



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

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2019-20
**ANNUAL
REPORT**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



NITIN DESAI

President | Governing Council

Conceptualised as a High Performing Knowledge Institute (HPKI), CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC) is living up to its vision. Despite the odds and challenges, I am glad to note that CIRC has been able to start a wide range of training and capacity building initiatives, within the thrust areas of economic regulation and competition law.

India's economic growth prospects have been vulnerable to the unpredictable and burdensome approach to economic regulation that, the country has followed for long. Despite introduction of independent sectoral regulations in the last few years, political expediency continues to drive economic decision-making. If the country has to maintain a high growth rate, it cannot afford unnecessary and onerous regulations making processes in several regulatory gaps. Such regulatory gaps not only restrain fresh investments, but also affect adversely the viability of existing businesses. Given the government's current focus on 'Make in India' and bringing in global investments, India needs to foster the right kind of market-oriented competitive and regulatory environment. The Government does realise the need, and there have been significant policy reform initiatives in that direction.

Dynamic changes in the regulatory environment of the country, however, require complementary capacity building of relevant officials and practitioners. CIRC has taken initiatives to launch courses in some of these relevant areas, including public procurement, public private partnership, energy regulation, intellectual property rights, role of economics in competition analysis and competition policy and law in India.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



DR. ARVIND MAYARAM

Chairman | Managing Committee

Indian economy is going through a very difficult phase with falling growth rates and weakening of other macro-economic parameters such as gross investment and savings rates. The need for counter-cyclical policies to address complex problems confronting the nation is a major challenge before policymakers. Critical inputs for policymakers come not only from the markets but with the internal and external environment rapidly changing, the role of independent research institutions like CIRC, which rely on facts and unbiased analysis to provide alternate policy solutions, is critical. The challenge is not only to deal with the economic volatility on account of macro and micro economic issues, but also the new dimension of severe and rapid disruption on account of technology implosion. It is throwing up a huge number of new issues with very little precedent to guide policy responses. It is therefore equally important to understand, analyse the regulatory and policy challenges arising out of technology changes and make available the new “knowledge” arising out of research to opinion makers. It is equally important to disseminate this new “knowledge” and create capacities in public officials to use it for finding solutions for the everyday problems of the people.

CIRC has played an effective role in the areas mandated to it with integrity and a sense of purpose, both in knowledge creation and dissemination, and also capacity building. Its capabilities and contribution are now internationally acknowledged and this is amply demonstrated by the mandates it has received from international organisations such as UNCTAD and ADB. In the area of sustainable infrastructure, acknowledging its pioneering work in the area of water and sanitation, UNICEF has given it a mandate to develop PPP models for integrated water and sanitation services for six clusters in Odisha.

Its work in the area of the interplay between economics and law, the role of competition in driving open economies, the need for regulation and its impact on the development and growth of different sectors has been well received. Its definition of the role of sustainability in the context of infrastructure development, which includes not only environmental and financial sustainability, but also emphasises the need for inclusiveness, that is now part of the “People First PPPs” approach of the UNECE. Through a very tightly knit and competent research and capacity building faculty and a large network of subject matter specialists and experts, CIRC has been producing very well researched studies, many of which have been published in reputed journals.

It has also used its knowledge base to launch several effective capacity building tools through both on-line and off-line courses. It has built strong relationships both with Indian academic institutions and bilateral and multilateral organisations like the ADB, UNCTAD and UNICEF. To maintain its independence and produce value-based research, CIRC has retained its fact-based research orientation and not-for-profit status.

In a world becoming increasingly complex and volatile, CIRC would continue to play a very important role in research based knowledge creation and capacity building not only in India, but also in other parts of the world.

WHO WE ARE

CIRC is a not-for-profit and independent research and capacity building organisation which has been active in the areas of competition, regulation and sustainable infrastructure including PPPs. We assist multilateral and bilateral government and private agencies in knowledge creation as well as capacity building for achieving better outcomes in policy formulation and also projects that they undertake. CIRC's capabilities and contribution are now internationally acknowledged and this is amply demonstrated by the mandates it has received from international organisations such as the UNCTAD, UNICEF, World Bank and ADB.

CIRC has competent research and capacity building experts in the organisation. Over the years, it has built a large network of subject matter experts within and outside India. CIRC's internal research team has been producing impactful research papers that have been published in national and international reputed journals. Through its online and offline capacity building programmes, it helps in addressing the skill gaps in competition, regulations and sustainable infrastructure areas. CIRC plays an important role in representing civil societies in various regulatory forums with its independent views and suggestions. It also disseminates the research knowledge base through various advocacy channels including workshops, discussion forums and conferences.

CIRC carries out these activities under its two verticals - Competition & Regulation, and Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP.



