

7 March 2014

Page # 11

CCP aims to end cartelisation

By A Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is encouraging the business community to come forward and eradicate collusive biddings and the practice of cartelisation, and hence promote fair trade and business in the country.

Chairman CCP Dr Joseph Wilson said this on Thursday during an advocacy session held at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI).

"The CCP has issued Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014, under which the Commission may grant reward ranging from Rs200,000 to Rs2 million, to informants furnishing the information of the prohibited activity and fulfilling all other requirements under these regulations," Wilson said.

"However, CCP is bound to keep the confidentiality of whistleblowers, to the extent that is consistent with its obligations under the Competition Act, 2010," he said. He added that this was necessary for the CCP to encourage those who want to end the anti-competitive practices in country.

Dr. Wilson said that law empowers CCP to curb cartelisation, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing, and also to take necessary actions to create a competition culture in the country.

"Promoting competition among business entities would mean encouraging innovation, growth, wider choice and reduction in prices thus contributing towards the overall economic well being of the masses and development of the country," he added. The meeting was informed that CCP had recently revised the Regulations pertaining to Leniency and Reward Payment with a view to remove inconsistencies with the Competition Act.

"Everybody is a beneficiary of fair trade regime as the business community and even the manufacturers are also consumers and buyers. By improving the whole system, they too will benefit," he said. Dr. Wilson said that there were no labelling laws in Pakistan due to which the ordinary consumers are not given proper information about the product and added that the business chambers could raise their voice for introduction of labelling laws.

He added that CCP is well aware of its role to review government's policies for potential distortion of competition, and where needed issue Policy Notes to the government to rectify such distortions.

The CCP has issued 15 Policy Notes and two opinions to various government ministries and departments in the past.

CCP issues Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014

ISLAMABAD: Dr Joseph Wilson, the Chairman, Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), has said that CCP has issued Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014, in which CCP has bound itself to keep the confidentiality of the whistle blowers to the extent that is consistent with its obligations under the Competition Act, 2010.

He said this while addressing an advocacy session at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), on Thursday. Those present in the advocacy session were Dr Shimail Daud Arain, President RCCI, Malik Shahid Saleem, Senior Vice President, Ifran Manan Khan, General Secretary, Dr Shehzad Ansar, Member CCP, and members of RCCI in large number.

The Chairman further informed that CCP may grant reward ranging from Rs 200,000 (Rupees two hundred thousand only) to Rs 2,000,000 (Rupees two million only), to informants furnishing the information of the prohibited activity and fulfilling all other requirements under these regulations.

Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on key

provisions of the Competition Act, 2010 and said that the Law empowers CCP to curb cartelization, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing, and also to take necessary actions to create a competition culture in the country.

“By means of promoting competition among business entities, our Competition Law encourages innovation, growth, wider choice and reduction in prices thus contributing towards the overall economic well being of the masses and development of the country,” he maintained.

While responding to various questions from the President RCCI and other Members, Dr Wilson stated that the role of CCP is to improve economic efficiency of a whole sector and not just a single entity. He added that CCP is well aware of its role to review government's policies for potential distortion of competition, and where needed issue Policy Notes to the government to rectify such distortions. He mentioned that 15 Policy Notes and two opinions have been issued to various government ministries and departments in the past.

The Chairman further told the participants of the meeting that CCP has recently revised

the Regulations pertaining to Leniency and Reward Payment with a view to remove inconsistencies with the Competition Act.

While responding to a question, Dr Wilson said that there were no labelling laws in Pakistan due to which the ordinary consumers are not given proper information about the product and added that the business chambers could raise their voice for introduction of labelling laws.

Dr Shehzad Ansar, CCP Member, Office of Fair Trade, gave a presentation about the Section 10 of the Competition Act, that deals with deceptive marketing practices and said that the ratio of compliance with section 10 is over 90 percent. He cited various cases taken up by CCP in the area of deceptive marketing.

