



CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation

Publications Digest • 2015

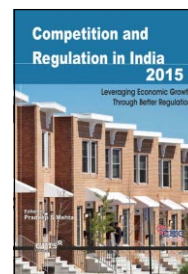
*CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation
(CUTS CCIER) produces this document for informing the relevant
stakeholders its major publications in 2015*



REPORTS

Competition and Regulation in India, 2015

Given the crucial need of a well-functioning regulatory apparatus for the economic governance for a developing country like India, it is essential to evaluate such regulatory bodies in terms of their performance, effectiveness, independence, awareness as well as usefulness. This series of India Competition and Regulation Report, 2015 brought out by CUTS projects the true scenario of regulation and competition in select relevant sectors; conduct perception survey from relevant stakeholders regarding several regulatory and competition issues; consequently providing recommendations and suggestions to improvise the current state of regulatory structure in the country.

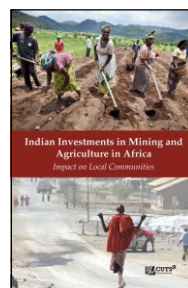
**Indian Investments in Mining and Agriculture in Africa: Impact on Local Communities**

The study analysed one Indian company in select countries, namely, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Ethiopia. While mining was looked at in Kenya and Zambia, agriculture was looked at in Ethiopia and Uganda. The countries and sectors were selected on the basis of high Indian investment in them. India is the largest investor in Ethiopia, and one of the top five foreign investors in Ghana and Kenya. Zambia was selected as an example of a least developing country with which India has a burgeoning investment relationship that is likely to lead to further bilateral engagements.

This research aimed to provide insight into the contribution of specific Indian companies vis-a-vis positive impact on communities in the relevant project countries.

www.cuts-ccier.org/ia/pdf/

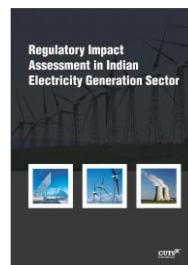
Indian_Investments_in_Mining_and_Agriculture_in_Africa_Impact_on_Local_Communities.pdf

**Regulatory Impact Assessment in Indian Electricity Generation Sector**

In recent years, though the availability of electricity in India has both increased and improved but the demand has consistently outstripped the supply. The study proposes Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) as a tool to improve regulatory governance in the sector, enhance private sector participation and thus improve consumer and producer welfare. The main goal of this study is to identify and analyse the specific costs and benefits of the selected regulations for power producers and suggest alternative regulations having the potential of resulting in maximum net benefits, thus easing the business conditions for power producers without adding unreasonable transaction costs for the state and compromising consumers' welfare.

www.cuts-ccier.org/ADB-RIA/pdf/

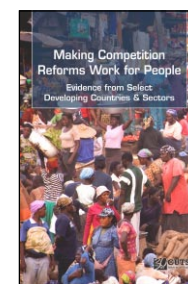
Regulatory_Impact_Assessment_in_Indian_Electricity_Generation_Sector.pdf

**Making Competition Reforms Work for People: Evidence from Select Developing Countries & Sectors**

This Synthesis Report is published under the CREW project. It presents the cross-country experience from the staple food and bus transport sectors respectively, together with associated emerging lessons. It illustrates an emerging pathway, which is the medium through which competition reforms could lead to consumer and producer welfare. The Report also presents some illustrations to highlight how competition and regulatory reforms in the sectors have had implications on women's social and economic empowerment and concludes. It was released on the sidelines of the 7th Review Conference of the UN Set on Competition Policy at UNCTAD in Geneva on July 08, 2015.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/

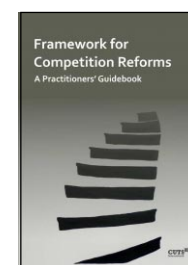
Making_Competition_Reforms_Work_for_PeopleEvidence_from_Select_Developing_Countries_and_Sectors.pdf

