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CCI directs investigation against Venkateshwara Hatcheries Group for vertical restraints in the poultry sector

An information was filed by Maneka Gandhi's NGO People for Animals (PFA) before the Competition Commission of India ("CCI") under Section 19(1)(a) of the Competition Act, 2002 ("Act") against Venkateshwara Hatcheries Private Limited and its affiliated entities, alleging imposition of vertical restraints through breeder agreements restricting sale and procurement of poultry stock in India's poultry sector.

The complaint stated that Broiler Breeder Agreements (BBAs) and Layer Breeder Agreements (LBAs) allegedly restrict farmers from selling chicks and hatching eggs freely and from dealing with competing poultry breeds. It also alleged that the group exercises significant influence over industry bodies such as the National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC), potentially affecting pricing and supply in the sector.

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Venkateshwara Hatcheries submitted that vertical integration is a standard industry model that improves coordination, biosecurity and product quality, and results in efficiencies for consumers. CCI formed a prima facie opinion that such conduct may contravene Section 3(4)

of the Act in the nature of exclusive supply and distribution agreements. Accordingly, under Section 26(1), CCI directed the Director General (“DG”) to investigate the matter and submit a report within 90 days.



CCI closes case against BookMyShow finding no abuse of dominant position

An information was filed before CCI under Section 3 and 4 of the Act against Big Tree Entertainment Pvt Ltd, Asian Multiplexes Pvt. Ltd., Indra Cineplex LLP, Cinepolis India Pvt. Ltd., INOX Leisure Ltd., PVR Ltd. and Sudarshan Theater 35MM, alleging abuse of dominant position through exclusive arrangements and unfair conditions imposed on cinema partners. It was alleged that Big Tree Entertainment Pvt Ltd, had exclusive and refusal to deal’ agreements with cinemas for a period ranging from 2-5 years and owing to these agreements, the cinemas are bound to sell their movie tickets only through Big Tree Entertainment Pvt Ltd,, despite it charging unreasonable and exorbitant charges under the

guise of convenience fee. The allegation was that there is a violation of Section 4 of the Act since the opposite parties imposed unfair and discriminatory conditions on the theatres/multiplexes i.e., making them sign contracts for sale of 100% tickets on its platform. CCI observed that Big Tree Entertainment Pvt Ltd, holds a dominant position in the relevant market for online intermediation services for booking of movie tickets in India. However, it found no evidence that the conduct amounted to abuse of dominance under Section 4 of the Act. CCI held that there was no contravention of the provisions of the Act was made out and closed the matter.



CCI closes complaint against IndiGo and Air India alleging excessive cancellation charges

CCI observed that no evidence was produced to establish any agreement or concerted practice between the airlines. It further noted that the concept of collective dominance is not

recognised under the Act and that cancellation policies were disclosed in advance and applied uniformly. Accordingly, CCI held that no prima facie case of contravention was made out and closed the matter.



CCI directs 17 Opposite Parties to cease and desist from anti-competitive practices in relation to tenders invited by Assam Police Housing Corporation for “Internal and External Electrification works in Police Station Buildings” across the State:

The present proceedings arose out of the complaint dated August 10, 2020 from the Office of Accountant General (Audit), Assam against Purbanchal Enterprise and others alleging that there was bid rigging in tenders floated by the Assam Police Housing Corporation Limited for Internal and External Electrification Works in Police Station Buildings under Mission of Overall Improvement of Thana for Responsive Image Scheme of Government of Assam across Assam. CCI found the opposite parties had

indulged in bid rigging by bid rotation and cover bidding with the intention to manipulate the tender process in order to reduce the competitive intensity of the entire bidding process in the said tenders. CCI found evidence in the form of identical mistakes in the bid submissions, identical IP addresses, CDR details, DD with consecutive numbers. CCI by an order issued under Section 27 of the Act directed Purbanchal Enterprise and others to cease and desist from anti-competitive conduct found to be in violation of Section 3 of the Act.

Combination Orders



- CCI approved the proposed transaction involving subscription of certain equity share capital of Aditya Birla Renewables Limited by
- CCI approved the proposed acquisition of additional shareholding of Valuedrive Technologies Private Limited by Setu AIF Trust, Konark Trust, and MMPL Trust. Setu AIF Trust is a SEBI-registered Category II alternative

GIP EM Star Pte. Ltd., an entity owned by funds managed by GIM EM Manager LLC, a subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc.

investment fund, while Konark Trust and MMPL Trust are co-investing entities. The target operates an online platform for buying and selling used vehicles and is also engaged in allied services including lending, insurance distribution, and automotive content.

- CCI approved the proposed transaction relating to the merger of Chess Merger Sub, a wholly owned subsidiary of Coursera Inc., with and into Udemy Inc., resulting in Udemy becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of Coursera. Upon
- CCI approved the proposed acquisition of certain shares in Shriram Finance Limited by MUFG Bank Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.
- CCI approved the proposed acquisition of shareholding of Groww Asset Management Limited by State Street Global Advisors, Inc., the asset management arm of State Corporation
- CCI approved the proposed transaction involving (i) acquisition of additional shareholding in Baby Memorial Hospital Limited by Bentley Asia Holdings II Pte. Ltd., a Singapore-incorporated entity; and (ii) subsequent acquisition by Baby
- CCI approved acquisition by Citrus Investment LLC (Citrus) of additional shareholding of 0.4% in Hitachi Construction Machinery Co., Ltd. (HCM) and (ii) sole control of its 50:50 joint venture, HCJI Holdings K. K. (HCJI)

completion, existing Coursera stockholders are expected to hold approximately 59%, while Udemy stockholders will hold approximately 41% of the combined entity.

The transaction involves investment in a listed NBFC engaged in financing commercial and passenger vehicles, MSMEs, and other retail lending segments in India.

The target manages schemes of Groww Mutual Fund, offering a range of equity, hybrid, debt, and exchange traded funds in India.

Memorial Hospital Limited of certain shareholding in Unimed Health Care Private Limited. The transaction involves consolidation in the healthcare sector, with both entities operating multi-specialty hospitals providing a range of medical and surgical services in India.

- CCI approved acquisition of certain equity shares by Coastal Cedar Investments B.V. in Fleur Hotels and internal restructuring of Lemon Tree Hotels group through amalgamation and demerger.





- CCI approved acquisition of 100% equity shareholding of KNR SPVs by Indus Infra Trust from KNR Constructions Ltd.
- CCI approved proposed acquisition of 100% equity shares and non-cumulative optionally convertible redeemable preference shares in Nabha Power Ltd. by Torrent Power Ltd
- CCI approved acquisition of equity shares amounting to 14.286% of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. by Indriya Ltd.



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