



Wednesday, 17  
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**MUMBAI THIRUVANANTHAPURAM KOLKATA HYDERABAD CHENNAI BANGALORE AIZAWL**

Friday, June 12, 2009

## Ministry of Corporate Affairs

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE STATE OF COMPETITION IN THE INDIAN ECONOMY CONCLUDES

18:42 IST

The two-day National Conference on the 'State of Competition in the Indian Economy', organized by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) in collaboration with the World Bank and the Department for International Development (DFID), UK, concluded here today. In her valedictory address Dr. (Smt.) Isher Judge Ahluwalia, Chairperson, ICRIER, spoke about the need for looking at level playing field between private and public sectors. She underscored the fact that opening up to private sector alone is not the solution, but correct pricing and regulatory policies should accompany such opening up to facilitate competition. She felt that stake holders have high expectations from CCI and that CCI will definitely rise to the occasion.

Shri. Dhanendra Kumar, Chairman, Competition Commission of India, had earlier underlined the benefits of competition in markets and referred to empirical studies indicating competition contributing to GDP growth of countries to the extent of more than two per cent in some cases. He referred to the specific case of telecommunications in India, where price has come down for services and efficiency has increased, with the opening up of the sector. Consumers stand to benefit the most from competition law enforcement, Shri Dhanendra Kumar said.

The Conference had a galaxy of experts from India and abroad including Dr. Suresh Tendulkar, Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister; Shri Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII; Dr. Soumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission; Prof. N. L. Mitra, former Vice-Chancellor, National Law School, Bangalore; Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Chairman, 13th Finance Commission; Prof. S. L. Rao, former Chairman, Central Electricity Authority amongst others from India and experts from the World Bank, the US and the UK. The Conference was attended by over 200 participants representing policy makers, regulators, academics and other stakeholders. The objective has been to provide a forum for interaction between experts, researchers and policy makers to facilitate capacity building for the Commission as well as for the research community in the country.

The Conference is part of the competition advocacy mandate of the Commission. Competition Commission of India, World Bank and DFID have decided to work together for continuing the collaboration for capacity building on competition policy and law in the country. A national conference in continuation of this conference is being planned in the first quarter of 2010 in New Delhi.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Minister for Corporate Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshid, yesterday.

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