Competition & Regulation

Regulatory reforms are gaining pace in the developing world, with an increasing number of countries enacting competition and sectoral regulatory laws. For example, the Indian Competition Act, 2002 and miscellaneous sector regulatory laws covering electricity, fuel, ports, airports, telecom & broadcasting, e-commerce etc. established a completely new set of rules unfamiliar to most companies doing business in India, various stakeholders and the regulatory staff themselves. These have increased the demand for professionals in the field with relevant knowledge and a good understanding of competition and regulatory affairs. There is a severe shortage of institutional capacity to both implement the reforms and facilitate the spread of knowledge on regulatory matters in developing countries.

CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC) strives to fill the prevailing gaps by building knowledge and capacity through research, online courses and training programmes and workshops for the government officials, private practitioners and students in these areas.

Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP

Sustainability in terms of environmental friendliness, financial viability and inclusiveness is the key to a world with shared prosperity and a secure future. SDG 17 talks about partnership for these goals. PPP is recognised as one of the important tools for the development of sustainable infrastructure under SDG 17. CIRC has a strong team with requisite qualifications and experience, especially based on the Indian experience of infrastructure development and PPPs, which would be of immense value to the other developing countries. The organisation also has very strong sector specialist partners.

CIRC endeavours to work with multilateral and bilateral development agencies in areas, such as developing PPP framework in member countries, examining different alternatives for long term finance for sustainable infrastructure development including climate financing, area of co-financing, including sub-sovereign lending and leveraging sovereign borrowing to attract private sector finance as well as developing capacity building modules tailored to the specific requirements of different countries for public officials as a knowledge and capacity building partners.

The Emerging Scenario

With the advent of the digital economy, there is a paradigm shift in the way markets function. The new age internet economy is challenging the traditional markets and affecting consumer demand. Advanced technologies like big data analytics, Internet of Things, and Artificial Intelligence are revolutionising industries. Several new issues are arising in the technology space with regard to competition. Globally, competition authorities are grappling with regulating new age digital markets under the traditional competition law. CIRC is striving to excel in research and knowledge creation in this new area through its publications, capacity building activities and online courses.

CIRC is also pursuing active research in the increasingly critical area of sustainable infrastructure. It is involved in model building for more effective and responsive PPPs, especially in SDG related projects, which would help governments in the emerging market economies and developing countries and harness private capital and managerial efficiencies to achieve SDG by 2030.

CIRC also offers online and offline courses and training on PPP and procurement, energy law and policy. Its online courses are open throughout the year for both Indian and foreign nationals. To take this initiative forward, CIRC has entered into an agreement with major reputed international and national agencies such as APMG International, in collaboration with which CIRC will provide Certified PPP Professional (CP3P) training courses in India.

VISION

Our vision is of a world which creates value for all and without exclusion of any, through robust institutional support driven by competitive forces that check accumulation of power, driven by innovation and technology, in an inclusive manner.

OBJECTIVE

To create knowledge and build and enhance capacity of stakeholders on trade, economic regulation, competition and sustainable infrastructure development through multi-stakeholder approach.

1

MISSION

Purpose of CIRC is to use research backed knowledge to inform research organisation, policy makers, regulators, other stakeholders and public at large, about inclusive free markets and economic policy and regulation, and to inject sound ideas into the public debate, especially in developing countries and emerging market economies. It undertakes action oriented research. While maintaining intellectual integrity and independence, it has endeavoured to work on policy issues to deliver real change, and to make competitive free market ideas that promote sustainable development and partnerships between public and private sector a reality.

4

CORE VALUES

- Trust
- Co-operation
- Competition
- Quality
- Integrity

FRIENDS OF CIRC

MoU Partners

- Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), Gandhinagar
- O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU), Sonapat, Haryana
- University of Haryana, Mahendargarh, Haryana
- SGT University, Gurgaon, Haryana
- African Forum (AFS)
- Vistra ITCL India Pvt. Ltd.
- NIRDPR (National Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj)
- PPP Experts, UK

Support Organisations

- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- PTC India Limited (PTC)
- Infrastructure Finance Development Company (IDFC)
- The World Bank (WB)
- UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)
- UN Economic Commission on Europe (UNECE)
- Department of Personnel & Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of External Affairs

Affiliations

- Nirma University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- The World Bank (WB)
- Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), Gandhinagar
- O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU), Sonapat, Haryana
- University of Haryana, Mahendargarh, Haryana
- SGT University, Gurgaon, Haryana



New Collaborations

Empanelment with Competition Commission of India

CIRC has been empanelled by the Competition Commission of India in January 2020 to conduct competition assessment. CIRC was assigned its first competition assessment of “Man-made Synthetic Fibre” sector in India.



