

**NEWS COVERAGE**

**11 October 2010**

**Interview of the  
Chairperson published in  
“BOSS”, Daily Times**

**Meeting between CCP and  
PEMRA on Friday, 8  
October 2010**

**INTERVIEW: A successful and honest woman**



*—Rahat Kaunain Chairperson Competition Commission of Pakistan*

*Tanveer Ahmed is Daily Times' Senior Business Reporter*

**Tanveer Ahmed: Where did you get your education?**

**Rahat Kaunain:** I did my graduation from Kinnaird College Lahore, did LLB from the University of Punjab and LLM from King's College London.

**TA: What was your first job?**

**RK:** I started my career in 1993, with a Lahore-based leading corporate law firm.

**TA: What inspired you to choose this line of work?**

**RK:** With my working experience as General Counsel at Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan and upon my return to mainstream practice, I found working for public sector more satisfying; both in terms of the learning curve and in terms of output and impact that one may have or contribute to- although doing your own practice has its own savor.

**TA: What do you like the most about your job?**

**RK:** The fact that there is a lot of learning, the challenges we have faced and continue facing makes it more exciting. One needs to appreciate the role, this organization has been entrusted with; an over arching role over the economy, to provide and to promote free competition, to create a level playing field, to enhance economic efficiency and to protect the consumers from anticompetitive behaviour. Hence, any action which is once initiated and reaches its logical conclusion seems most satisfying to me as a bench mark of serving the intended goal.

**TA: Would you like to reflect upon the initial stages of your career and share with us the hard work, which helped you achieve the present position?**

**RK:** At the outset, I must make it clear that whatever I am today, if it is viewed and termed as being 'successful' - above all is God's blessing! I am blessed in many ways; the family I come from, the teachers I learnt from, the person I am married to, the children I am blessed with, the people I worked for and the love and warmth of the friends and people around me - all have significantly contributed and continue contributing to my happy life. It was at the age of 13, I decided to study law. It is important to mention that my teachers at the law college have played an inspirational role. Although, when I started my practice at the age of 23 with Dr. Parvez Hassan, I was not sure if 'corporate law' was the right field for me. I must admit that my professional alma mater contributed a lot in drilling me and teaching me how to survive. I think while initially I did not out perform, I certainly earned the reputation of being serious about my work and having a mind of my own. (I could not agree with the seniors just by being in awe, I needed to be rationally convinced). Despite being a favourite of many teachers, I was never really academically outstanding. This made me realise very early that the only way to excel professionally is through hard work. Although, I learnt quickly that mere putting in long hours is not a substitute for 'output' and soon realised the importance of being result-oriented. While dealing with any issue at work, I had a very simple approach, that is, the belief that if one has the will and one makes the best effort, there is nothing that you cannot understand or find a solution for. This approach has helped me tremendously in the later years. My joining SECP in 2001 as a Director introduced me to the public sector. I learnt a great deal there. I had to adjust myself to this basic difficulty of approaching an issue not as a lawyer but as a regulator first. I realised how important decision-making was. Although I believe I always had a "can do" approach it was Khalid Mirza who helped and encouraged me in defining, and developing this approach. Within six months of my induction I was promoted as General Counsel/Executive Director. I think I played there my innings well. While I was sailing smoothly, I was offered the assignment of Member (legal) at CCP and was told that this was "no brainer" to decide. It seemed challenging as I was to be one of the founding members. I must state that the last three years in terms of work satisfaction have so far been the best.

**TA: How would you comment on the performance of CCP in the last few years?**

**RK:** I think from enforcement aspect, despite CCP's financial and legal constraints, it has done exceedingly well. In the developing region, it is benchmarked as one of the best agencies along with Egypt and Turkey. At the recent International Conference organised by CCP in Lahore Mr. Kovacic who is known as the anti-trust 'Guru' shared that in a recently held ICN conference, the steering committee members, unanimously picked CCP as one of the best

performing newly established agency. I think this speaks a lot about CCP's performance.

