

Press Release dated 05th January, 2018

CCI invites comments from public in respect of proposed combination between Bayer Aktiengesellschaft and Monsanto Company.

On 7th August, 2017, the Competition Commission of India received a notice filed by Bayer Aktiengesellschaft (Bayer) in relation to acquisition of the entire shareholding of Monsanto Company (Monsanto) by Bayer. Bayer, the Acquirer, is a German stock corporation, and is a life sciences company with competencies in the areas of health care and agriculture. The activities of Bayer are carried out in three main divisions *viz.* pharmaceuticals, consumer health, and crop sciences. Monsanto is a global provider of agricultural products for farmers, *viz.* seeds, biotechnology traits, and herbicides.

The Commission is of the *prima facie* opinion that the proposed combination is likely to have an appreciable adverse effect on competition and, accordingly, has directed Bayer, in terms of Section 29(2) of the Competition Act, 2002, to publish details of the combination for bringing the combination to the knowledge or information of the public and persons affected or likely to be affected by such combination.

Bayer has already published the details of the proposed combination in all India editions of four newspapers *viz.*, The Business Line, The Financial Express, Indian Express and The Statesman on 05th January, 2018 and the same is also hosted on the respective websites of the parties. The said details are also available on the website of the Commission (www.cci.gov.in).

As per the provisions of Section 29(3) of the Act, the Commission invites comments/objections/ suggestions in writing, from any person(s) adversely affected or likely to be affected by the proposed combination. The same may be addressed to the **Secretary, Competition Commission of India, Hindustan Times House, 7th Floor, 18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi – 110001** or through **email: secy@cci.gov.in**, within fifteen working days from the date of publication of details of the proposed combination.

The Commission is not likely to consider unsubstantiated objections.
