

News Coverage for Website

Daily Media Brief

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CCP News

Business Recorder

CCP grants six exemptions to pharma sector

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has granted six exemptions to undertakings in the pharmaceutical sector for the fiscal year 2024–25, under Section 5 of the Competition Act, 2010, read a press statement on Thursday.

These exemptions relate to specific restrictive clauses in commercial agreements—such as territorial exclusivity and non-compete provisions—that would ordinarily be considered anti-competitive under Section 4 (Prohibited Agreements) of the Act, CCP said.

However, after conducting rigorous due diligence, including a detailed assessment of market structures, sector-specific regulations, and the commercial terms of the agreements, CCP determined that the arrangements in question contribute to production efficiency, technological advancement, and enhanced consumer access to critical pharmaceutical products.

The commission noted that these exemptions are expected to improve service delivery, increase the availability of medicines in underserved regions, and lead to better public health outcomes.

“Consumers stand to benefit from access to advanced pharmaceutical technologies, more reliable product information, and higher standards of service,” it said.

The commission informed that each exemption was granted for a specific duration and is subject to conditions that ensure the pro-competitive benefits clearly outweigh any potential adverse effects on competition.

“Importantly, the undertakings are required to avoid any form of price-fixing or collusive conduct, and pricing arrangements remain outside the scope of these exemptions,” the commission stated.

On Wednesday, the federal government, in an effort to boost pharmaceutical exports, announced the establishment of an empowered Pharma Export Promotion Council, PharmEx Pakistan, under the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan.

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40366450>

Daily Times

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The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has granted exemptions to boost innovation access in Pharmaceutical sector for maintaining market fairness.Travel guides

In line with its mandate to promote fair competition and protect consumer welfare, the CCP has granted six exemptions to undertakings in the pharmaceutical sector for the fiscal year 2024–25, under Section 5 of the Competition Act, 2010,said a press release issued here on Thursday.

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The pharmaceutical sector remains a priority area for the CCP's exemption regime, with the Commission maintaining close coordination with relevant health regulators to ensure that such decisions serve the broader public interest.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1311610/ccp-grants-six-exemptions-to-pharma-sector/>

The Nation

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<https://www.nation.com.pk/06-Jun-2025/ccp-grants-6-exemptions-to-undertakings-in-pharma-sector>

Profit by Pakistan Today

CCP grants conditional exemptions to six pharma firms for FY25

ISLAMABAD — The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has granted six conditional exemptions to companies operating in the pharmaceutical sector for the fiscal year 2024–25, the commission said in a statement released Thursday. These exemptions were issued under Section 5 of the Competition Act, 2010, and apply to specific contractual clauses that would ordinarily violate Section 4 of the Act, which prohibits anti-competitive agreements.

The exemptions primarily pertain to restrictive commercial terms such as territorial exclusivity and non-compete provisions, which are often flagged as limiting competition. However, after conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the agreements—including market structure, regulatory frameworks, and commercial implications—the CCP concluded that the arrangements contribute positively to production efficiency, technological innovation, and broader access to critical medicines.

“These exemptions are expected to enhance healthcare delivery by expanding pharmaceutical availability in underserved areas and improving public health outcomes,” the CCP noted, adding that the arrangements will also allow consumers to benefit from improved pharmaceutical technologies and more consistent product information.

While allowing these clauses, the CCP imposed specific conditions to ensure that the net impact remains pro-competitive. “All approvals are time-bound and closely monitored. Any form of price-fixing or collusion remains strictly outside the scope of the exemptions,” the commission stated.

The development comes a day after the federal government announced the formation of PharmEx Pakistan, a dedicated Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council under the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), as part of broader efforts to boost pharmaceutical exports.

The CCP's measured approval reflects an ongoing balancing act between preserving competitive market dynamics and enabling collaborative arrangements that foster innovation and service delivery in regulated sectors like healthcare.

<https://profit.pakistantoday.com.pk/2025/06/05/ccp-grants-conditional-exemptions-to-six-pharma-firms-for-fy25/>

PPI News Agency

CCP Grants Exemptions to Boost Innovation, Access in Pharmaceutical Sector

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has greenlit six exemptions for the fiscal year 2024-25 to propel innovation and accessibility within the pharmaceutical industry. These exemptions, sanctioned under Section 5 of the Competition Act, 2010, aim to stimulate fair competition and safeguard consumer interests.

The exemptions pertain to certain restrictive aspects within commercial agreements, such as territorial exclusivity and non-compete clauses, which would typically fall under Section 4's Prohibited Agreements. However, following an exhaustive evaluation that encompassed market structures, sector rules, and agreement terms, the CCP found these arrangements to significantly enhance production efficiency, technological innovation, and consumer access to pivotal pharmaceutical products.

The Commission asserts these exemptions will elevate service delivery, expand medicine availability in underrepresented areas, and contribute to improved public health results. Consumers are poised to gain from cutting-edge pharmaceutical technologies, dependable product insights, and superior service quality.

Every exemption is time-bound and comes with stipulations ensuring that the competitive advantages surpass any negative impact on market competition. Notably, the entities involved must refrain from engaging in price-fixing or any collusive behavior, as pricing strategies fall outside the exemption's purview.

The pharmaceutical industry remains a focal point for CCP's exemption strategy, with the Commission working closely with health regulators to guarantee these actions align with the public good.

<https://ppinewsagency.com/ccp-grants-exemptions-to-boost-innovation-access-in-pharmaceutical-sector/>

ARY News

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<https://arynews.tv/ccp-grants-exemptions-to-boost-innovation-access-in-pharma-sector/>