandate and that of any other regulatory or public body in Pakistan to the extent of matters covered under the Competition Act.

The Commission noted that empowering PTA to regulate competition related matters in the telecom sector would not only create redundant duplication of jurisdictions but also engender legal uncertainty for telecom operators and consumers as well as waste of state resources.

The Policy Note concluded that the development of the Rules by the MoIT would result in the negation of the exclusive mandate, enforcement powers and purpose on which the whole edifice of the competition regime was built by the Parliament through the Competition Act and establishment of the Commission.

The Policy Note also emphasized the need for collaboration between CCP and PTA to avoid any actual or potential conflicts in the future and to ensure a healthy competition culture and a higher growth rate in the telecom sector and related markets in Pakistan.

POLICY NOTES

UNDER § 29

Reviewing policy frameworks and offering suitable recommendations for fostering competition

Policy Note Issued to CAA for Setting Up of Single Flight Kitchen at New Islamabad International Airport

The Commission received concerns regarding a decision of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to establish only one flight kitchen at the new Islamabad International Airport, consequently limiting the choices available to domestic and international airlines when procuring in-flight catering services. On 22 September 2016, the Commission held an Open Hearing to solicit the views of CAA, domestic and international airlines, and catering companies about the issue.

Subsequently, the Commission issued an opinion to CAA noting that the establishment of a single flight kitchen would raise certain competition concerns. The Commission gave the following recommendations:

i. The entry barriers created as a result of the single flight kitchen must be balanced by technical or economic progress, a fair share of which is passed on to end consumers. However, it recommended that if an adverse impact on competition is outweighed by any resulting benefits, then any party winning the contract of the single flight kitchen at the new Islamabad Airport must seek exemption from the Commission under Section 9 of the Competition Act on a pre-emptive basis for the exclusivity.

ii. CAA must ensure that the single flight kitchen would never at any point abuse its monopoly position. In this regard, it was noted that as a commercial partner in the single flight kitchen, CAA may face a conflict of interest in terms of regulating the same. The Commission therefore, recommended that CAA must consider other business models so that its commercial interests did not conflict with its regulatory role.

iii. If CAA chooses to adopt an airport fee or royalty-based business model, the tariffs must not be so high that they discourage airlines from ordering meals from the new Islamabad International Airport.

iv. At no point should any of the airlines be barred by CAA to order meals from any feasible off-premises options available to them.

The Commission's recommendations were aimed to serve as guidelines for CAA and the successful bidder to run the single flight kitchen at the new Islamabad International Airport, so as to save consumers from any anti-competitive effects of the decision.



TAPPING THE AVENUES: § 28

RESEARCH

Under Section 28 of the Competition Act, the Commission undertakes research initiatives and carries out competition impact assessment studies to understand competition issues in economic sectors that may have implications for consumers.

Study on ‘Meat’ Sector Released for Public Comments

The Commission released a study on the meat sector in Pakistan for public comments, covering issues such as price monitoring and quality of meat and exploring the sector’s growth potential.

Meat production in Pakistan is mostly an unregulated informal activity. The meat industry is marred with many challenges including the low yield per animal, poor animal feed, lack of awareness among livestock breeders regarding breeds and veterinary care, and disease control. Also, poor slaughtering methods and lack of accessibility to Animal Mandis (markets) leads to low quality meat products and excessive pricing.

The Commission identified ineffective price and quality monitoring at the district level resulting in price surge and low quality of meat that affected both urban and rural consumers. Smuggling of animals to neighboring Afghanistan is also an issue that affects availability at affordable price to domes-

tic consumers.

The report said that establishing new slaughterhouses and improving facilities at the existing ones was necessary to ensure quality safeguards. Moreover, increasing the accessibility of farmers to the Animal Mandis was essential for providing quality meat to consumers at rea-

“Another market identified by the Commission is the growing international demand for Halal meat and meat products. The demand for Halal meat has been growing globally. Pakistan produces 100 percent Halal meat and export of halal meat and meat products can be a significant source of foreign exchange earnings.”

sonable prices. The Commission, therefore, recommended a public-private partnership to run government slaughterhouses for efficiency and quality and increase in the number of animal mandis to ensure greater access to farmers.

The Commission further recommended that price setting, which took place every six to twelve months, needed to be regulated during the interim

periods and meat prices should be based on both the quality of the meat and its grading.

