

JDP SoL Holds First Bema Open Forum for Semester Two

The Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDP SoL) hosted its first Bema Open Forum for staff and students on Wednesday, July 25, 2018. The Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC) staff Mr. Nilesh Chand, Senior Research and Policy Officer and Ms. Lusia Ting spoke on the topic "Consumer Protection in Fiji".

Mr. Chand and Ms. Ting spoke on the Commission's successful cases, examples of products wrongfully priced, examples of advertisements that were misleading and also baiting of the general public.

Mr. Chand in his response to questions on increase of fuel prices said that the matter was regulated by FCCC unlike previous years where there were no regulations or ceiling of profit margins on LPG (cooking gas) but now it was under price control.

Mr. Chand also added that every FCCC held a master price list of all items or goods sold in the urban, rural or maritime areas and consumers must demand for receipts and maintain them.

While explaining the rent freeze currently in Fiji, Mr. Chand mentioned that landlords should not have a change in tenancy agreement to increase rent because there was a freeze in place. He commented that matters concerning Value Added Tax (VAT) would be managed by Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) and taxi permits by Land Transport Authority (LTA).

The Dean of JDP SoL, Professor Shaista Shameem, emphasized and reiterated that there would be relevant films screened during future Bema sessions that would cover law, human rights, media freedom, and so forth. The Bema sessions were open to not just law students and staff but all other Schools as well.

During semester one, 2018, the School hosted 12 Bema speakers.