Cartels and the Competition Commission

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Abstract

The Competition Commission of India's Rs 6,307 crore fine on 11 major cement manufacturers for cartelisation has been the biggest punishment that the body has imposed since it began functioning in 2008. A study of this and other cases in which the CCI has successfully completed enquiries shows the working of a very different law and commission from that of the earlier MRTP Act. The CCI's successes will hopefully send the right signals to all the stakeholders about the law and the consequences of its violation. However, there is enormous scope for improvement in both the Act and its enforcement before India's competition policy is raised to international standards.