The Commission also acknowledged efforts carried out, especially by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, to under-

take certain regulatory measures for encouraging the livestock sector and establishing a value added meat market in the country.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



The Chairperson, Vadiyya Khalil moderating a roundtable on 'Ways and Means to Strengthen Competition Law Enforcement and Advocacy' during the UNCTAD 7th Review Conference on 'UN SET of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and the Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices' in Geneva, Switzerland from 6-10 July, 2015.

CCP's Contribution for 15th OECD Global Forum on Competition, Paris

The 15th OECD Global Forum on Competition took place in Paris on 1-2 December, 2016. High-level competition officials from more than 100 delegations worldwide came together to discuss emerging issues in antitrust/ competition law and policy.

Mr. Ikram Ul Haque Qureshi (Member Legal, Cartels & Trade Abuses) represented the Commission at the Forum. Discussions were held on the following issues:

- Promoting Competition and Protecting Human Rights;
- The Role of Market Studies as a Tool to Promote Competition;
- Independence of Competition Authorities from Design to Practices; and
- Sanctions in Antitrust Cases

Mr. Qureshi highlighted the mandate of Commission to conduct market/sector studies in public and private sectors. He also contributed on the subject of Sanctions in Antitrust Cases in Pakistan. With regard to market studies, he explained that the studies were conducted to discover if the market is working well for consumers and where it appeared unlikely, the Commission endeavoured to identify solutions to restore competition through policy reviews, advocacy, and enforcement. In case of suspicion of violation of the Competition Act, the Commission could initiate an inquiry to probe into the likelihood of anti-competitive practices including the abuse of dominance and cartelization.

Mr. Qureshi's contribution on Sanctions in Antitrust Cases highlighted the Commission's function and its enforcement priorities. The paper also explained the substantive and procedural tools, which the Commission applies to determine

Paving the Way for Consumer Protection Culture

The Commission participated in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD's) Intergovernmental Group of Experts meeting in Geneva, Switzerland in October 2016. This was also the first IGE on consumer protection and the Commission contributed a written submission on 'Capacity building in consumer protection: trends and challenges'.

The document examined the different legal frameworks in the four provinces and CCP's role in ensuring consumer protection and welfare. Consumer protection continues to attract much attention but the legal framework has not been developed to address changes in interaction between consumers and sellers. Coupled with a lack of general awareness of consumer rights, this has resulted in an inadequate consumer protection regime in the country.

Legislative measures introduced by the federal and provincial governments require Pakistan to set up consumer protection councils as a cornerstone of the protection regime. The council, among other things, must create awareness about consumers' rights and responsibilities and minimising the marketing of faulty products and substandard services. After this, Consumer Courts must be formed to redress consumer complaints. These tend to work parallel to ordinary courts. Only Punjab has made considerable

progress in this, setting up eleven consumer protection councils and consumer courts in eleven districts, both functioning under a provincial consumer protection council and the Lahore High Court.

The Competition Act, 2010 ensures consumer protection by prohibiting deceptive marketing practices, which not only include distribution of false and misleading information but also a false or misleading comparison of goods during advertising. Moreover, the fraudulent use of another's registered trademark, firm name, product labelling or packaging are also addressed in Section 10 of the Competition Act dealing with Deceptive Marketing Practices. With e-commerce on the increase, there is a need to redefine National policies while keeping in view the changing dynamics of consumers in both real and virtual transactions. The policies should be framed keeping in mind the consumer's economic interest, allowing the transparent disclosure of material information. Consumer protection bodies must be empowered to initiate independent probes into defective or sub-standard products or services and provide speedy resolution of complaints.

finer and pass administrative directions under the Competition Act. While determining the amount of fines, the Commission takes into account the enormity of the contravention, its context, and its dissuasive effect. Based on the principle of proportionality, the objectives pursued by the Commission while imposing fines include,

inter alia, deterring the wrongdoer and other market participants from indulging in anti competitive practices and reflecting the seriousness of harm to competitive process and consumers. In addition to fines, the Commission may grant leniency to cartel informants.

ADVOCACY

AN OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST
IN FUTURE : § 29



CCP Officials participate in Radio Programme

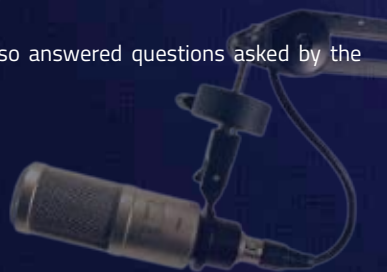


Since inception, media has remained supportive to the Commission in spreading awareness of the law and educating the stakeholders. From time to time the Commission's officials interact with the media to reach out to stakeholders and the general public.

