
NEWS RELEASE

MyCC RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 December 2012 – The Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC) launched its Research Grant Programme (RGP) today with a total annual allocation of RM 500,000.

Puan Shila Dorai Raj, CEO of MyCC said, “The MyCC expects the RGP-funded research studies to provide a clearer picture of the competitiveness of enterprises in the Malaysian economy.”

She added, “The ultimate aim of the RGP is to ensure that any action taken by the MyCC is grounded on solid and sound evidence. The findings of these studies will be of immense benefit to the MyCC in shaping competition policies, laws, strategies and advocacy activities for the present and the future.”

The RGP is open for applications from 2nd January to 30th April 2013. The Call for Applications 2013 is being disseminated through the MyCC website and flyers will be mailed to universities, research institutes, think tanks, and civil society organisations.

The objectives of the RGP are to:

- Fund research on competition issues in the MyCC Strategic Research Areas;
- Use the findings of the research to develop informed and evidence based competition policies, laws, guidelines, codes of practice and design competition advocacy activities;
- Enable the dissemination (nationally and internationally), of academic as well as popular articles and publications on competition issues and practices of specific relevance to the Malaysian economy; and

- Provide an opportunity for academics and civil society to participate and contribute ideas and knowledge to the promotion and development of competition policy making.

According to Puan Shila, “Examples of research studies that can be undertaken with respect to the priority sectors include existence of anti-competitive practices such as cartelization, collusion to fix prices, bid rigging practices, quota on outputs, controls on market access, resale price maintenance, exclusive dealing, tie-in deals, abuse of dominant market position through predatory pricing, refusal to supply, imposing unfair conditions on suppliers or retailers, and so on, in specific local markets or geographical regions in Malaysia.

“The RGP will also fund studies on the structure and operation of the market in the priority sectors to determine to what extent the enterprises in a particular sector are engaging in fair and open competition,” she added.

In implementing the RGP, the MyCC announced that it will be relying on competition policy and law experts and practitioners from academia, industry and civil society organisations to assist it to evaluate and select the successful grant applicants. The MyCC will be sending invitations to these experts to serve on its RGP Panel of Experts.

Each research grant will not exceed RM 25,000 and is open to all Malaysians including freelance researchers. However the MyCC may, on a case-to-case basis depending on the proposed research, grant more than the stipulated amount.

The RGP will fund market surveys, case studies and research on the anti-competitive and pro-competitive economic climate, laws and practices in Malaysia relating to the following priority sectors and stakeholders:

- i. Food production, import and distribution;
- ii. Transport such as taxies, buses, mass rapid transit, railways, air travel, hauliers and shipping;

- iii. Healthcare Institutions, including the pharmaceutical industry;
- iv. Professional services;
- v. Housing developers; and
- vi. Financial institutions;

Further information on the RGP can be obtained from the MyCC website at www.mycc.com.my or emailing to RGP@mycc.com.my.

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Corporate Communication Unit

Malaysia Competition Commission

About Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC)

Established in June 2011, MyCC is an independent body responsible for enforcing the Competition Act 2010, which was implemented to create healthy competition which would in turn stimulate productivity and innovation, thus creating wider choices of products for consumers with better quality and reasonable prices.

The Act applies to all commercial activities undertaken within and outside Malaysia that affects competition in the Malaysian market. It provides a regulatory framework including powers to investigate, adjudicate and impose penalties on the perpetrators of the competition laws.

For more information on the Act and MyCC activities, log on to www.mycc.gov.my.