Incubation centre at Nirma University, Ahmedabad

CIRC signed an MoU with the Centre for Competition Law and Market Studies (CCLMS), Institute of Law, Nirma University, Ahmedabad, in a knowledge building capacity. The centre is established with a view to provide a platform for scholars and practitioners to exchange views on competition law and policy. The centre envisages being an incubation

for research, organising, conferences, conducting workshops and initiating discussion forums.

Selected Events

CIRC Trainings and Workshops Competition & Regulation

5th Winter School on Economics of Competition Law, 25-28 December 2019, India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi

CIRC in collaboration with Hong Kong based Economics Partners organised its 5th Winter School on Economics of Competition Law on 25-28 September at India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi. It was a four-day course customised to familiarise lawyers, professionals, students, academicians and in-house counsels with

economic literature in the field of competition law and equip them with globally applied competition economics principles and techniques. The course involved a detailed discussion of theories and concepts of competition law and economics along with case studies and simulation exercises. Several executives from international competition authorities, lawyers and law students took up this course. Lectures were interactive and insightful. It enabled strategic understanding and in depth analysis of the topics that were discussed. The course was well received by the participants and considered useful in their profession.



Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP



Round Table Discussion on 'Public-Private Partnerships for Developing Social Sector Infrastructure' in association with PHDCCI, on 28 August 2019, PHDCCI, New Delhi.

CIRC conducted a round table discussion on 'Public-Private Partnerships for Developing Social Sector Infrastructure' in association with PHDCCI, The round table discussion was attended by more than 50 participants from the water and waste

water sector. The discussion was divided into two sessions focusing on the need for private sector investments and the importance of PPPs for developing the social sector and PPP model for integrated water and sanitation in select clusters, one of which was the case of Odisha, where a PPP based model has been developed for piped water supply. The first session was moderated by Dr Arvind Mayaram and the second session was moderated by Mr Prasanna Srinivasan.

Round Table Discussion on 'Sanctity of contracts: The debate around the role of the judiciary and the regulator' on 20 February 2020, IIC, New Delhi.

CIRC conducted a round table discussion on the above topic providing a unique platform to deliberate upon the sanctity of contracts in view of recent happenings in the state of Andhra Pradesh related to renewable energy payments. The discussion focused on finding better alternatives to these types of logjams for a sustainable business environment and collective development. The discussion witnessed participation of power traders, generators, consultants and financial experts. Dr Arvind Mayaram moderated the session.



Train the Trainers Programme on 'PPP intervention for creating Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Provisioning of Quality Services' on 25 February 2020, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

As part of its capacity development and training initiative, CIRC conducted a Train the Trainers two-day programme for assistant executive engineers, sanitation consultants, and junior engineers in Bhubaneswar with support from the state

government. Mr R K Tripathy coordinated the programme. CIRC invited eminent external experts from the field of academics, PPP expert from ADB and local experts from the state PPP cell and financing institutions. A total of 24 state government officials participated in the programme and provided positive feedback.

Sensitisation workshop on 'Intervention of Public Private Partnership (PPP) for integrated rural water supply and waste water management projects'.

- **1st Workshop: 26 February 2020, Jagatsinghpur, Odisha.**
- **2nd Workshop: 27 February 2020, Athagarh, Odisha.**
- **3rd Workshop: 28 February 2020, Kendrapada, Odisha**

As part of the Odisha project, CIRC and team conducted 3-day sensitisation programmes in different districts of Odisha. The objective of the programme was to sensitise district-level officials on the role of public private partnership and how pilot programs can be designed with PPP intervention in rural part of Odisha.

The role of government officials and the community in implementing and monitoring of the project was discussed in length at the workshops. These workshops were highly appreciated by the local authorities.

Planned Trainings

6th Winter School on Economics of Competition Law, December 2020, New Delhi

CIRC in collaboration with Hong Kong based Economics Partners, is organising its 6th Winter School on Economics of Competition Law in December 2020 in New Delhi. It will be a four-day course customised to familiarise lawyers, professionals, students, academicians and in-house counsels with economic literature in the field of competition law and equip them with globally applied competition economics principles and techniques. The course involves a detailed discussion of theories and concepts of competition law and economics along with case studies and simulation exercises. The course sees participation from officers from international competition authorities, think tanks, corporates, lawyers, and law and economics students.

CIRC Conferences



CUTS International and CIRC 6th Biennial 1-2 December 2019, New Delhi

CIRC and CUTS organised the 6th Biennial Conference on Competition, Regulation and Development on December 1-2, 2019 in New Delhi. The theme of the conference was 'Making Competition and Regulatory Regimes Matter in Increasingly Online Developing World'. The objective of the conference was to discuss the current state of competition and regulation

regimes in developing economies, challenges posed and opportunities offered by increasingly online developing world, and policy and implementation innovations required to make them matter for sustainable development. The conference was attended by close to 100 participants from around the globe, representing competition agencies, industry bodies, regulators, inter-governmental organisations, development organisations, law firms, civil society, media, and academia.