In this regard, two senior officers of the Commission participated in a live current affairs show of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC) 'Rabta' aired on 23rd November, 2016.

Ms. Shaista Bano, Director General Cartels and Trade Abuses and Mr. Asfandyar Khattak, Director Advocacy and Media explained the main provisions of the competition law and discussed at length measures taken by the Commission for enforcing and advocating the law.

They also answered questions asked by the live callers.



'The Guidance on Competition Compliance' launched on 'World Competition Day'

The Commission launched, 'The Guidance on Competition Compliance,' an easy-to-understand guide on the Competition Act to promote voluntary compliance of the law, on the occasion of 'World Competition Day' i.e 5th December, 2016.

The Guidance provides an operative and meaningful voluntary competition compliance programme for assisting businesses and other stakeholders to promote a culture of compliance and minimize their risk of involvement in competition law infringements and costs resulting from anti-competitive behavior.

Part-A of the Guidance explains key concepts of competition and substantive provisions of the Competition Act with illustrations and easy examples. This would help stakeholders to fully understand the prohibitions under the competition law.

Part-B of the Guidance deals with setting up and managing a competition compliance program explaining various stages of its execution and evaluation.

The last section comprises of annexures relating to a checklist of do's and don'ts of the competition law, a summary of the sections of Competition Act rele-

vant to stakeholders, and the procedure to file a complaint with the Commission.

In the first phase of implementation of the 'Guidance on Competition Compliance,' the Commission would provide training to the focal persons nominated by undertakings who would implement compliance programme in their business practices. In the second phase, training would be provided to representatives of government organizations, regulatory bodies, state-owned enterprises and other stakeholders.

BEGINS WITH
SINGLE STEP



Series of Guidelines on Competition Law Launched

The Commission initiated a comprehensive plan to revamp its existing guidelines on substantive and procedural aspects of the competition law in Pakistan and its working. During the process, the Commission will also add new guidelines particularly ones regarding the interpretation and application of provisions relating to prohibition of anti-competitive behavior.

In this regard, the Commission published the 'Guidelines on Section 3: Abuse of Dominance.' In the guidelines, commentary on various aspects of abuse of dominance is

supplemented with easy-to-understand examples and illustrations. It is expected that the guidelines will greatly help stakeholders in understanding and complying with the law. While these guidelines have currently been published in English and Urdu, the translation into regional languages is underway and will be completed soon. The guidelines can be accessed via the website www.cc.gov.pk.

They are the first in a series of similar publications that will follow soon.



COMPETITION ADVOCACY ACADEMIA DRIVE

In continuation of its advocacy programme and after the successful completion of the 'National Road Show on Competition Law' for the business community in January 2016, the Commission launched the 'Competition Advocacy Academia Drive'. The primary aim of the Academia Drive is to create awareness of the Competition Law among students and faculty members of universities and to introduce a 16-week Module on "Economics and Competition Law" developed by

the Commission in Collaboration with the King's College London.

As part of the Academia Drive, seminars are being held in around 33 leading universities of the four provinces of Pakistan. In the first leg seminars were held in 6 out of 11 universities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi, while in the second leg, seminars will be held in the leading universities of four provinces.

Comsats Institute of Information Technology, Islamabad



21ST Nov, 2016

Seminar at Comsats

The COMSATS Institute of Science and Technology hosted the first seminar of Academia Drive, which was attended by the faculty members and students of management sciences, economics and law in large number. The participants were briefed on various aspects of the competition law and policy.

Afia Kamran, senior member of the Faculty of Law welcomed the guests while Dr. Muhammad Tahir, Head of Department Management Sciences COMSATS in his speech appreciated the Commission's advocacy efforts to create awareness of the law. He said that Pakistani universities should benefit from the competition law that has emerged as an important discipline world-wide. The Commission's officers gave presentations explaining various aspects of the Competition Law.

Seminar at Riphah

27TH Nov, 2016

The seminar at Riphah International University, Rawalpindi, was attended by the faculty members and post graduate, MPhil and PhD students of law, economics and management sciences. Professor Amanullah Khan, Dean Faculty of Management Sciences of Riphah University announced that the University would adopt the Module on Economics and Competition Law developed by CCP in collaboration with King's College London. "We appreciate this initiative of CCP and we hope that the Module will be a useful addition to the syllabus of our university," Khan said.