While addressing the session, RCCI President Dr Shimail Daud Arain appreciated the performance of CCP in promoting a healthy competition and said that CCP has surpassed many international competition agencies including that of India in enforcing the Competition Law. He ensured the support of RCCI to CCP in creating awareness about the competition rules and regulations.—PR

CCP to reward whistleblowers

By our correspondent

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014, in which CCP has bound itself to keep the confidentiality of whistleblowers to the extent that is consistent with its obligations under the Competition Act, 2010, said CCP Chairman Dr Joseph Wilson on Thursday.

Addressing an advocacy session at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), Dr Wilson said that CCP may grant rewards ranging between Rs0.2 million and Rs2 million to informants furnishing information of prohibited activity and fulfilling all other requirements under these regulations.

Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on key provisions of the Competition Act, 2010 and said that the law empowers CCP to curb cartelisation, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing, and also to take necessary actions to create a competition culture in the country. "By means of promoting competition among business entities, our Competition Law encourages innovation, growth, wider choice and reduction in prices thus contributing towards the overall economic well being of the masses and development of the country," he said.

While responding to numerous questions, Dr Wilson said that the role of CCP is to improve economic efficiency of a

whole sector and not just a single entity. He added that CCP is well aware of its role to review government's policies for potential distortion of competition, and issue policy notes where needed to the government to rectify such distortions. He mentioned that 15 policy notes and two opinions have been issued to various government ministries and departments in the past.

The chairman further told participants that CCP has recently revised the regulations pertaining to Leniency and Reward Payment with a view to remove inconsistencies with the Competition Act. Dr Wilson said that there were no labelling laws in Pakistan due to which ordinary consumers are not given proper information about the product and added that business chambers could raise their voice for introduction of labelling laws.

Dr Shehzad Ansar, CCP Member, Office of Fair Trade, gave a presentation about the Section 10 of the Competition Act, which deals with deceptive marketing practices and said that the ratio of compliance with section 10 is over 90 percent. He cited various cases taken up by CCP in the area of deceptive marketing.

While addressing the session, RCCI President Dr Shimail Daud Arain appreciated the performance of CCP in promoting a healthy competition and said that CCP has surpassed many international competition agencies including that of India in enforcing the Competition Law.

'CCP's reward payment regulations ensure whistleblower's secrecy'

ISLAMABAD: Dr Joseph Wilson, the Chairman, Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), has said that CCP has issued Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014, in which CCP has bound itself to keep the confidentiality of the whistleblowers, to the extent that is consistent with its obligations under the Competition Act, 2010.

He said this while addressing an advocacy session at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI), on Thursday. Those present in the advocacy session include Dr Shimail Daud Arain, President RCCI, Malik Shahid Saleem, Senior Vice President, Ifran Manan Khan, General Secretary, Dr Shehzad Ansar, Member CCP, and members of RCCI in large number.

The chairman further informed that CCP may grant reward ranging from Rs 200,000 to Rs 2,000,000, to informants furnishing the information of the prohibited activity and fulfilling all other requirements under these regulations.

Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on key provisions of the Competition Act, 2010 and said that the Law

empowers CCP to curb cartelization, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing, and also to take necessary actions to create a competition culture in the country. "By means of promoting competition among business entities, our Competition Law encourages innovation, growth, wider choice and reduction in prices thus contributing towards the overall economic well being of the masses and development of the country," he maintained.

While responding to various questions from the President RCCI and other members, Dr Wilson stated that the role of CCP is to improve economic efficiency of a whole sector and not just a single entity. He added that CCP is well aware of its role to review government's policies for potential distortion of competition, and where needed issue Policy Notes to the government to rectify such distortions. He mentioned that 15 Policy Notes and two opinions have been issued to various government ministries and departments in the past.

The Chairman further told the participants of the meeting that CCP has recently revised the Regulations pertaining to Leniency and Reward Payment

with a view to remove inconsistencies with the Competition Act.

While responding to a question, Dr. Wilson said that there were no labelling laws in Pakistan due to which the ordinary consumers are not given proper information about the product and added that the business chambers could raise their voice for introduction of labelling laws.

Dr Shehzad Ansar, CCP Member, Office of Fair Trade, gave a presentation about the Section 10 of the Competition Act, that deals with deceptive marketing practices and said that the ratio of compliance with section 10 is over 90 percent. He cited various cases taken up by CCP in the area of deceptive marketing.