**Framework for Competition Reforms: A Practitioners' Guidebook**

This Guidebook begins with a clear account of some of the best economic studies that show the benefits of competition. It quite rightly then identifies the key challenge as being to link this rather dry academic evidence with outcomes from real policy change; a challenge that the CREW project was established to address with comparative case studies of staple foods and bus transport in four developing countries. It provides the methodology that was used in those studies, refined in an iterative process from the experience of those studies themselves.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/

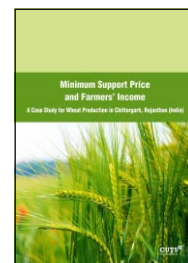
Framework_for_Competition_ReformsA_Practitioners_Guidebook.pdf



Minimum Support Price and Farmers' Income: A Case Study for Wheat Production in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan (India)

This case study of Chittorgarh district of Rajasthan makes an attempt to analyse the impact of MSP on a farmer's income. To examine the impact of MSP on the farmer's income in Chittorgarh, a total of 91 farmers in 19 villages in three blocks of Chittorgarh district were identified. Through primary surveys and key informant interviews, the study investigated whether the MSP sufficiently covered the cost of wheat production incurred by farmers and also tried to assess the effectiveness of government agriculture support system on the identified farmers.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Minimum_Support_Price_and_Farmers_Income.pdf

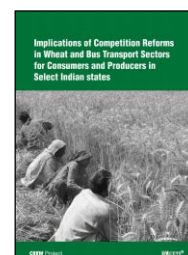


Implications of Competition Reforms in Wheat and Bus Transport Sectors for Consumers and Producers in Select Indian States

This Diagnostic Country Report (DCR) is a product of the diagnostic or research phase of the project entitled Competition Reforms to Enhance Social and Economic Welfare in Developing Countries (CREW project). The three-year project aims to demonstrate the implications of competition reforms on producers and consumers in order to attract the attention of policymakers in developing and least developed countries towards effective implementation of competition in key markets.

The DCR was developed to unravel competition concerns in two selected sectors – (staple food – wheat and bus transport) across 4 four states in India. It aims to assess the impact of various competition/market reforms on producers and consumers, and overall competition environment in these states.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Diagnostic_Country_Report-India.pdf

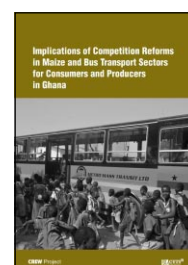


Implications of Competition Reforms in Maize and Bus Transport Sectors for Consumers and Producers in Ghana

This report is a product of the diagnostic or research phase of the project entitled Competition Reforms to Enhance Social and Economic Welfare in Developing Countries (CREW project). The three-year project aims to demonstrate the implications of competition reforms on producers and consumers in order to attract the attention of policymakers in developing and least developed countries towards effective implementation of competition in key markets.

This report makes an attempt to assess the impact of reforms that were undertaken in the maize and bus passenger transport sectors on consumers and producers in Ghana.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Diagnostic_Country_Report-Ghana.pdf

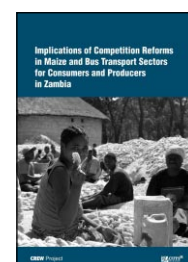


Implications of Competition Reforms in Maize and Bus Transport Sectors for Consumers and Producers in Zambia

This DCR is a product of the diagnostic or research phase of the project entitled Competition Reforms to Enhance Social and Economic Welfare in Developing Countries (CREW project). The three-year project aims to demonstrate the implications of competition reforms on producers and consumers in order to attract the attention of policymakers in developing and least developed countries towards effective implementation of competition in key markets.

This report makes an attempt to assess the impact of reforms that were undertaken in the maize and bus passenger transport sectors over time in Zambia.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Diagnostic_Country_Report-Zambia.pdf

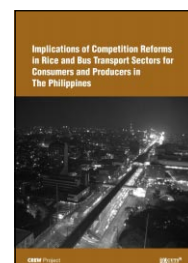


Implications of Competition Reforms in Rice and Bus Transport Sectors for Consumers and Producers in The Philippines

This DCR is a product of the diagnostic or research phase of the project entitled Competition Reforms to Enhance Social and Economic Welfare in Developing Countries (CREW project). The three-year project aims to demonstrate the implications of competition reforms on producers and consumers in order to attract the attention of policymakers in developing and least developed countries towards effective implementation of competition in key markets.