CCP Member Dr. Shahzad Ansar welcomed the proposal of Riphah University to hold more such interactive sessions for the awareness of students and thanked Professor Amanullah Khan for announcing the adoption of the module.

Riphah International Univeristy, Rawalpindi



29TH Nov, 2016

Seminar at SZABIST

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST), Islamabad Campus hosted a well-attended seminar. The Head of the Campus, Mr. Khusro Pervaiz Khan, warmly welcomed the CCP team while Head of the Department and Programme Manager (Management Sciences) Dr. Muhammad Asif Khan in his welcome remarks appreciated the Commission's initiative

for creating much needed awareness of competition law to bridge the gap between the policy makers and academia.

After the presentations made by the Commission's officers, an interactive session took place.

SZABIST Islamabad



7TH Dec, 2016

Seminar at Iqra

The seminar at Iqra University Islamabad was participated by faculty members and students in large number.

Dr. Muhammad Islam Dean and Director, Iqra University, in his address urged a collaboration between academia and government organizations including regulatory bodies to strengthen the capacity of the later in dealing with issues of public importance. He said Iqra University was willing to work with CCP in creating awareness of the law and in the area of research. Dr. Sadaf Kashif, Head of Department Management Sciences, welcomed the Commission's initiative of academia awareness drive.

The students and faculty members took active part in the interactive session, which was followed by a detailed meeting between CCP officials and Iqra University's faculty members to discuss the prospects of future collaboration for creating awareness and adoption of CCP's Module in the universitie's syllabus.

19TH Dec, 2016

Seminar at NUST

The seminar at National University of Science & Technology Islamabad (NUST) was attended by senior faculty members including Dr. Ashfaq Hassan Khan, Principal and Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Dr. Verda Salman, and a large number of students.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Ashfaq Hassan Khan said that the role of regulatory bodies like CCP was extremely important in the era of economic liberalisation and deregulation where consumer protection was a priority area for the government. Anti-competitive behavior such as cartelisation and abuse of dominance could inflict huge losses to the economy and that is where the CCP stepped in to check such activities. He lauded CCP's role in creating awareness of the competition law and taking steps to promote its voluntary compliance, extending his full support to CCP in this regard.

The students and faculty members took active part in the interactive session.

Seminar at International Islamic University

14TH Dec, 2016

The International Islamic University Islamabad hosted a seminar on its male campus, which was attended by senior faculty members including Professor Dr. Eatzaz Ahmad, Director International Institute of Islamic Economics, Dr. Arshad Ali Bhatti, Head School of Economics and students of economics and management sciences from male and female campus.

Dr. Eatzaz in his address said that the presentations on competition law given at the seminar were relevant to the courses being taught at the university and both faculty members and students would benefit from the information shared by the Commission. He appreciated the Commission for creating awareness of the law and extended his university's support for future collaboration in the areas of research and awareness creation.

Dr. Arshad Ali Bhatti while highlighting the role of International Institute of Islamic Economics said that it was established in August 1983 as a pioneering institution in the Muslim World.

Quaid e Azam University

21ST Dec, 2016

The interactive seminar with the faculty members and students of Quaid e Azam University, Islamabad was held at the Commission's Conference Hall. The seminar was attended by the students in large number. The QAU's faculty was represented by Dr. Muhammad Mazhar Iqbal, Associate Professor, and Dr. Ghulam Fatima Sharif, Assistant Professor, School of Economics.

Ms. Maryam Zafar briefed the participants about the concept of competition in the market and the gradual transition from Monopoly Control Authority (MCA) to Competition Commission of Pakistan. Syed Umair Javed explained the basic statutes of the Law, while deceptive marketing practices were explained by Dr. Shahzad Ansar.

Students actively participated in the seminar and asked several questions which were answered by CCP's resource persons.

Iqra University, Islamabad



International Islamic University, Islamabad



National University of Science & Technology, Islamabad



Quaid e Azam University, Islamabad



CCP upgraded to 3-star rating by GCR

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has recently been awarded a 3-star rating in the annual rankings of the top antitrust/competition authorities by the Global Review (GCR). The annual ranking, Rating Enforcement evaluates world's leading antitrust authorities, providing an extensive evaluation of their performances as well as their interaction with each other. Based on its overall performance during the previous year, CCP's ranking has been raised to three stars out of a total of five. The Commission's three-star rating has brought it on par with other competition authorities, including ones from Turkey, Portugal, Switzerland, Singapore, Poland, New Zealand, Mexico and even Austria.