While addressing the session, RCCI President Dr. Shimail Daud Arain appreciated the performance of CCP in promoting a healthy competition and said that CCP has surpassed many international competition agencies including that of India in enforcing the Competition Law. He ensured the support of RCCI to CCP in creating awareness about the competition rules and regulations.

CCP BOUND TO KEEP WHISTLEBLOWERS' CONFIDENTIALITY

N
OUR STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Dr. Joseph Wilson, the Chairman, Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), has said that CCP has issued Competition (Reward Payment to Informant) Regulations, 2014, in which CCP has bound itself to keep the confidentiality of the whistleblowers, to the extent that is consistent with its obligations under the Competition Act, 2010.

He said this while addressing an advocacy session at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI), on Thurs-

day. Those present in the advocacy session include Dr Shimail Daud Arain, President RCCI, Malik Shahid Saleem, Senior Vice President, Ifran Manan Khan, General Secretary, Dr Shehzad Ansar, Member CCP, and members of RCCI in large number. The Chairman further informed that CCP may grant reward ranging from Rs. 200,000 (Rupees two hundred thousand only) to Rs 2,000,000 (Rupees two million only), to informants furnishing the information of the prohibited activity and fulfilling all other requirements under these regulations.

Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on key provisions of the Compe-

tion Act, 2010 and said that the law empowers CCP to curb cartelisation, abuse of dominance, and deceptive marketing, and also to take necessary actions to create a competition culture in the country. "By means of promoting competition among business entities, our Competition Law encourages innovation, growth, wider choice and reduction in prices thus contributing towards the overall economic well being of the masses and development of the country," he maintained.

While responding to various questions from the President RCCI and other Members, Dr Wilson stated that the role of CCP is to improve economic efficiency of a

whole sector and not just a single entity. He added that CCP is well aware of its role to review government's policies for potential distortion of competition and where needed issue policy notes to the government to rectify such distortions. He mentioned that 15 policy notes and two opinions have been issued to various government ministries and departments in the past.

The Chairman further told the participants of the meeting that CCP has recently revised the regulations pertaining to Leniency and Reward Payment with a view to remove inconsistencies with the Competition Act.



Page: 14
7 March 2014



راولپنڈی چیمبر کے صدر ڈاکٹر شاکل مسالقی کیشن آف پاکستان کے چیئر مین جوزف لسن کو شیلڈ پیش کر رہے ہیں

جہانِ پاکِستان

7 March 2014

Page # 14

مسابقتی کمیشن کی انعامی سکیم کے ضوابط کا اجراء

معلومات دینے والے کی شناخت ظاہر کیے بغیر 2 سے 20 لاکھ تک انعام کا اعلان اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر)

مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کے جاری کردہ انعامی سکیم کے ضوابط کے تحت اطلاع کنندہ کی شناخت کو صیغہ راز میں رکھنے کو یقینی بنایا جائے گا۔

راولپنڈی چیئرمین میں خطاب کرتے ہوئے چیئرمین سی بی ڈی ڈاکٹر جوزف وین نے کہا کہ سی بی ڈی نے جاری کردہ انعامی سکیم کے تحت منسوخ معاہدوں کے بارے میں معلومات فراہم کرنی والے افراد کی شناخت کو ظاہر نہیں کیا جائے گا۔ ان نئے ضوابط کے تحت سی بی ڈی چیئر کو مبلغ دو لاکھ سے لے کر تین لاکھ تک کی انعامی رقم فراہم کر سکتی ہے۔ شرکا کو بتایا گیا کہ اس قانون کے تحت بالادستی کا غلط استعمال اور دھوکہ دہی کی تصویر سے روکنا کمیشن کی اہم ذمہ داریوں میں شامل ہیں۔ سی بی ڈی کو اختیار حاصل ہے کہ وہ ملک میں مسابقتی کلچر کو فروغ دے۔ ڈاکٹر جوزف نے بتایا کہ سی بی ڈی کسی بھی معاشی شعبے کو چھوٹی طور پر پروان چڑھانے میں کردار ادا کرتی ہے؛ نہ کہ کسی انفرادی کمپنی کو۔ انھوں نے یہ بھی بتایا کہ سی بی ڈی حکومتی پالیسی میں غیر مسابقتی نکات کی نشاندہی پالیسی نوٹ کے تحت کرنے کا اختیار بھی حاصل ہے۔ سی بی ڈی نے اب تک مختلف حکومتی وزارتوں اور دیگر اداروں کو پندرہ پالیسی نوٹ کا اجرا کیا ہے۔



