

# The Nation

Page # 17

07 March 2013

## CCP team conducts advocacy session at RCCI

OUR STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD - A team of the Competition Commission of Pakistan, headed by its chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan, conducted an advocacy session at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI).

The advocacy session was also attended by members of CCP Abdul Ghaffar, Dr Joseph Wilson and Dr Shahzad Ansar, Registrar of the Commission Ikram ul Haque Qureshi, President RCCI Manzar Khurshid Sheikh, Senior Vice President Ch. Pervaiz Ahmed Warriach, members of the Executive Committee and general body. Addressing the session, CCP chairperson explained to the participants of the meeting the four pillars of Competition Act, 2010, i.e. Section 3 (Abuse of Dominant Position), Section 4 (Prohibited Agreements), Section 10 (Deceptive Marketing Practices), and Section 11 (Approval of Mergers), besides highlighting the key enforcement actions, and other recently handled matters.

She said that over the last five years, the Commission has demonstrated independence and autonomy through its decisions. "We have issued orders that speak for our independence and autonomy, however, at the same time we have exercised self-re-

straint, which is essential for a law enforcement agency," the Chairperson maintained. She informed the participants that as a result of effective enforcement, CCP got 'Fair' rating and our performance has been termed 'impressively consistent' in an independent third-party evaluation conducted by the Global Competition Review (GCR), a UK based entity, and was also shortlisted by GCR for the Enforcement Award in the category 'Agency of the Year among top five out of 42 agencies in the region of Asia-Pacific, Middle East and Africa' for 2012.

The Chairperson said that CCP has imposed fines of over Rs 8.5 billion on various undertakings for violation of competition law, however, under the Competition Act, the penalties to be recovered are deposited in the Federal Consolidated Fund. She said that by imposing fines, CCP aims at promoting compliance through deterrence while creating a culture of competition.

In response to a question of one of the participants as to whether CCP can stop the violation of law by pre-empting the violation and nabbing the potential culprit, the Chairperson said that CCP is essentially a law enforcement agency, which takes action 'ex-post' and not 'ex ante' like regulatory bodies.

# Consumers can claim compensation based on decisions of CCP: Hassan



STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD—A team of the Competition Commission of Pakistan, headed by its Chairperson, Ms. Rahat Kaunain Hassan, and comprising its Members, conducted an advocacy session at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI).

The advocacy session was also attended by Members of CCP Mr. Abdul Ghaffar, Dr. Joseph Wilson and Dr. Shahzad Ansar, Registrar of the Commission Mr. Ikram ul Haque Qureshi, President RCCI Mr. Manzar Khurshid Sheikh, Senior Vice President Ch. Pervaiz Ahmed Warriach, members of the Executive Committee and general body in large number.

Addressing the session, CCP Chairperson explained

to the participants of the meeting the four pillars of Competition Act, 2010, i.e. Section 3 (Abuse of Dominant Position), Section 4 (Prohibited Agreements), Section 10 (Deceptive Marketing Practices), and Section 11 (Approval of Mergers), besides highlighting the key enforcement actions, and other recently handled matters.

She said that over the last five years, the Commission has demonstrated independence and autonomy through its decisions. "We have issued orders that speak for our independence and autonomy, however, at the same time we have exercised self-restraint, which is essential for a law enforcement agency," the Chairperson maintained. She informed the participants that as a result of effective en-

forcement, CCP got 'Fair' rating and our performance has been termed 'impressively consistent' in an independent third-party evaluation conducted by the Global Competition Review (GCR), a UK based entity, and was also shortlisted by GCR for the Enforcement Award in the category 'Agency of the Year among top five out of 42 agencies in the region of Asia-Pacific, Middle East and Africa' for 2012.

The Chairperson said that CCP has imposed over PKR 8.5 billion on various undertakings for violation of competition law, however, under the Competition Act, the penalties to be recovered are deposited in the Federal Consolidated Fund. She said that by imposing fines, CCP aims at promoting compliance through deterrence while creating a culture of competition.

# CCP imposes Rs8.5bn fines

By A Reporter

ISLAMABAD, March 6: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has asked the business community to come forward and assist the CCP in creating an environment based on healthy competition and promote fair trade practices.

"The CCP is accessible to all and complaint filing procedure is also very simple," said CCP chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan while speaking to members of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI), here on Wednesday.

Ms Hassan said that there was no fee of filing a complaint, if a complaint comes through the forum of consumer associations.