CUTS International & CIRC Indian Competition Review Report (ICRR) 2019 Launch Event 5 February 2020, New Delhi

CIRC and CUTS organised the ICRR 2019 launch event on February 5, 2020 in New Delhi. The publication themed 'Digital Economy-Hitting the reset button on competition and regulatory governance' throws light on some very important facets of regulation and competition that are still not settled in the emerging digital economy like India. The conference was attended by close to 100 participants representing competition agencies, industry bodies, regulators, development organisations, law firms, civil society, media, and academia.



External Conferences



VI BRICS International Competition Conference in Moscow on 16-20 September 2019

Our Senior Fellow, Ms Garima Sodhi, along with Policy Analyst, CUTS International Ujjwal Kumar, participated in the VI BRICS International Competition Conference held in Russian Federation.

10th Asia Pacific Innovation Conference 2019 at Peking University, Beijing, on 10-11 October 2019

A paper titled 'Technology startups and IPR protection in India' authored by CIRC's Competition & Regulation team Garima Sodhi, Akriti Jain and Rinki Singh was presented by the team at the 10th Asia Pacific Innovation Conference (APIC) jointly organised by the School of Economics at Peking University (SEPKU)

and the Asia Pacific Innovation Network at the Peking University. The study is based on a survey of technology startups in India regarding their awareness and engagement in IP protection and challenges faced by them in the process.



5th National Conference on Economics of Competition Law, Competition Commission of India on 6 March 2020 in New Delhi, India

A paper titled 'Optimal Antitrust Penalty' co-authored by CIRC Senior Fellow Garima Sodhi, CIRC Associate Fellow Rinki Singh and CIRC Research Associate Faiz Rehman Siddiqui was presented by the team at the National Conference on Economics of Competition Law. The paper has been

selected for publication by the CCI in their *Competition Journal*.

Selected Publications

Competition & Regulation

Title: Relevant Market and Market Power in Ride Sharing Industry

Author: Garima Sodhi and Rinki Singh

Publication: Indian Competition Review Report (ICRR) 2019, CUTS International & CIRC

CIRC, in association with CUTS International, has been publishing biennial reports on the state of competition and regulation in India. The reports are designed to undertake reviews of the level of competition and regulation to assess the functioning of markets in the country. The ICRR 2019, with the theme 'Digital Economy-Hitting the reset button on competition and regulatory governance', throws light on some very important facets of regulation and competition that are still not settled in the emerging digital economy like India. A chapter titled 'Relevant Market and Market Power in Ride Sharing Industry' in the report is authored by CIRC Senior Fellow Garima Sodhi and Associate Fellow Rinki Singh.

Title: Time to Boost Innovation based Indo-US Energy Storage Cooperation: Insights from India

Author: Arvind Mayaram, Garima Sodhi and Rinki Singh

Publication: Policy Volume-1: 'The Innovation Route to Development: Indo-US Perspective', 2020, CUTS International

Abstract:

India and the US both have become of great significance to each other, be it in terms of bolstering economic relations, military ties or technology. The recent dialogues between India and the US for strengthening ties in the energy sector have reaffirmed the joint efforts of both the nations in the future. India has become a new lucrative market in the US for its oil & gas exports. Many Indian companies are also buying a stake in US hydrocarbon fields. However, in the wake of climate change, clean energy is where the future lies. The objective of reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions provided a major impetus to transition to clean energy. The countries are increasing the share of renewable energy in their energy portfolio. However, due to intermittency, renewable energy is less reliable. Storing energy is one of the greatest barriers to the adoption of renewable energy. Currently, there are fewer storage alternatives and they are expensive. This paper focuses on studying the current status of energy storage in India and the US policy recommendations to encourage research and development and partnership opportunities for energy storage between India and the US and explore policy alternatives to promote energy storage innovation, build human capital, infrastructure and market mechanism, and to facilitate technology transfer between the two countries.

Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP

Title: Explained: How A Pilot Project Could Power India's Ailing DISCOMs

Author: RK Tripathy

Published by: Swarajya, 18 August, 2019

Abstract:

Security constrained economic dispatch (SCED), a pilot project with cost saving potential, has come as a boon for DISCOMs that are reeling under financial stress. It can be hoped that the Power System Operation Corporation can pull off the SCED project without any operational and technical glitch.

Title: Evaluating Public-Private Partnership, the Right Way

Author: RK Tripathy

Published by: GovernanceNow, 17 January, 2020

Abstract:

Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) projects are always under scrutiny, given the options of alternative of traditional procurement for the government. The value-for-money debate is one of the essential parameters to judge any PPP. In the absence of any credible data on this regard, it is very difficult to establish whether the PPP is a success or not. So, what would be a right way to evaluate a PPP?