راولپنڈی چیئرمین کے صدر شکیل داؤد مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کے چیئرمین ڈاکٹر جوزف وین کو شیلڈ پیش کر رہے ہیں

7 March 2014

Page # 14

غیر مسابقتی سرگرمیوں کی اطلاع پر 20 لاکھ تک کا انعام

منوع معاہدوں کی اطلاع دینے والے کا نام راز رہیگا، چیئر مین سی سی پی، راولپنڈی جی بی میں خطاب

پالا دست پوزیشن کا استعمال اور جو کہ وہی کی تشہیر روکنا کمیشن کی ذمہ داری ہے، بریفنگ

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ ایکسپریس) مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان (سی سی پی) کے چیئر مین ڈاکٹر جوزف وسن نے کہا ہے کہ سی سی پی کی جاری کردہ انعامی اسکیم کے ضوابط کے تحت اطلاع دینے والے کی شناخت کو صنف راز میں رکھنے کو یقینی بنایا جائے گا۔ راولپنڈی جی بی آف امرس اینڈ انٹرنیٹ میں تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انھوں نے کہا کہ انعامی اسکیم کے تحت منوع معاہدوں کے بارے میں معلومات فراہم کرنے والے افراد کی شناخت کو ظاہر نہیں کیا جائے گا، سٹے ضوابط کے تحت سی سی پی فیڈر کو 20 لاکھ روپے تک انعام دے سکتا ہے۔ تقریب میں شرکا کو مسابقتی ایکٹ 2010 کے اہم نکات کے بارے میں معلومات فراہم کرتے ہوئے بتایا گیا کہ اس قانون کے تحت مارکیٹ میں بلا دستی کے غلط استعمال اور جو کہ وہی کی تشہیر روکنا کمیشن کی اہم ذمہ داریوں میں شامل ہے، سی سی پی کو اختیار حاصل ہے کہ وہ ملک میں مسابقتی کلچر کو فروغ دے۔ مختلف سوالات کے جواب میں ڈاکٹر جوزف نے بتایا کہ سی سی پی کسی انفرادی کمپنی نہیں بلکہ کسی بھی معاشی شعبے کو پروان چڑھانے میں کردار ادا کرتی ہے، سی سی پی کو پالیسی نوٹ کے ذریعے حکومتی پالیسی میں غیر مسابقتی نکات کی نشاندہی کرنے کا اختیار بھی حاصل ہے، سی سی پی نے اب تک مختلف حکومتی وزارتوں اور دیگر اداروں کو 15 پالیسی نوٹ کا اجرا کیا ہے۔ ممبر سی سی پی ڈاکٹر شہزاد انصر نے شرکا کو آف آفس آف فیڈریشن کی کارکردگی کے حوالے سے آگاہ کیا۔ انھوں نے واضح کیا کہ اوائف پی کا مقصد مسابقتی ایکٹ کی شق نمبر 10 کا نفاذ ہے جو دھوکہ دہی کی تشہیر سے روکتی ہے، سی سی پی نے 90 فیصد سے زائد کمپنیز میں متعلقہ کمپنیز سے قانون پر عمل درآمد کرانے میں کامیاب ہو گئی ہے۔ آرسی سی آئی کے صدر ڈاکٹر شاکل داؤد آرائیں نے سی سی پی کی مسابقتی قانون کے فروغ کے لیے جی بی کے تعاون کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔



راولپنڈی، چیئیر کے صدر ڈاکٹر شائل داؤد مسابقتی کمیشن کے چیئرمین جوزف ولسن کو پیش کر رہے ہیں

مسابقتی کمیشن اجارہ داری نظام ختم کرنے کیلئے قائم کیا گیا جوزف ولسن

مناسب پلٹسی نہ ہونے کی وجہ سے کاروباری برادری ادارے کے وجود سے بے خبر ہے شائل داؤد

