

World Competition Day | 5th December 2017

Conference Hall II, India Islamic Cultural Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi, India

Theme 2017: "Re-imagining Competition Policy and Law in the Era of Disruption"

One of the important advocacy campaigns spearheaded by CUTS International since 2010 is the observance of the World Competition Day on 5th December. The aim of the campaign is to ensure that consumers from across the world realise the potential benefits from an effectively implemented competition regime, and also play their role in making competition regimes work worldwide.

December 5th is the day when United Nations Conference on Restrictive Business Practices approved the UN Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices in 1980. Motivated by the interest and support of many competition agencies and other stakeholders to the cause, the International Network of Civil Society Organisations on Competition (INCSOC) announced the first World Competition Day on 5th December 2010. Given above background, this seminar is being organised by CUTS International in collaboration with CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC) to celebrate the World Competition Day 2017. This year, the theme for WCD 2017 is "Re-imagining Competition Policy and Law in the Era of Disruption".

Agenda for 5th December 2017

03:00–03:30pm Registration

03:30–03:40pm Welcome Remarks:

Dr. Arvind Mayaram, IAS(R), (Former Finance Secretary of India),
Chairman, CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC)

03:40–04:00pm Key Note Address:

Augustine Peter, Member, Competition Commission of India

04:00–05:30pm Panel Discussion: "Re-imagining Competition Policy and Law in the Era of Disruption"

Digital disruption has created a wave of creative destruction. New technologies facilitating innovative business models can greatly affect the functioning of existing players. Take for instance, internet-based *sharing services* are disrupting conventional taxi, hotel and retail markets. These winds of change have brought a substantial increase in consumer welfare and competition and can also raise regulatory challenges. Global debate is occurring regarding the extent to which regulatory intervention is appropriate. In contemporary digital markets, competition has often been cyclical in nature. Platform competition often leads to *winner takes all* situation. Although, successful firms may acquire significant market power, yet that dominance can be transient in nature and winners can get displaced by next cycle of innovation.

Chair and Moderator: Arvind Mayaram, Chairman, CIRC

Panellists:

- **Amol Kulkarni**, Fellow, CUTS CCIER
- **Anil Bhardwaj**, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
- **Kiran N Meetarbhan**, Former Executive Director, Competition Commission of Mauritius (CCM)
- **Santanu Mukherjee**, Advocate & Head, Ex Lege Chambers Advocates & Regulatory Policy Advisors
- **Seema Gaur**, Senior Economic Adviser, Ministry of Economics and Information Technology
- **Vaibhav Choukse**, Partner, J. Sagar Associates

05:30–06:00pm High Tea