CCP launches 'Competition Advocacy Academia Drive'

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has launched a 'Competition Advocacy Academia Drive' to enhance the awareness of the competition law among the students and faculty members of the universities. The drive includes a series of seminars and workshops across 33 leading universities of Pakistan where CCP teams will hold interactive sessions with the faculty members and students of the departments of economics, management and law. CCP will also feature its 'Competition Law' in its curriculum. The drive is a part of the CCP's ongoing efforts to promote competition law and its role in the economy. The CCP is mandated to promote competition law and its role in the economy.

CCP Issues Show Cause Notice to Bahria Town for Abuse of Dominance

ISLAMABAD (NNI): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to Bahria Town for abuse of dominance. The notice is related to the services provided by Bahria Town in the Bahria Town area. The CCP is concerned that Bahria Town is abusing its dominant position in the market to restrict competition and harm the interests of consumers.

CCP imposes Rs2 million fine on deceptive marketing

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has imposed a fine of Rs2 million on a company for deceptive marketing practices. The company was found to be using misleading information to attract customers and gain an unfair advantage in the market. The CCP is committed to ensuring fair competition and protecting consumers from deceptive practices.

CCP launches guidance on competition compliance

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has launched a guidance document to help businesses understand and comply with competition law. The guidance covers various aspects of competition law, including anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominance, and mergers and acquisitions. The CCP aims to make the competition law more accessible and understandable for businesses, thereby promoting a fair and competitive market environment.

Show cause notice issued to 18 electric cable firms

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to 18 electric cable firms for alleged collusive practices. The firms are accused of conspiring to fix prices and restrict competition in the electric cable market. The CCP is taking action to ensure fair competition and protect the interests of consumers.

CCP to look into new airport's single flight kitchen

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is looking into the decision of the Aviation Authority of Pakistan (AAP) to establish a single flight kitchen for the new Islamabad International Airport. The CCP is concerned that this decision may restrict competition and harm the interests of airlines and passengers. The CCP will conduct an investigation to determine if this decision is anti-competitive.

ISLAMABAD (NNI): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to JCR for alleged predatory pricing. The notice is related to the pricing of goods and services by JCR, which is accused of using predatory pricing to eliminate its competitors and dominate the market. The CCP is taking action to ensure fair competition and protect consumers from predatory pricing.

CCP issues show-cause notice to JCR-VIS

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to JCR-VIS for alleged predatory pricing. The notice is related to the pricing of goods and services by JCR-VIS, which is accused of using predatory pricing to eliminate its competitors and dominate the market. The CCP is taking action to ensure fair competition and protect consumers from predatory pricing.

Pharma Bureau issued show-cause notice for collusion

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to the Pharma Bureau for alleged collusive practices. The Pharma Bureau is accused of conspiring to fix prices and restrict competition in the pharmaceutical market. The CCP is taking action to ensure fair competition and protect the interests of consumers.

CCP issues show cause notice to Green Field Developers

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to Green Field Developers for alleged collusive practices. The developers are accused of conspiring to fix prices and restrict competition in the real estate market. The CCP is taking action to ensure fair competition and protect the interests of consumers.

CCP imposes Rs 150m fine on PSO for deceptive marketing

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has imposed a fine of Rs 150 million on the Pakistan State Oil (PSO) for deceptive marketing practices. The PSO was found to be using misleading information to attract customers and gain an unfair advantage in the market. The CCP is committed to ensuring fair competition and protecting consumers from deceptive practices.



CCP accepts commitments of companies to comply with competition act

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has accepted the commitments of several companies to comply with the Competition Act, 2010. The companies have agreed to take specific measures to ensure fair competition and protect the interests of consumers. The CCP is pleased with the companies' commitment to fair competition.

CCP issues policy note for govt to review telecom policy

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a policy note to the government regarding the review of telecom policy. The policy note outlines the CCP's views on the current telecom policy and suggests measures to promote fair competition and protect the interests of consumers. The CCP is committed to ensuring a fair and competitive telecom market.

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a show cause notice to a company for alleged collusive practices. The company is accused of conspiring to fix prices and restrict competition in the market. The CCP is taking action to ensure fair competition and protect the interests of consumers.

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