راولپنڈی (نامندہ خصوصی) مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کے چیئرمین جوزف ولسن نے کہا ہے کہ کمیشن کا مقصد کاروباری برادری کو ہراساں کرنا یا پریشان کرنا ہرگز نہیں بلکہ تاجروں کی صنعت کار طبقہ کو سہولیات فراہم کرنا کمیشن ماریٹ میں اجارہ داری کے نظام کو ختم کرنے کے لیے قائم کیا گیا ہے اس کا مقصد کسی بھی ترقی یافتہ کو مشکل میں ڈالنا نہیں ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے راولپنڈی چیئیر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے دورے کے دوران تاجروں کی صنعت کاروں سے بات چیت کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ اس موقع پر راولپنڈی چیئیر کے صدر ڈاکٹر شائل داؤد آرا میں دستبردار ہوئے کی وجہ سے کاروباری برادری ادارے کے وجود سے بے خبر ہے۔ کمیشن کو چاہیے کہ وہ ادارے اور مسابقتی قوانین سے متعلق سیمینارز اور ورکشاپس منعقد کروائے تاکہ کاروباری برادری کو آگاہی فراہم کی جاسکے۔

تاہم صدر ملک شاہد سلیم، نائب صدر محمد عالم چغتائی، اراکین مجلس عاملہ کے علاوہ مسابقتی کمیشن کے ممبر شہزاد انصر، ڈائریکٹرز رانا مصطفیٰ، اسفند یار تنگ اور ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر ملک محمد اقبال بھی موجود تھے۔ اس موقع پر بات چیت کرتے ہوئے راولپنڈی چیئیر کے صدر ڈاکٹر شائل داؤد نے کہا کہ کمیشن کے قیام کو 7 سال کا عرصہ گزر چکا ہے مگر مناسب پلٹسی نہ ہونے کے باعث کاروباری برادری اس ادارے کے وجود سے بے خبر ہے۔ کمیشن کو چاہیے کہ وہ ادارے اور مسابقتی قوانین سے متعلق سیمینارز اور ورکشاپس منعقد کروائے تاکہ کاروباری برادری کو آگاہی فراہم کی جاسکے۔

وقت

Page # 7
7 March 2014

مسابقت کمیشن نے مخبروں کو ایوارڈ دینے کے روٹز جاری کر دیئے

اسلام آباد (تماسکہ خصوصی) مسابقت کمیشن کے سربراہ ڈاکٹر جوزف ہسن نے مخبروں کو ایوارڈ دینے کے روٹز جاری کر دیئے ہیں۔ اس کے تحت کمیشن مخبر کی شناخت کو میڈیا میں رکھے گا۔ مسابقت کمیشن مخبر کو 2 لاکھ روپے سے 20 لاکھ روپے تک انعام دے سکے گا۔ مسابقت کمیشن کے قوانین کی خلاف ورزی کرنے کیخلاف اطلاع پر انعام دیا جائے گا۔

ABC members emphasise importance of business-friendly policies

Staff Report

KARACHI: The American Business Council of Pakistan (ABC) has urged the government to formulate business friendly policies, improve the law and order situation and resolve the energy crisis to attract much needed foreign investment in different business segments of the country.

In a statement issued after the first ABC CEO Roundtable meeting of CY2014 where business leaders discussed the performance of their companies in CY2013 and the prevailing issues, ABC the largest single country investor group in Pakistan, reinforced its commitment to Pakistan while urging the government to resolve the issues which are detrimental to growth.

Despite having faced uncertainty on account of a poor law and order situation, election year and inconsistent government policies in CY2013, ABC member companies viewed the year ahead with optimism. For 2013, 65% of the participants had an average business performance. When asked of their sentiments and outlook for 2014 there was renewed optimism amongst 70% of participants who expected growth but planned to hold off investment till there is further clarity with respect to the fiscal, trade and monetary policies.

ABC praised the efforts of regulators including the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) in improving business environment and providing a

level playing field.

However, there is a lot to be done to further strengthen the regulations, especially regarding expanding the tax net, enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) as well as the Environment Protection Ordinance. Lack of enforcement in these particular areas poses a major deterrent to foreign investment.

