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‘CCIs role must to discourage anti-competitive practices’

MULTAN: Chambers of commerce can play a vital role to effectively implement competition law, which is essential for a competitive economy, said Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) chairman Dr Joseph Wilson on Wednesday.

Addressing an advocacy session at the Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr Wilson said an effective competition law is a must for ensuring consumer welfare and creating an enabling environment for business and industrial growth as it encourages enterprise and efficiency while discouraging anti-competitive practices.

Briefing the participants of the meeting on key provisions of the Competition Act, 2010, he said the competition rules and regulations are in line with the modern competition laws.

On substantive provision of the law, he said the law prevents cartelisation, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing. He informed the participants that the CCP had taken notice of anti-competitive activities in almost all economic sectors and is vigilant in curbing activities that are harmful to the interests of businesses and consumers.

He said the commission has the powers to grant individual or block exemptions on grounds of efficiency or economic merit which did not exist in the previous competition law.

“Similarly, the CCP has recently issued reward payment regulations for encouraging whistleblowers to contact the commission for sharing information about anti-competitive practices. —Staff Correspondent

'Chambers can play effective role in implementation of competition law'

Staff Report

ISLAMABAD: Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has said chambers of commerce can play vital role in the effective implementation of Competition Law, which is essential for ensuring a competitive economy.

Dr Joseph Wilson Chairman CCP addressing an advocacy session at Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) said effective enforcement of the Competition Law was vital for ensuring consumer welfare as well as creating an enabling environment for business and industrial growth as it encouraged enterprise and efficiency while discouraging anti-competitive practices. Dr Wilson briefed the participants on key provisions of the Competition Act, 2010 and said competition rules and regulations were in line with the modern Competition Laws.

While elaborating the substantive provision of the Law, he said the Law provides for protection from economic ills such as cartelisation, abuse of dominance and deceptive marketing that are equally bad for consumer as well as business and industry.

By citing various cases CCP had taken notice of anti-competitive activities in almost all economic sectors and is vigilant in curbing activities that are harmful to the interests of businesses and consumers.

Commission has the powers to grant individual or block exemptions on grounds of efficiency or economic merit, which did not exist in the provisions Competition Law of Pakistan. Similarly CCP has recently issued Reward Payment Regulations for encouraging whistleblowers to contact the Commission for sharing information about anti-competitive practices.

Moreover the powers to carry out search and inspection help the Commission to investigate the violations in an effective manner.

Dr Shehzad Ansar CCP member Advocacy briefed the participants on the role of Office of Fair Trade, established by CCP to curb deceptive marketing practices.

Khawaja Muhammad Usman President MCCI lauded the role of CCP in promoting competition in the economy. He assured MCCI's support in implementation of the Competition Law.

The advocacy session was conducted as part of an awareness programme initiated by CCP to sensitise the business community on Competition Law. CCP is mandated under Section 29 of the Competition Act 2010 to take steps for creating awareness and understanding of the Competition Law for promoting a culture of competition.

COMPETITION LAW: 'CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE COULD PLAY VITAL ROLE IN ENFORCEMENT'

May 22, 2014

RECORDER REPORT

Dr Joseph Wilson, the Chairman, Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has said the Commission has the powers to grant individual or block exemptions on grounds of efficiency or economic merit which did not exist in the provisions of Competition Law of Pakistan.

This he said while addressing an advocacy session at the Multan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI). The session was also attended by Khawaja Muhammad Usman, President MCCI; Dr Shehzad Ansar, CCP Member Advocacy, Executive Committee and General Body members of MCCI in large number. Dr Joseph Wilson further said that Chambers of Commerce could play vital role in the effective implementation of Competition Law, which was essential for ensuring a competitive economy.

Dr Wilson said effective enforcement of the Competition Law was a must for ensuring consumer welfare as well as creating an enabling environment for business and industrial growth as it encouraged enterprise and efficiency while discouraging anti-competitive practices. Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on key provisions of the Competition Act, 2010 and said the Competition rules and regulations were in line with the modern Competition Laws. While elaborating the substantive provision of the Law, he said the Law provided for protection from economic ills such as cartelization, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing that were equally bad for consumer as well as business and industry. By citing various cases, he informed the participants that CCP had taken notice of anti-competitive activities in almost all economic sectors and was vigilant in curbing activities that were harmful to the interests of businesses and consumers.

The Chairman said the Commission had the powers to grant individual or block exemptions on grounds of efficiency or economic merit which did not exist in the provisions of Competition Law of Pakistan. Similarly, CCP has recently issued Reward Payment Regulations for encouraging whistleblowers to contact the Commission for sharing information about anti-competitive practices. Moreover, the powers to carry out search and inspection help the Commission to investigate the violations in an effective manner.

Dr Shehzad Ansar, while addressing the session briefed the participants on the role of Office of Fair Trade, established by CCP to curb deceptive marketing practices. Khawaja Muhammad Usman, President MCCI, lauded the role of CCP in promoting competition in the economy. He assured MCCI's support in implementation of the Competition Law.

The advocacy session was conducted as part of an awareness programme initiated by CCP to sensitise the business community on Competition Law by holding advocacy sessions at the leading Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the country. CCP is mandated under Section 29 of the Competition Act, 2010 to take steps for

creating awareness and understanding of the Competition Law for promoting a culture of competition.