This report makes an attempt to assess the impact of reforms that were undertaken in the rice and bus passenger transport sectors over time in Philippines.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Diagnostic_Country_Report-Philippines.pdf



DISCUSSION PAPERS

Privatisation in Ghana: Successes During Economic Collapse and Authoritarianism

The goal of this Discussion Paper is to empirically analyse the case of privatisation in Ghana to determine what factors led to successes and what policies led to failures. It outlines the establishment of state-owned firms in Ghana, motivation and process of privatisation with a particular emphasis on initiation of the policy in late 1980s. The paper looks at the performance record of privatisation in Ghana in terms of its effect on firm performance, workers, broader economy and general public.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Privatisation_in_Ghana-Alan_Potter.pdf

**Facilitating Interoperability in Digital Finance Services in India**

Interoperability is usually understood as ability of different networks/systems/tools to communicate with each other, exchange and use/process data. The term has gained prominence with advent of digital finance in emerging economies. India has witnessing tectonic shifts with respect to regulation and market practices on interoperability. This Discussion Paper reviews existing literature on interoperability, international experiences, regulations applicable in India and presents a possible way forward for different stakeholders, including industry, civil society, experts and regulators to work together for facilitate interoperability while balancing competing interests in the market.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Facilitating_Interoperability_in_Digital_Finance_Services_in_India.pdf

**Comparative Study of the Origin, Evolution and Current State of Play of Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) of BRICS Countries**

This Discussion Paper observed that the original motivation to enter into BITs for all BRICS economies was the need and eagerness to attract foreign investment in view of domestic constraints of availability of capital. However, barring Brazil, in no other BRICS economy, the potential impact of BITs on sovereignty resulted in any of these countries not ratifying BITs. In case of China and, to some extent, Russia, concerns with respect to sovereignty of host country, resulted in these countries entering into BITs, in the initial phase, with limited or restricted investor-state dispute settlement.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Comparative_Study_of_the_Origin-BITs_of_BRICS_Countries.pdf



BRIEFS

Enabling Effective Competition in Mobile Money Markets

This Briefing Paper provides an overview of the state of competition in different mobile money markets and points to the secular trend of low-level of competition across jurisdictions despite different growth trajectories of mobile money markets. It goes on to discuss the policy and practice distortions to competition in different jurisdictions and possible impact of low competition on consumers, agents, regulators and other stakeholders. It concludes with possible measures to improve competition, such as competition impact assessment, periodic review of regulations, and sector neutral competition policy to address capacity concerns and implementation bottlenecks.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Enabling_Effective_Competition_in_Mobile_Money_Market.pdf

**Concerns with Respect to Payments Banks in India**

Payments banks are first set of differentiated banks, aimed at providing deposit, payments and remittance services to low income groups, and other non-risk sharing simple financial services. The RBI had issued operational guidelines for payment banks in November 2014 (RBI guidelines) and provided clarifications thereon in January 2015 (RBI clarifications). The successful applicants are required to comply with relevant conditions under RBI guidelines and respective in-principle approval within 18 months. This has triggered analysis of RBI guidelines and clarifications in greater detail, amongst relevant stakeholders. The Briefing Paper highlights competition and regulatory concerns with respect to structure and operation payments banks, on the basis of review of existing literature and guidelines.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper_Concerns_with_Respect_to_Payments_Banks_in_India.pdf



Regulatory Impact Assessment: Hydro Sector in India

Before introducing a law, the government neglects to anticipate the consequences of actions in the future, due to which laws often tend to fail to meet the desired objectives. Hence, RIA comes as a facilitating tool to estimate costs and benefits before the decision is taken. This Briefing Paper discusses CUTS' case study on hydro sector in Himachal Pradesh where it has intricately explained various steps involved in RIA.

www.cuts-ccier.org/BHC-RIA/pdf/Regulatory_Impact_Assessment-Hydro_Sector_in_India.pdf