It was suggested that the government urgently constitute an IPR Board to curb the menace and come hard on IPR violations to send out a positive message to foreign investors.

"The government needs to formulate long term, strong, efficient and business friendly policies and share the roadmap of its strategy to overcome the energy crisis and improve law and order conditions which will encourage the business community to expand and invest further," stated ABC President, Saad Amanullah Khan.

"Even though the business community loses out due to the prevailing issues there is still a growth trajectory and one can only imagine what our contribution to the national exchequer would be if the business environment becomes friendlier," he added. ABC has 66 members with cumulative revenues of over US\$5 billion and an investment of approx. US\$1 billion. ABC members contribute over PKR90 billion to the national exchequer. Members represent a cross section of sectors including healthcare, financial services, information technology, FMCG, food & beverage, pharmaceuticals, oil & gas and others.

ABC seeks friendly policies to attract foreign investment

AMANULLAH KHAN

KARACHI—The American Business Council of Pakistan (ABC) has urged the Government to formulate business friendly policies, improve the law and order situation and resolve the energy crisis to attract much needed foreign investment in different business segments of the country. After the first ABC CEO Roundtable meeting of CY2014 where business leaders discussed the performance of their companies in CY2013 and the prevailing issues, ABC the largest single country investor group in Pakistan, reinforced its commitment to Pakistan while urging the government to resolve the issues which are detrimental to growth.

Despite having faced uncertainty on account of a poor law and order situation, election year and inconsistent government policies in CY2013, ABC member companies viewed the year ahead with optimism. For 2013, 65% of the participants had an average business performance. When

asked of their sentiments and outlook for 2014 there was renewed optimism amongst 70% of participants who expected growth but planned to hold off investment till there is further clarity with respect to the fiscal, trade and monetary policies.

ABC praised the efforts of regulators including the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) in improving business environment and providing a level playing field. However, there is a lot to be done to further strengthen the regulations, especially regarding expanding the tax net, enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) as well as the Environment Protection Ordinance. Lack of enforcement in these particular areas poses a major deterrent to foreign investment.

It was suggested that the government urgently constitute an IPR Board to curb the menace and come hard on IPR violations to send out a positive message to foreign investors.

NAB writes letters for Ogra scam witnesses' security

Hearing of references against Zardari deferred till 13th



AMIR JALIL BOBRA
ISLAMABAD

After receiving rescue applications from terrified prime witnesses of multibillion rupees Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) scam, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has prepared protection letters but has not posted yet to the concerned authorities to ensure security of the threatened witnesses, sources told The Nation on Thursday.

According to sources, the federal watchdog would send these letters

to the Inspector General of Police Punjab, Inspector General of Police Sindh, District Police Officer (DPO) Vehari and District Police Officer (DPO) Toba Taik Singh to make certain the protection of the prime witnesses of Gas Regulatory Authority scam.

Similarly, the federal watchdog has requested the concerned authorities that Dr Anwar Ali Sehto, Irfan Ahmed Khan, Shehzad Saleem Bhatti, Kashif Ishfaq, Zahid Latif and Hamid Mehmood should be provided with necessary security arrangements till the completion of trial of mega OGRA scam, the

sources further added.

Meanwhile, the Executive Board Meeting (EBM) of the NAB held at NAB Headquarters, presided by Chairman NAB Qamar Zaman Chaudhry, authorised an inquiry against the officials of Pakistan Embassy in Abu Dhabi for their alleged involvement in corruption, illegal payments and misappropriation of funds of a community school in United Arab Emirate (UAE).

In another case of corruption and assets beyond known sources of income against Rao Shakeel Ahmad, ex-deputy commissioner Multan, the EBM decided to seek fur-

ther details from FIA.

Similarly, an inquiry that was under process against ex-chairman Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and others about misuse of authority was closed due to lack of supportive evidence.

Similarly, the hearing of NAB references against former President Asif Ali Zardari could not be held in Accountability Court on Thursday due to the lawyers' strike. Accountability Judge adjourned the hearing of the case until March 13.

The lawyers are on strike in protest against recent terrorist attack on District Courts Islamabad.