

Power sector equipment: hearing today

RECORDER REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) will hold the first-ever public hearing on power sector' equipment procurement process today (Tuesday).

The matter will be heard by the Commission comprising Vadiyya Khalil, Chairperson, Dr Joseph Wilson, Member Competition Policy and Research, Mueen Batlay, Member Mergers and Acquisitions, Dr Shahzad Ansar, Member OFT and Advocacy and Ikram ul Haque Qureshi, Member Legal and Cartels and Trade Abuses.

Auditor General of Pakistan unearths billions of rupees "scams" in procurement of equipment. Ministry of Water and Power has also received a number of complaints in this regard.

The main issue regarding procurement of 'tap changers' will come under a heated debate in the hearing as the National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC) and a couple of Discos, especially Islamabad Electric Supply Company (Iesco), are challenging each other on the quality of tap changers.

Recently, on the instructions of Lahore High Court (LHC) M/s Huaming-led Chinese delegation with their Pakistani-nominated advisor held detailed meetings with an NTDC-designated technical committee. Resultantly, a comparative statement has been prepared based on these deliberations taking into account the technical data provided by M/s Huaming. It has been declared that Huaming OLTC is not equivalent to MR-OLTC, and the technical report has already been submitted by NTDC to the LHC.