

CCI Watch

Edition 14th (April to June, 2014)

For earlier editions please visit: http://cuts-ccier.org/CCI_Watch.htm

The role of the Competition Commission of India is very crucial for effective competition amongst the market players. Since 2009, CCI has been very active in investigating anti-competitive practices. Thus, it is hard to find a day when CCI is not covered by the newspapers. Therefore, the objective behind CCI Watch as prepared by CUTS is to review and highlight the performance of CCI through the lens of media.

Sr. No.	Date	News	Comments
April			
1.	02/04/2014	<p><u>The competition watchdog tightens rules to see through merger & acquisition structures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Competition Commission of India has clarified that it will look at the substance of the transaction and not just the structure while approving any merger. <p>http://m.economictimes.com/news/news-by-company/corporate-trends/competition-commission-of-india-tightens-rules-to-see-through-mergers-and-acquisitions-structures/articleshow/33093395.cms</p>	☺
2.	02/04/2014	<p><u>Fair trade regulator investigating air fare pricing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCI seeks information from all domestic airlines on the way they price their fares, suspecting that airlines were behaving like a cartel. Also, asked them to provide information about the criteria adopted for deciding the base fare, fuel surcharge and other charges such as airport development fee, passenger service fee, service tax etc. <p>http://www.livemint.com/Companies/zU4tFP6A4kSTezg2OGaxgO/Competition-Commission-starts-investigating-identical-airfar.html</p>	☺
3.	03/04/2014	<p><u>CCI slapped penalty of Rs. 2.41 Crore on DLF</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The penalty has been imposed under section 42 of the Competition Act for breaching of an order passed in a case related to one of the company's projects <p>http://www.livemint.com/Companies/VHJVPZKPiS9PBI0IMWVsLN/CCI-fines-DLF-241-crore-for-contravention-of-order.html</p>	☺
4.	03/04/2014	<p><u>CCI approves DCM Shriram-Axiall proposed deal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed deal relates to subscription of 50 per cent stake by Axiall in DCM Shriram's subsidiary, Shriram Vinyl Polytech, an entity involved in the production and sale of poly vinyl chloride (PV C) compounds. According to the CCI, the deal is unlikely to raise adverse effect on competition in India. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/cci-approves-dcm-shriram-axiall-proposed-deal-114040300919_1.html</p>	☺
5.	03/04/2014	<p><u>Competition Commission discards complaint against SBI</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A complaint filed with CCI had alleged that SBI was abusing its dominant position by not informing car loan borrowers in advance about papers required to be signed for availing a loan and compelling them to sign various standard forms which contained 	☺

		<p>one-sided terms.</p> <p>http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/competition-commission-rejects-complaint-against-sbi/article5867321.ece</p>	
6.	09/04/2014	<p>CCI clears Torrent-Elder Pharma's deal of Rs 2,000 cr.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fair trade regulator has approved Torrent Pharma's proposed Rs 2,000 crore acquisition of Elder Pharma's formulations business in India and Nepal, saying the deal does not raise any competition concerns. <p>http://businesstoday.intoday.in/story/cci-clears-torrent-elder-pharma-rs-2000-cr-deal/1/2050333.html</p>	☺
7.	09/04/2014	<p>Competition Commission approves deal involving Carlyle group, Illinois Tool</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Giving its green signal, the fair trade regulator said the proposed combination is not likely to have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/cci-approves-deal-involving-carlyle-group-illinois-tool-114040901330_1.html</p>	☺
8.	18/04/2014	<p>Competition Commission alleged cable cartel in North Western Railway bids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In a complaint filed with the CCI, the Chief Material Manager of North Western Railway had alleged that companies participating in tenders for procurement of signaling cables had acted in a cartel by quoting higher prices. <p>http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-04-18/news/49236867_1_nwr-competition-commission-north-western-railway</p>	☺
9.	18/04/2014	<p>Ashok Chawla: Sectoral regulators complementary, roles of CCI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fair trade regulator CCI's Chief Ashok Chawla speaking at an event emphasised on the importance of competition norms for good business environment and also, said "The mandate of the CCI and the sectoral regulators are, therefore, complementary to each other," <p>http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/companies/roles-of-cci-sectoral-regulators-complementary_98073.html</p>	☺
10.	23/04/2014	<p>Competition panel fines ITPO for unfair trade practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Competition Commission of India has imposed a penalty of ₹6.75 crore on the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) for abusing its dominant position. Also, directed ITPO to "cease and desist" from treating in such anti-competitive practices which have been found to be abusive in terms of the provisions of the Competition Act. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/competition-commission-imposes-rs-6-75-crore-fine-on-itpo-114042300747_1.html</p>	☺
11.	23/04/2014	<p>CCI: No abuse of dominance by Ansal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competition Commission of India held that no prima facie case was made out against Ansal for causing a probe by the Director General (investigations) as the company did not appear to be in a dominant position in the relevant market. <p>http://profit.ndtv.com/news/corporates/article-no-abuse-of-dominant-position-by-ansal-township-in-punjab-project-fair-trade-regulator-386303</p>	☺