In the first round of the awareness programme, CCP has reached out to the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry by holding advocacy sessions. The other chambers to be approached in the near future include Karachi CCI, Quetta CCI, Rahim Yar Khan CCI, Faisalabad CCI, Jehlum CCI, Gujrat CCI and Gujranwala CCI.-PR

CCP exhorts consumers' welfare, economic growth

May 22, 2014

OUR STAFF REPORTER

MULTAN

Competition Commission of Pakistan Chairman Dr Joseph Wilson has said that chambers of commerce can play vital role in the effective implementation of competition law, which is essential for ensuring a competitive economy. He was addressing an advocacy session at the Multan Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The session was also attended by Khawaja Muhammad Usman, the president of MCCI, Dr Shehzad Ansar, CCP Member Advocacy, and executive committee and general body members of MCCI in large number.

Dr Wilson said that effective enforcement of the competition law is a must for ensuring consumer welfare as well as creating an enabling environment for business and industrial growth. He added that it encourages enterprise and efficiency while discouraging anti-competitive practices.

He briefed the participants of the meeting on key provisions of the Competition Act, 2010 and said the rules and regulations are in line with the modern competition laws. While elaborating the substantive provision of the Law, he said that the law provides for protection from economic ills such as cartelisation, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing that are equally bad for consumer as well as business and industry.

By citing various cases, he informed the participants that CCP had taken notice of anti-competitive activities in almost all economic sectors and is vigilant in curbing activities that are harmful to the interests of businesses and consumers.

He revealed that the first region of CCP was being established in Karachi while Competition & Consultation Groups of 15 to 20 members are being

constituted at chamber level to entertain the consumer complaints. He further disclosed that CCP had issued show-cause notices to Cellular Mobile Telecom Operators for alleged violation of Section 10 of the Competition Act, 2010. The CCP took notice of the imposition of additional charges by the CMTOs at the time of reload of balance for prepaid connections. He said that CCP had issued Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014, in which CCP bound itself to keep the confidentiality of the whistleblowers, to the extent that is consistent with its obligations under the Competition Act, 2010.

The chairman further said that CCP may grant reward ranging from Rs200,000 to Rs2,000,000 to informants furnishing the information of the prohibited activity and fulfilling all other requirements under these regulations. Dr Shehzad Ansar addressing the session briefed the participants on the role of Office of Fair Trade, established by CCP to curb deceptive marketing practices.

Khawaja Muhammad Usman, President MCCI, lauded the role of CCP in promoting competition in the economy. He assured MCCI's support in implementation of the Competition Law.

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مسابقتی قانون کے موثر نفاذ بہت ضروری ہے، ڈاکٹر جوزف ولسن

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر)

چیئر مین مسابقتی کمیشن ڈاکٹر جوزف ولسن نے کہا کہ چیئرمین آف کامرس مسابقتی قانون کے موثر نفاذ میں اہم کردار ادا کر سکتے ہیں جو کہ معاشی

ترقی کے لیے ضروری ہے۔ یہ بات انہوں نے ملتان چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کی جانب سے منعقد کیے گئے ایڈووکیسی اجلاس میں خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہی۔ اس اجلاس میں شریک ہونے والوں میں صدر ملتان چیئرمین محمد عثمان، ڈاکٹر شہزاد انور ممبر ایڈووکیسی مسابقتی کمیشن، ایم سی سی آئی کی ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی اور جنرل باڈی ممبران کی بڑی تعداد شامل تھی۔ ڈاکٹر ولسن نے کہا کہ صارف کی فلاح و بہبود اور بہتر تجارتی ماحول کے لئے مسابقتی قانون کا موثر نفاذ بہت ضروری ہے۔ مسابقتی قانون کا موثر نفاذ کاروباری کارکردگی کو بڑھانے میں مدد دیتا ہے۔ اور غیر مسابقتی عمل کی حوصلہ شکنی کرتا ہے۔ ڈاکٹر ولسن نے اجلاس کے شرکا سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے مسابقتی قانون کے چیدہ نکات ہر روشنی ڈالی اور کہا کہ مسابقتی قانون گٹھ جوڑ، دھوکہ دہی پر مبنی تشہیر اور بالادستی کے غلط استعمال سے تحفظ فراہم کرتا ہے جو کہ صارف اور بزنس انڈسٹری کے لیے نقصان دہ ہیں۔ مسابقتی کمیشن کے مختلف کمیسر کا حوالہ دیتے ہوئے انہوں نے شرکا کو مطلع کیا کہ مسابقتی کمیشن نے تقریباً ہر معاشرتی شعبے میں غیر مسابقتی سرگرمیوں کی نشاندہی اور حوصلہ شکنی کی۔ مسابقتی کمیشن کاروبار اور صارفین کو نقصان پہنچانے والی تمام سرگرمیوں کی روک تھام کے لیے چوکس ہے۔ چیئر مین نے کہا ہے کہ مسابقتی کمیشن کو یہ اختیار حاصل ہے کہ وہ کچھ ممنوعہ معاہدوں کو قانون سے استثنیٰ فراہم کرے۔ بشرطیکہ وہ معاہدے معاشی ترقی کو فروغ دینے میں مدد دیں۔