The businessmen of Rawalpindi were informed that the competitive regime was key to success and it was noted that a major reason of decline in state-owned entities was that these operated in an uncompetitive environment.

The CCP chairperson explained the four pillars of Competition Act, 2010, which were Abuse of Dominant Position, Prohibited Agreements, Deceptive Marketing Practices and Approval of Mergers, besides highlighting the key enforcement actions, and other recently handled matters.

"The commission has demonstrated independence and autonomy through its decisions in the last five years," he said.

She informed the participants that as a result of effective enforcement, CCP got 'Fair' rating and the performance was termed as 'impressively consistent' in an independent third-party evaluation conducted by the Global Competition Review (GCR), a UK-based entity.

The CCP chairperson said that the commission had imposed fines worth more than Rs8.5 billion on various undertakings for violation of competition law.

However, under the Competition Act, penalties to be recovered are deposited in the Federal Consolidated Fund.

## مسابقتی کمیشن کا مقصد تاجر برادری کو سہولیات فراہم کرنا ہے راحت کو نین

مناسب پبلسٹی نہ ہونے سے کاروباری برادری اس ادارے کے وجود سے بھی بے خبر ہے، منظر خورشید

راولپنڈی (اپنے رپورٹر سے) مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کے چیئر پرسن راحت کو نین حسن نے کہا ہے کہ کمیشن کا مقصد کاروباری برادری کو ہر اسماں کرنا یا پریشان کرنا ہرگز نہیں بلکہ تاجر صنعت کار طبقہ کو سہولیات فراہم کرنا اصل مقصد ہے۔ کمیشن مارکیٹ میں اجارہ داری کے نظام کو ختم کرنے کیلئے قائم کیا گیا ہے اس کا مقصد کسی بھی کمپنی یا فرم کو مشکل میں ڈالنا نہیں ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے راولپنڈی چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے دورے کے دوران تاجروں، صنعتکاروں سے بات چیت کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ اس موقع پر راولپنڈی چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر منظر خورشید، سینئر نائب صدر چوہدری پرویز احمد وڑائچ، نائب صدر چوہدری ندیم اے رؤف، ممبران مجلس عاملہ، سابق صدر غلام الحق ملک، ایس ایم عظیم، ایس ایم نسیم، نجم رحمان، امان اللہ خان، جنیل احمد ملک اور دیگر ممبران بھی موجود تھے۔ چیئر پرسن نے کہا کہ مسابقتی کمیشن صرف پاکستان میں ہی نہیں بلکہ دنیا کے 110 ممالک میں قائم ہیں۔ جو اپنے اپنے ملک کی مارکیٹ پر نظر رکھے ہوئے ہیں۔

کمیشن کا کام حکومت پاکستان کے بنے ہوئے مسابقت کے قوانین کے مطابق ملحد آمد کو یقینی بنانا ہے تاکہ چھوٹے اور درمیانے درجے کی کمپنیوں کو تحفظ فراہم کرنے کے ساتھ ساتھ ایشیا کی قیمتوں کو بھی کنٹرول میں کیا جائے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ کمیشن کے بارے میں ایک عام تاثر پایا جاتا ہے کہ یہ بڑی کمپنیوں کو ہر اسماں کرنے کیلئے بنایا گیا ہے جو کہ سراسر غلط ہے۔ بلکہ یہ تو ہر درجے کی کمپنی کو یکساں نظروں سے دیکھتا ہے اور قوانین برعکس درآمد کو یقینی بناتا ہے۔ راولپنڈی چیئرمین کے صدر منظر خورشید نے کہا کہ کمیشن کے قیام کو پانچ سے چھ سال کا عرصہ گزر چکا ہے مگر مناسب پبلسٹی نہ ہونے کے باعث کاروباری برادری اس ادارے کے وجود سے بھی بے خبر ہے۔ کمیشن کو چاہئے کہ وہ ادارے اور مسابقتی قوانین سے متعلق سینٹارز اور ورکشاپس کروائے تاکہ کاروباری برادری کو آگاہی فراہم کیا جاسکے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ قوانین سے لاعلمی کے باعث کاروباری برادری نہ چاہتے ہوئے بھی قانون شکنی کی مرتکب ہو جاتی ہے لہذا کمیشن کو چاہئے کہ وہ پہلے مرحلے میں آگاہی مہم شروع کرے پھر وارننگ کا سلسلہ شروع کرے