Title: The Role of Information and Communications Technologies in Developing and Maintaining Sustainable Water Management Systems in India

Author: RK Tripathy and Vivek Tyagi

Presented in 3rd International Conference on Business, Economics and Sustainable Development (ICBESD 2020) at NISM Patalganga.

Abstract:

This paper does an in-depth analysis of key roles being played by ICTs in achieving SDG 6 in the overall context of universal access of water in India. It also examines the status of technological interventions, especially ICT in existing policy and regulations framework of states and the center and suggests necessary interventions required for adopting ICT measures to develop a robust but flexible framework amenable for all stakeholders while safeguarding the investors' long-term interest in the business.

Advocacy

Submission of Comments to Ministry of Power's note for seeking comments on draft Electricity (Amendments) Bill 2020, 29 May 2020.

CIRC presented its suggestions and recommendations to the Ministry of Power through a comprehensive note detailing major issues that are suggested through the amendments to Electricity Act 2003. Major issues on which CIRC commented are electricity contracts and enforcement Authority, cross-border trading of electricity, distribution of sub-licenses, renewable energy policy and direct benefit transfer of subsidy.

Selected Articles and Op-eds

Newspaper Articles

Mayaram, A., Sodhi, G. & Puri, S. (2020) Is e-commerce really hurting competition?, *Business Standard*, 7 February 2020.

Mayaram, A. & Sodhi, G. (2020). How IPR protection can boost green innovation., *Business Standard*, 25 April 2020.

CIRComp

CIRComp is a weekly e-Newsletter encompassing weekly updates on National and International Competition Law and Policy. The newsletter is rolled out to lawyers, professionals, academicians, students etc. on a weekly basis to keep themselves updated on latest advancements on the subject. CIRC has been publishing CIRComp weekly since 2017 and can be accessed on our website <https://circ.in/circomp/>

Webinars

Indian Competition Law Review, 16 March 2019

Speaker: Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International

The Competition Law of India was under review by a nine member Competition Law Review Committee constituted by the Government of India to strengthen and re-calibrate the law so that it is in sync with the needs of strong economic fundamentals and the increasing size of the Indian economy. The review exercise was important to get the competition regime well equipped to deal with the changing nature of the economy, which is quite paradoxical. In this webinar, the proposed changes to Competition Law of India submitted by CUTS International and CIRC to the review committee were discussed.

Patents and Pharmaceuticals, 26 April 2019

Speaker: Jayashree Watal(R)-Counsellor, Intellectual Property Division, World Trade Organization.

Under a market-based system, it is well established that the private sector is uniquely dependent on patent protection in order to generate pharmaceutical innovation. However, patent protection lasts for 20 years from the date of application and market exclusivity for a typical patented medicine could range from 8-12 years (US studies). If a medicine is the only or even the best treatment for a disease condition, patent protection may become an obstacle to affordable access, especially in less developed countries where health insurance or other coverage to access such medicines is non-existent or very poor. How can society square this circle? Many have suggested the use of TRIPS flexibilities, including compulsory licences; others suggest differential or tiered pricing; yet others suggest new R&D models that delink costs from prices. In this webinar the pros and cons of each of these options were discussed.

Digital Markets and CLRC Recommendations: The Way Forward, 5 December 2019

Speaker: Ujjwal Kumar, Policy Analyst, CUTS International

The Government of India constituted a nine-member Competition Law Review Committee to strengthen and re-calibrate the law so that it is in sync with the needs of strong economic fundamentals and the increasing size of the Indian economy. The CLRC submitted its report in August 2019 with several prudent recommendations, particularly in light of changing market dynamics after the advent of the digital economy. On the occasion of the World Competition Day 2019, dedicated to the theme 'Ensuring Effective Competition in an Increasingly Online World', the webinar discussed the competition concerns in digital markets, CLRC recommendations and way forward for competition authorities.

IP Protection for Start-ups in India, 24 January 2020

Speaker: Dr Sharad Kohli, Founder and Chairman, KCC Group

IPR protection gives a push to start-ups and levels the playing field to compete effectively with the already established player in the market, and increases its valuation, thereby attracting more investments. However, IP is often ignored by the start-ups in their nascent stage, either due to lack of awareness about its importance or cost, time duration, process, etc. In this webinar, the importance of IPRs for start-ups, the constituents of an IPR and the process of creating an IPR are discussed.

