

Amendments to Essential Commodities Act

Background

- Essential Commodities (EC) Act was enacted in 1955 to protect interests of the general public.
- Act empowers the Central Government to regulate production, distribution, supply, movement, transportation, prices, storage, trade and commerce of essential commodities
- Presently 9 commodities included for regulation
 - Drugs, Fertilizers, Food stuffs, Hank yarn, Petroleum and petroleum products, Raw jute & textiles, Seeds of food crops, Fruits & Vegetables, Face mask, Hand sanitizers

Stock Limit on Essential Food Items since 2002

SN.	Commodity	Stock Limit imposed on	Withdrawn/ lapsed on
1.	Pulse	29.08.2006	17.05.2017 (withdrawn)
2.	Wheat	29.08.2006	31.03.2009 (withdrawn)
3.	Rice	07.04.2008	30.11.2014 (lapsed)
4.	Paddy	01.09.2008	30.11.2014 (lapsed)
5.	Sugar	09.03.2009	30.11.2014 (lapsed)
		Re-imposed on 29.04.2016	28.04.2018 (lapsed)
		Reverse stock Limit imposed by D/o Food & PD on 07.06.2018	Continuing...
6.	Edible Oil & Oilseeds	07.04.2008	13.06.2018 (withdrawn)
7.	Onion	03.07.2014	02.07.2016 (lapsed)
		Re-imposed on 25.08.2017	31.03.2018 (lapsed)
		Re-imposed on 29.09.2019	27.02.2020 (withdrawn)
8.	Potato	03.07.2014	02.07.2015 (lapsed)

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Agri-food stuffs
Regulation under Extra-
Ordinary Circumstances

War

Famine

Extraordi
nary Price
rise

Natural
Calamity

Price trigger for Stock
Limit Orders

Horticultural Produce: Retail Price Rise higher by 100%

Non-Perishables: Retail Price Rise higher by 50%

than average price in preceding twelve months or average
retail price of last five years whichever is lower

Exemptions

Processor & Value Chain Participants of agri-product
subject to ceiling of
installed processing capacity
export demand in case of exporter

Orders relating to PDS and TPDS

THANK YOU