**TA: How do you foresee the future of CCP in Pakistan?**

**RK:** I am confident and hopeful that it will emerge as an important institution.

**TA: Do you think there are still hurdles in working of CCP?**

**RK:** Yes, there have been, there are and there shall be! The best way however, to overcome hurdles is to face and overcome them.

**TA: How do you see the role of CCP in development of national economy?**

**RK:** Competition creates a competitive environment and competitiveness enables an enterprise to face competition on a sustainable basis. Competition brings increased productivity, reduction in inefficiency and slackness, and provides better incentives for innovation. It also plays an important role in weeding out inefficient firms and relocation of output from less productive to more productive firms. The wider benefits of competition are that it promotes economic efficiency. If firms are efficient, their global competitiveness will improve and the economy will see higher exports, lower imports, lower prices and more employment. These changes don't take place overnight. You have to allow a minimum of 10-15 years before you see any tangible impact.

**TA: What changes have you brought after taking over as CCP chief?**

**RK:** In my case, I guess what is needed most is continuity of purpose and that is where my focus is. As a successor, I do not believe in the culture of 'undoing' what has been 'done'. To me 'change' symbolises progress and moving forward with a renewed energy towards the targeted goal. It is my vision that CCP emerge as a robust autonomous institution both internally as well as a harbinger of positive and responsible corporate behaviour and ethos. Developing internal processes and systems is equally important as acting in fair and transparent manner vis-à-vis enforcement actions.

**TA: Do you feel satisfied with your achievements?**

**RK:** God has been very kind and I am indeed blessed.

**TA: What in your opinion are your strongest and weakest points?**

**RK:** The value that my parents have embedded in us is to speak and to stand for what one believes in. It is my faith that if you mean well, in the end you will always come out clean. I view my faith as my strength. As for weakness, I call a spade a spade. Sometimes, it is viewed as being too straight and direct.

**TA: Are you a workaholic?**

**RK:** I would like to believe that I lead a balanced life. What is important is that one must be professional at work and to this end, I do whatever is needed.

**TA: What kind of music do you prefer to listen?**

**RK:** Generally soft but it varies with the mood.

**TA: How do you spend your leisure time?**

**RK:** With my family - I enjoy writing poems for my children, going out for movies, cooking as well as eating out.

**TA: What type of a boss are you?**

**RK:** A hard task master who believes in giving due appreciation and criticism, both loud and clear. I believe I am a team player but it would be best to pose this question to my team members. I value people in my team who are honest, result-oriented and display initiative. I admire churchillian style of leadership which provides the vindication for the basic axiom of synergy 'that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.'

**TA: How do you feel after being where you are now?**

**RK:** While it feels good, I am cognizant of the responsibility placed on my shoulders. It is indeed not an easy job.

**TA: Do you believe in astrology?**

**RK:** As a youngster, I used to believe in it strongly, even now I find it interesting. \*

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ISLAMABAD: Group photo of Chairperson CCP, Rahat Kaunain Hassan and Chairman PEMRA Mushtaq Malik at PEMRA headquarters.-PR

*UK envoy  
decries  
suicide attack*

**KARACHI:** Robert Gibson - British Deputy High Commissioner, Karachi has strongly condemned the suicide attacks that left 8 people dead and 65 injured at the Abdullah Shah Ghazi shrine in Karachi.

"I was saddened by the attacks in Karachi yesterday and condemn them unreservedly. Our immediate thoughts are with the families and friends of those killed or injured. This was a horrific and indiscriminate incident, which has claimed many innocent lives", Gibson said.-PR

## CCP, Pemra unite for a tidy media

**ISLAMABAD:** The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) vowed to join hands to promote healthy competition in the private electronic media and to take steps to curb deceptive marketing practices being propagated through media.