Implementation of Sub-national PPPs in India: Issues and Challenges. Tuesday, 4 February 2020

Speaker: Dr Arvind Mayaram, former Finance Secretary to Government of India, Chairman, CIRC

Sub-national governments such as States/provinces/urban local bodies provide several essential as well as basic infrastructure services such as urban transport, water & sanitation, social infrastructure services that include services such as hospitals and schools. Developed countries such as Australia and Canada have developed robust PPPs with fiscal sufficiency, credit rating and execution capabilities at these sub-national levels. Whereas developing countries such as India and South Africa have developed the structure of PPPs, the growth of these PPPs have remained asymmetrical and slow when it comes to implementation at state/province level. There have been various challenges at sub-national level such as legislative, regulatory framework, transparency, governance; long-term financing, etc while implementing the PPP models in states. In India, while some of the states have robust institutional set-ups to address these issues, some still lag in conceptualising and implementing the same.

Introduction to Standard Essential Patents, 10 February 2020

Speaker: Dr Sheetal Chopra-India Lead, IPR Advocacy at Ericsson India Ltd.

Standard Essential Patents (SEPs) are patents that are essential and inevitable to implement the specific industry standard. They embody core innovation upon which the entire industry

is built. During the webinar, the speaker aims to cover the introduction to standardisation, SEPs, FRAND Licensing and the process of standardisation. It also touches upon some important concepts such as injunctions, royalty base, etc.

Planned Webinars

CIRC webinar series on Competition & Regulation

Theme: Competition Law & FDI

Proposed Date: September 2020

CIRC webinar series on Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP

Theme: Addressing the risk factors in social sector PPP projects

Proposed Date: September 2020

Projects

Competition & Regulation

Promoting Innovation and Competition for Efficient Use of Intellectual Property in India

CIRC and CUTS International are undertaking empirical research to advocate for constructive policy and regulatory reforms in the IPR regime in order to foster innovation and competition. This research is envisaged to facilitate promotion of a balanced IP regulatory framework that promotes and advances technological innovations, resulting in benefits to consumers and producers in India.

The project is envisaged to be completed in three phases. The second phase is completed with the report titled 'Technology Start-ups and IP Protection in India'. It involves a survey of technology start-ups in India, aiming to find out how startups construe IP protection and whether its use and conditions can be improved. It also provides a window to see how IPRs are structured in India and whether it is evolving to meet the challenges of the changing environment. This phase also involved a faculty development programme on the topic 'Intellectual Property, Innovation and Competition' on December 2018 at New Delhi and a webinar on 'Patents and Pharmaceuticals' on World IP Day 2019.

The third and final phase of the project is a follow-up to the previous phase and is near completion. The study is exploratory in nature and aims to provide a richer understanding of the patenting activity, motivation and challenges of technology start-ups in India through case study method to bring out nuances that the broad survey method is not able to capture. It involves case studies of seven technology start-ups which capture the start-up journey from ideation to commercialisation of their innovation and entrepreneurship challenges to identify the various aspects of their start-up journey that affect their patenting behaviour and make recommendations to promote innovation and patent protection in India. This phase also involved webinars on the themes 'IP Protection for Start-ups in India' and 'Introduction to Standard Essential Patents'.

Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP

Developing Integrated Drinking Water and Sanitation Infrastructure through PPP mode in Odisha

Client/Funding Agency: Funded by UNICEF and supported by the Government of Odisha

The study is aimed at developing a workable PPP framework for integrated drinking water and sanitation infrastructure development in select clusters in Odisha for pilot interventions. It also has a component of capacity development where in state government officials are trained with necessary tools and knowledge of PPP.

Status as of April, 2020:

- Project completed and the final report submitted to the Odisha government and UNICEF
- As part of the project, CIRC conducted three workshops at the district level and one Train the Trainers workshop at Bhubaneswar

Developing livelihood opportunities for artisans and craftsmen in Manipur through strategic interventions in handloom and handicraft sectors

Client/Funding Agency: Government of Manipur through MEETAC (Mission for Economic Empowerment of Traditional Artisan and Craftsmen)

The objective is to provide support in developing funding partners, marketing strategies including e-marketing platforms, PPP models and entrepreneurship development for developing the traditional craft sector of Manipur.

Status as of April, 2020:

- 1st phase of the project completed
- CIRC partnered with IIFT to develop the strategic value chain for marketing of the products

Study of Competition, Regulation and Market Reforms for Power Sector in India

Client/Funding Agency: PTC India

The study aims to examine the role of regulators for enabling competition and limiting monopoly in the Indian power sector, assess the feasibility of introducing new products such as financial derivatives to enhance liquidity and market development.

Status as of April, 2020:

- 1st phase Project Successfully completed and submitted.
- 2nd Phase of the project is to commence after PTC's go ahead.

