

Panel Discussion & Book Release

Competition and Regulation in India

Thursday, 01st September 2016

Seminar Halls 1, 2, 3 (New Extension Building), India International Centre, New Delhi

PROGRAMME

17:15–17:50 Registration & Tea

17:50–18:00 Opening Remarks by Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS

The opening remarks will highlight the importance of CUTS-CIRC initiative of periodically reviewing the state of competition and regulation in key economic sectors in India. Key findings of the Report of Competition and Regulation in India, 2015 will be pointed out.

18:00–18:20 Release of the report “Competition & Regulation in India, 2015” and address by Chief Guest Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon’ble Union Minister for Railways

18:20–18:30 Special address by Guest of Honour, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon’ble Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs

18:30–19:15 High-level Panel Discussion “The Political Economy of Regulation in India: Impact on Investments and Economic Growth”

Regulations in key economic sectors in India often skew the balance in favour of few market players and create an uneven playing field. This is despite the sound understanding that competition and regulatory reforms can introduce efficiency, attract investments and facilitate economic growth.

The discussion will focus on political economy of regulation, specially the incentives for choosing short-term regulatory fixes over long term sustainable reforms and initiatives required to move away from this approach.

The panellists will comprise senior representatives from different stakeholder groups, including policy makers, regulators, think tanks, experts, academia, etc.

Chair

- **Nitin Desai**, President, CIRC Governing Council

Speakers

- **P. D. Rai**, Member of Parliament, (Lok Sabha), Sikkim
- **D. K. Sikri**, Chairman, Competition Commission of India
- **Harsha Vardhan Singh**, Executive Director, Brookings India
- **Amit Kapoor**, Chairman, Institute of Competitiveness India

19:15–19:30 Floor Discussion

19:30–19:40 Closing and Vote of Thanks by Arvind Mayaram, Chairman, CIRC