12.	23 /04/2014	<p><u>CCI dismissed a complaint of abuse of dominance charges against TDI Infra</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The complaint filed by TDI Fun Republic Shop Owner Welfare Association had alleged that TDI Infrastructure along with E-City Property Management & Services (EPMS) had abused their dominant position by imposing unreasonable charges on the shop owners in the mall. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ci-rules-out-abuse-of-dominance-charges-against-ti-infra-114042300916_1.html</p>	☺
13.	23 /04/2014	<p><u>CCI clears Ruchi Soya deal to buy oil business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fair trade regulator CCI has cleared FMCG firm Ruchi Soya Industries proposed acquisition of Ruchi Infrastructure's oil refining business, as the deal does not raise adverse competition concerns in the market. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ci-approves-ruchi-soya-deal-to-buy-oil-refining-business-114042301302_1.html</p>	☺
14.	24/04/2014	<p><u>CCI diminishes abuse of dominant position charges against Aerens</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A complaint filed by an individual had alleged that Aerens Jai Reality had imposed unfair prices and conditions on home buyers. Further it had indulged in practices which led to restriction on market access to other players in the realty space. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ci-rejects-abuse-of-dominant-position-charges-against-aerens-114042400768_1.html</p>	☺
15.	29/04/2014	<p><u>CCI rejects anti-competitive charges against ministries</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competition Commission of India has rejected charges that the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology and the Ministry of Commerce indulged in unfair trade practices with respect to e-tendering softwares, solutions and services. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ci-rejects-anti-competitive-charges-against-ministries-114042901381_1.html</p>	☺
16.	30/04/2014	<p><u>CCI discards anti-competitive charges against Shri Ram Schools</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Competition Commission has rejected a complaint that alleged that Shri Ram Schools abused its position with respect to use of the brand name 'Shri Ram'. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ci-rejects-anti-competitive-charges-against-shri-ram-schools-114043001050_1.html</p>	☺
MAY			
1.	08/05/14	<p><u>Competition Commission clears Jaiprakash-TAQA deal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competition watchdog has cleared the USD 1.6 billion deal of Jaiprakash Power Ventures to sell its two hydel plants to Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA) and two other entities. <p>http://profit.ndtv.com/news/corporates/article-jaiprakash-taqa-deal-cleared-by-fair-trade-regulator-387832</p>	☺
2.	13 /05/14	<p><u>CCI rejects market abuse complaint against Adidas, Reebok</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The complaint was filed by Om Datt Sharma, the Managing Partner of Kalpataru Enterprises, claiming that Adidas AG, Reebok International Ltd and Reebok India Company, as a group, abused its dominant position in the relevant market of sale of premium sports goods in Noida. 	☺