Regulatory Impact Assessment in Coal Sector in India

Before introducing legislations, the government sometimes fail to anticipate the consequences of actions in future and unintentionally introduces anomalies in the implementing process. This often results in failure to meet the desired objectives. Hence, RIA comes as a facilitating tool to estimate the impacts, both positive and negative, even before the decision is taken. This Briefing Paper discusses CUTS' case study on coal sector in Rajasthan where it has intricately explained various steps involved in executing RIA.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pdf/Regulatory_Impact_Assessment-Coal_Sector_in_India.pdf

Regulation and Implementation of Mobile Internet Quality of Service:

Role and Scope of Civil Society Organisations

To ensure quality standards of wireless data services, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has formulated specific parameters or the Quality of Service (QoS) standards which all service providers are mandated to follow. This Briefing Paper underscores the importance of civil society organisations' (CSOs) intervention in buoying and enhancing the regulation and implementation of the captioned quality standards. The paper maps the role that the CSOs have been playing and highlights the gaps which need to be plugged and could be plugged through certain recommendations.

www.cuts-ccier.org/QOSII/pdf/

[Regulation_and_Implementation_of_Mobile_Internet_Quality_of_Service-Role_and_Scope_of_CSOs.pdf](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/QOSII/pdf/Regulation_and_Implementation_of_Mobile_Internet_Quality_of_Service-Role_and_Scope_of_CSOs.pdf)

Ensuring Quality of Service for Mobile Internet: Learnings for India

Quality of Service (QoS) is as important as digital inclusion. A high coverage with bad QoS is as good as no service. It would be a capital not used efficiently like a low quality road which cannot sustain for long. Mobile Internet in India suffers from a number of ailments which are linked to quality such as slow speeds, outages and connection drops. This paper compares Indian QoS framework with countries like Brazil, Pakistan and Singapore and tries to build, from the learnings, a strong case for effective regulation of mobile internet quality standards in India.

www.cuts-ccier.org/QOSII/pdf/Ensuring_Quality_of_Service_for_Mobile_Internet-Learnings_for_India.pdf

NEWSLETTERS/E-NEWSLETTERS

ReguLetter

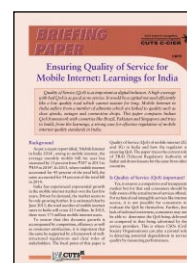
This is a quarterly flagship newsletter published by CUTS CCIER. The objective is to create awareness among stakeholders, particularly CSOs, who in turn lobby at national, regional and international level, on the issues related to competition and consumer welfare. It focuses on news, views and policies related to corporate restructuring, regulations of utilities and finances, corporate governance etc. of different countries, with focus on developing nations.

www.cuts-ccier.org/reguletter.htm

PolicyWatch

This is a quarterly newsletter published by CUTS CCIER. The objective is to report on policy and regulatory developments in India with the objective of informing people. This newsletter is primarily meant for Indian readers, dealing with various economic policy issues. It covers developments on policy responses, implementation and distortions. Special dedicated sections raise several interesting and relevant issues drawing attention towards their implications and impact.

www.cuts-ccier.org/pw-index.htm



CUTS CCIER Activity Report

This quarterly report summarises major activities undertaken by the Centre during the period. It provides a quick overview of various operations of the Centre and corresponding outputs.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CCIER_Activities.htm



CCI Watch

The role of the Competition Commission of India is very crucial for effective competition amongst the market players. CCI's imposition of heavy penalties and probe into sectors such as real estate, entertainment, cement, petroleum, steel, travel industry, healthcare, education, etc. have kept CCI in the limelight since past three years. The aim of CCI Watch is to review and highlight the performance of CCI through the lens of media.

www.cuts-ccier.org/CCI_Watch.htm

DOSSIER

Competition Distortions in India

This quarterly dossier looks at the interface of policy issues which have an impact on competition in India and which can be both negative and positive. The purpose is to flag issues to the layman as well as to the policymakers and regulators, rather than being judgmental.

www.cuts-ccier.org/Competition_Distortions_India.htm

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