

**IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT MATTER**

No.S-8/2/2015-ECR&E
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
Dated the 7th May, 2015.

To,
The Chief Secretary/DAPs.
Government of . All States / U.Ts.

Subject: Response to Parliament Matters and implementation of the EC Act and the PBMMSEC Act -An advisory regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to convey that the matters relating to Parliament needs to be accorded the highest priority. However, it is often the case that the response of the States/UTs to the Parliament related subject communications are badly delayed. On many occasions the replies are received after the expiry of the due date. This is particularly so in the case of information on the enforcement of the EC Ac.

2. There also appears to be a systemic lacuna in updating information on implementation of the Essential Commodities Act 1955 and the Prevention of Black Marketing And Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act 1980 by the concerned Civil Departments and the State Police. It is also observed that the implementation is left with the Civil Supplies Departments only while all the criminal offences under these Acts are to be handled by the State Police under the Cr. P.C.

3. The violation of any order notified under the EC Act is a criminal offence. Thus the raids/inspections of Fair Price Shops, Godowns, shops, dealers of essential commodities, arrests of accused, prosecution etc. are to be carried out by the State Police. Tamil Nadu has a Civil Supplies Crime Investigation Department of Police for essential commodities that is working effectively. The other states need to emulate the proactive approach adopted by Tamil Nadu to ensure zero tolerance to blackmarketing, hoarding & profiteering in the trade & supply of essential commodities so that the benefits of Government schemes reach the targeted beneficiaries.

4. The Essential Commodities encompass Drugs, Fertilisers organic and non-organic or mixed, Yank yarn made wholly of cotton, Foodstuffs including drinking water and vegetable oils, vegetables, onion, potato, pulses, foodgrains, sugar, different seeds of food crops, cotton seeds, petroleum and petroleum products, Raw Jute and Jute textiles and all Public Distribution System (PDS) items.

A recent study conducted has brought out large scale black marketing and profiteering in the supply and distribution of essential commodities, particularly in the PDS and in Petroleum products. Since most of the powers of the Central Government under the EC Act, are delegated to the States vide Order dated 09.06.1978, as already conveyed, and Law & Order being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to implement both the Acts effectively and ensure hoarding free, black marketing free and profiteering free supply and distribution of the essential commodities to the people.

5. It is also observed that the information is received mostly through postal communications. Since the e-mail and fax numbers of the undersigned are always available on the letters sent to States, it is suggested that these means be used to facilitate timely information. Therefore, it is advised that all Parliament matters be given topmost priority and required information be sent via Email or Fax to the following. The signing officer must mention his/her official fax number and e-mail Id.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Surendra Singh)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. & Fax: 011-23384627
Email: dsadmin-ca@nic.in

Copy to all the DGPs of States and Commissioners of Police of UTs for necessary action as stated above.



(Surendra Singh)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

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