Proposals under Consideration

Competition & Regulation

A one-year study on the 'Effectiveness of competition in making healthcare accessible and affordable by poor' comprising primary as well as secondary research

Status: Proposal submitted to Gates Foundation

Capacity building programme on 'Competition Policy & Law' under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme and its sister programme SCAAP (Special Commonwealth African Assistance Programme) by the Ministry of External Affairs

Status: Under consideration by the Ministry of External Affairs

One week in-service training programme on 'Public Procurement' for officers under All India Service (IAS, IPS & IFoS), officers working under Central Staffing Scheme and officers of CSS/CSSS (DS/Sr. PPS and above level) under the aegis of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT)

Status: Under Consideration by DoPT

Sustainable Infrastructure and PPP

Upgrading models in PPP for Primary Health Care Centres in Rajasthan

The project aims to establish the standards and benchmarks that enable evaluation performance of PHCs and to suggest restructure PHCs and to suggest restructuring and modified version of PPP programme that can be implemented in select PHCs through pilot interventions.

Status: Under consideration by Gates Foundation

Three-day capacity building programme on 'Auditing Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in India: Issues and Challenges'

The capacity development proposal aims at training the CAG officials on the issue of PPP and issues related to the audit of PPP projects

Status: Under consideration by CAG

Capacity Building Programme for Rural officials on Sustainable Water Infrastructure and Service Delivery in Rural Areas in India under Jal Jeevan Mission

The proposal aims at creating capacity at rural officials on sustainable water and infrastructure delivery under Jal Jeevan Mission.

CIRC and its partnering institutes at state levels will jointly undertake the capacity building initiative.

Status: Under consideration by Jal Shakti Ministry, Government of India.

Training and Capacity building for rural government officials on PPP and Public Procurement in association with NIRDPR

NIRD in partnership with CIRC aims to develop various training modules for capacity building of rural officers in the areas of PPP and public procurement and build capacities of public officials through a series of workshop.

Status: Under consideration by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

Five-day training programme on 19th SAFIR core course for members of South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR)

CIRC proposed to conduct the core course training of SAFIR personnel and regulators on the subject issue of competition and regulation in infrastructure sector.

Online Courses

Competition Policy & Law

CIRC re-launched its course 'Competition Policy & Law' in February 2020 as a six-month online certificate course. It is a comprehensive course on competition law that includes the overview, concepts, economics of competition law, competition assessment tools, provisions of law as well as contemporary issues. It is designed by experts in the field of competition law and includes theoretical as well as analytical approaches, with the help of case studies.

Competition Act 2002 in India

This is an eight-week online certificate course, intended to introduce participants to the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002 in India and its enforcement. It provides students with a strong grip on the nuances of competition law and broadens their analytical capabilities.

Economics for Competition Law

This is an eight-week online certificate course that aims to equip the learners with an understanding of the increasingly important role that economics plays in competition law providing an insight into the relevance of economic theories and analysis that underlie competition law and the methods that are used to assess whether business practices are unsavoury, benign, or healthy.

Intellectual Property Licensing in India

This is a nine-week online certificate course. It is a complete guide to IP licensing, from concepts, strategies and process to management for all types of IP rights in India. This course aims at equipping the participants with the practical and applied aspects of IP licensing.

Law and Practice of PPP

This is an eight-week online certificate course. The course intends to introduce participants to the provisions of the law and practice of PPPs. The course aims at providing a better understanding of the legal and economic aspects of PPPs, project life, contractual agreements and management issues.

Energy Law and Policy in India

This is a ten-week online professional course. This course aims at providing a curriculum, which can be undertaken by inter-disciplinary professionals and students, having an interest in gaining knowledge of the Indian energy sector, its policy and regulatory framework.

Planned Online Courses

Expert certification in Competition Law

CIRC is designing a credit system for expert certification in Competition Law. This will include eight online certificate courses pertaining to competition, covering several aspects of the subject. The duration of each of these eight certificate courses will be 8-9 weeks. Each course is assigned some credit points. The requirement for awarding an expert certificate is prescribed in terms of the number of credits to be completed by the students.

"People first PPP for SDG focused infrastructure development" (New course)

As a value addition to its online education platform, CIRC has designed a course on 'People first PPP for SDG focused infrastructure development' targeted at mid-level career professionals and government officials engaged in PPP focused programmes implementation. This course will take into account both on field and academic exposure for PPP project development.

Expert certification in SDG-based PPP

CIRC further plans to develop small modules with credit systems in the area of project financing, project risk mapping and innovating financing which will be linked to existing courses on PPP on CIRC's platform. Each course will be assigned some credit points. The expert certification on PPP will be based on a certain number of credit accumulation by the participants through successful completion of these courses.

FOUNDATION DAY

On 18 January, 2020 the CIRC team celebrated our 11th Foundation Day in office. CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition was set up in the year 2008 with the aim to fill in the prevailing gaps in the field of competition and regulation, and enhance knowledge on regulatory issues.