This was discussed in a meeting between the Chairperson, CCP, Rahat Kaunain Hassan and the Chairman PEMRA, Mushtaq Malik, at the

PEMRA headquarters on Friday. The meeting was also attended by Member CCP, Vadiyya Khalil, Director General CCP, Ikram-ul-Haque Qureshi and Director General PEMRA, Abdul Basit Khan.

Heads of the CCP and PEMRA expressed their unequivocal resolve to cooperate and coordinate in the areas of mutual concern and to exchange information regarding anti-competitive and deceptive marketing practices.-PR



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ISLAMABAD: Mr. Mushtaq Malik, Chairman PEMRA, Member CCP, Ms. Vadiyya Khalil, Director General CCP, Mr. Ikram-ul-Haque Qureshi and Director General PEMRA, Abdul Basit Khan pose for photo.

## CCP & PEMRA agree to promote healthy competition

STAFF REPORTER

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This was discussed in a meeting between the Chairperson, CCP, Ms. Rahat Kaunain Hassan and the Chairman PEMRA, Mr. Mushtaq

Malik, at the PEMRA headquarters today. The meeting was also attended by Member CCP, Ms. Vadiyya Khalil, Director General CCP, Mr. Ikram-ul-Haque Qureshi and Director General PEMRA, Abdul Basit Khan.

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## 'Deceptive' marketing practices in electronic media

### CCP, Pemra vow to promote healthy competition

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This was discussed in a meeting between the Chairperson, CCP, Rahat Kaunain Hassan and the Chairman Pemra, Mushtaq Malik, at the Pemra headquarters. Heads of the CCP and Pemra expressed their unequivocal resolve to cooperate and co-ordinate in the areas of mutual concern and to exchange information regarding anti-competitive and deceptive marketing practices.—PR



# Daily Times

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## CCP, PEMRA for healthy competition in electronic media

Staff Report

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The meeting was also attended by Member CCP, Vadiyya Khalil, Director General CCP, Ikram-ul-Haque Qureshi and Director General PEMRA, Abdul Basit Khan.

Heads of the CCP and PEMRA expressed their unequivocal resolve to cooperate and coordinate in the areas of mutual concern and to exchange information regarding anti-competitive and deceptive marketing practices.

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**CCP, PEMRA  
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healthy  
competition**

**By our correspondent**

KARACHI: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) vowed to join hands to promote healthy competition in the private electronic media and to take steps to curb deceptive marketing practices being propagated through media, a statement said on Saturday.

During a meeting at the PEMRA headquarters, CCP Chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan and PEMRA Chairman Mushtaq Malik expressed their unequivocal resolve to cooperate and coordinate in the areas of mutual concern and to exchange information regarding anti-competitive and deceptive marketing practices, the statement added.

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**VOWS**

## **CCP, PEMRA to fight deceptive marketing**

NEWS DESK. The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) have vowed to join hands to promote healthy competition in the private electronic media and to take steps to curb deceptive marketing practices. This was discussed in a meeting between CCP Chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan and Pemra Chairman Mushtaq Malik at Pemra headquarters on Friday. The heads of the CCP and Pemra expressed their resolve to cooperate and coordinate in areas of mutual concern and to exchange information on anti-competitive and deceptive marketing practices.

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**CCP, Pemra to  
promote healthy  
competition in  
electronic media**

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) agreed on Friday to join hands to promote healthy competition in the private electronic media and to take steps to curb deceptive marketing practices being propagated through media.

The agreement was reached at a meeting held here between CCP Chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan and Pemra Chairman Mush-taq Malik. Member CCP, Vadiyya Khalil, Director General CCP, Ikram-ul-Haque Qureshi and Director General Pemra Abdul Basit Khan attended the meeting.

Heads of the CCP and Pemra expressed their unequivocal resolve to cooperate and coordinate in the areas of mutual concern and to exchange information regarding anti-competitive and deceptive marketing practices. — APP