		http://www.livemint.com/Companies/B74xNPo9bk7mCVOZh15ORL/CCI-rejects-market-abuse-complaint-against-Adidas-Reebok.html	
3.	13 /05/14	<p><u>CCI gives green signal to Wilmar-Renuka Sugars deal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Competition Commission of India said: "The proposed combination is not likely to have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India". <p>http://www.thecropsite.com/news/16248/cci-clears-wilmarrenuka-sugars-deal</p>	☺
4.	16 /05/14	<p><u>CCI clears Shapoorji Pallonji stake buy in Sterling and Wilson</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCI has given its approval to Shapoorji Pallonji & Company Ltd and Khurshed Yazdi Daruvala to buy additional 11.38% stake in Sterling and Wilson, as the proposed deal will not lead to any change in control of management of the firm. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/cci-clears-shapoorji-stake-buy-in-sterling-and-wilson-114051301094_1.html</p>	☺
5.	19 /05/14	<p><u>Competition watchdog again catches Coal India violating competition norms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competition Commission has directed the state-run miner to "cease and desist" from indulging in unfair business practice on the basis of finding Coal India again guilty for abusing its dominant position in fuel supplies. <p>http://m.economictimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/metals-mining/competition-commission-of-india-again-finds-coal-india-violating-competition-norms/articleshow/35348881.cms</p>	☺
6.	20/05/14	<p><u>Competition Commission clears FIMI-Deere deal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competition Commission has approved proposed deal of Israeli firm FIMI V 2012 to acquire US-based Deere & Company's water segment business which includes irrigation related products. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/competition-commission-clears-fimi-deere-deal-114052001170_1.html</p>	☺
7.	28 /05/14	<p><u>Competition Commission of India clears transfer of business within Raheja family firms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fair trade watchdog CCI has approved a deal involving transfer of Raheja firm Magna's hotel and retail businesses to another group firm Genext, saying the transaction would not raise competitive concerns as ultimate control would remain within the corporate family. <p>http://m.economictimes.com/industry/services/hotels-/-restaurants/competition-commission-of-india-clears-transfer-of-business-within-raheja-family-firms/articleshow/35683968.cms</p>	
8.	29/05/14	<p><u>CCI rejected anti-competitive charges against Snapdeal & SanDisk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Competition Commission of India has rejected a complaint alleging that online marketplace Snapdeal.com and SanDisk Corporation abused their dominant market position for portable small-sized consumer storage devices. <p>http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-05-29/news/50182270_1_snapdeal-com-consumer-storage-web-portal</p>	☺
9.	29/05/14	<p><u>Fair trade regulator closes case against Hyundai Motor Company, three dealers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was suspected that car maker Hyundai Company and its authorised dealers --Nimbus Motors, Himgiri Car Pvt Ltd and 	☺

		<p>Pawan Auto Wheels Pvt Ltd-- have disobeyed the provisions of the Competition Act in respect to provision of car maintenance and repairing services.</p> <p>http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-05-29/news/50182312_1_car-maintenance-entities-model-car</p>	
JUNE			
1.	02/06/14	<p>CCI agrees Tesco's stake in Trent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Competition Commission of India has approved British retail major Tesco's purchase of a 50 percent stake in Tata Group firm Trent Hypermarket. <p>http://www.fashionunited.in/news/apparel/competition-commission-of-india-approves-tesco-stake-in-trent-020620147118</p>	☺
2.	09/06/14	<p>CCI clears Cargill-Copersucar joint venture plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fair trade regulator CCI has approved the proposed joint venture between agro-processing major Cargill and Brazil-based Copersucar in respect of their sugar trading business, saying that "the proposed combination is not likely to have appreciable adverse effect on competition in India". <p>http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-06-09/news/50448130_1_sugar-competition-commission-cargill-inc</p>	☺
3.	20/06/14	<p>CCI clears HSBC Oman-Doha Bank deal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The competition watchdog of India has approved the proposed transfer of HSBC Oman's banking business in India to Qatar-based Doha Bank, saying the deal will not adversely impact competition in the country. <p>http://m.economictimes.com/news/economy/policy/competition-commission-clears-proposed-transfer-of-hsbc-omans-banking-business-in-india-to-doha-bank/articleshow/36896670.cms</p>	☺
4.	24/06/14	<p>CCI rejected complaint of unfair trade practices by Director General of Health Services(DGHS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A complaint filed by a retired Wing Commander Biswanath Prasad Singh had alleged that DGHS was abusing its dominance for empanelment of private hospitals for purpose of healthcare and medical services to Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) in Delhi-NCR region. <p>http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/cci-rules-out-unfair-trade-practices-by-dghs-114062401135_1.html</p>	☺
5.	27/06/14	<p>Ashok Chawla: Industry players will be consulted in forming regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCI chairman Ashok Chawla told reporters on the sidelines of a Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) event that "So in future, whatever regulations will be made, we will do in consultations with the people concerned." <p>http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/companies/industry-players-will-be-consulted-in-forming-regulations-cci_102716.html</p>	☺
6.	30/06/14	<p>CCI slapped penalty of Rs. 1 Crore on Thomas Cook, Sterling Holidays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CCI had issued a notice to all the three entities declaring that "market purchases, being part of the composite combination (under the competition regulations), were consummated before giving notice to the Commission and as such invited penalty under 	☺

		the (Competition) Act”. http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cci-to-put-competition-compliance-norms-in-public-domain/article6162581.ece	
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