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PRESIDENT EMERITUS



C. Rangarajan

Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India

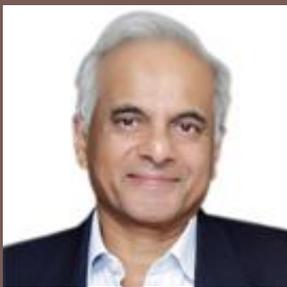
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Secretary General, CUTS International

CHAIRMAN, MANAGING COMMITTEE



Arvind Mayaram

Former Finance Secretary, Govt. of India

MEMBERS



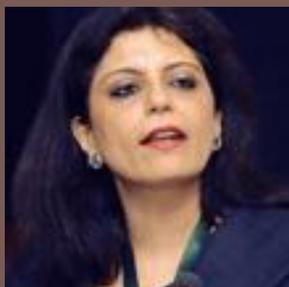
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Former Member, Planning Commission of India



Payal Malik

Senior Advisor/Economist Competition Law, Policy and Regulation



Amit Kapur

Partner, J. Sagar Associates



Amitabh Kumar

Partner, J. Sagar Associates



Isher Judge Ahluwalia

Chairperson, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)



Rajendra S. Pawar

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Syamal Kumar Sarkar

Director, The Energy and Resources Institute



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Professor, NIPFP

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Senior Advisor



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Bulbul Sen
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Tushar Pandey
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Sonali A. David
Senior Advisor



Manoj Sethu
Senior Advisor

CUTS INSTITUTE FOR REGULATION AND COMPETITION
1A, First Floor, Khehar Singh Estate, Saidulajab, New Delhi - 110030

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2020

(Fig in Rs.)

AS AT 31.03.2019	LIABILITIES	SCH.	AS AT 31.03.2020	AS AT 31.03.2019	ASSETS	SCH.	AS AT 31.03.2020
12,918,922	CORPUS FUND	A	12,918,922	1,658,527	FIXED ASSETS	G	1,667,061
	GENERAL FUND			17,523,338	INVESTMENT	C	10,000,000
	Op. Bal. : 6286439			7,900	SECURITY DEPOSIT	D	7,900
6,286,439	Add: Excess of Expenditure Over Income : 4184748		6,327,941	953,538	LOAN & ADVANCES	E	1,145,911
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			10,379,437	CASH & BANK BALANCE	F	11,633,173
10,382,068	Grant in Aid	B	4,176,834				
935,310	Depreciation Fund	G	1,030,349				
30,522,739			24,454,045	30,522,739			24,454,045

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Account - Sch.-O

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE
For B R Maheswari & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No. 001035N/N500050

Sanjay Math
Sanjay Math
(Partner)
M.No.- 82700
Place : New Delhi
Date : 05/09/2020



FOR CUTS INSTITUTE FOR REGULATION & COMPETITION

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN
Managing Committee

[Signature]
PRESIDENT
Governing Council

[Signature]
Secretary-cum-
Treasurer



CUTS INSTITUTE FOR REGULATION AND COMPETITION
1A, First Floor, Khehar Singh Estate, Saidulajab, New Delhi - 110030

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING ON 31ST MARCH 2020

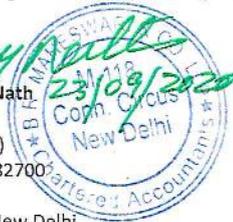
(Fig. In Rs.)

PREVIOUS YEAR 31.03.2019	Expenditure	ANEX.	CURRENT YEAR 31.03.2020	PREVIOUS YEAR 31.03.2019	Income	ANEX.	CURRENT YEAR 31.03.2020
30,307,398	To RESEARCH	H	13,885,823	-	By Donation & Contribution		-
1,155,873	To Awareness Camp Seminar / Workshop Conference	I	365,988	31,193,779	By Grant in Aid (Utilised/Income)	K	12,312,227
1,449,585	To Other Cost	J	1,605,847	1,576,000	By Training & Course Receipts	L	648,518
-	To Fixed Assets written off		-	914,932	By Interest Received	M	2,986,993
112,069	To Depreciation		95,038	60,400	By Misc. Income	N	46,460
720,186	To Excess of Income over Expenditure		41,502				
33,745,111			15,994,199	33,745,111			15,994,199

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Account - Sch.-O

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE
For B R Maheswari & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No. 001035N/NS00050

Sanjay Nath
Sanjay Nath
(Partner)
M.No.- 82700



Place : New Delhi
Date : 05/09/2020

FOR CUTS INSTITUTE FOR REGULATION & COMPETITION

Mam
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Managing
Committee

N. Indran
PRESIDENT,
Governing Council

Yash
Secretary-
cum-treasurer



CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC)

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