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Court dismisses petition of pharmaceutical Co

OUR STAFF REPORTER

RAWALPINDI - Lahore High Court (LHC), Rawalpindi Bench, on Friday dismissed a petition filed by a private pharmaceutical company challenging the amended trade policy 2009 regarding import of various vaccines from India.

Justice Asad Munir announced this verdict on the petition of Amson Vaccines and Pharma, against the decision of the federal government about amending the trade policy and allowing import of Indian vaccines.

The petitioner pharmaceutical company had made the Secretaries of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Commerce, Director General of National Institute of Health (NIH) and Manager of Expanded Programme of Immunisation as respondents.

In the petition, the pharmaceutical company maintained that the government should be stopped from amending the trade policy, as the

stakeholders had not been taken on board about the planned amendments. The petitioner stated that the government was going to remove the condition of reciprocity in trade with India about import of medicines and vaccines and to allow the import of such vaccines as being manufactured by local companies in abundance.

He also maintained that India had not been procuring any kind of medicine from Pakistan and the government instead of promoting and protecting local pharma industry had allowed import from India.

The petitioner, Amson pharma had stated that they filed a bid of 16.77 million doses of TT and

1.56 million doses of BCG that was not accepted and instead Indian offer was acknowledged on September 11 last year.

Arguing the case for Health Ministry, a lawyer told the court that the petitioner company at the time of bidding itself quoted Indian vaccine in the tender.