

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2325
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

e:

- (a) whether the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is applicable only to the State courts and not the Union courts; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is a Central Act which extends to the whole of India. The enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 lies with the State Governments/ Union Territories. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated powers to take necessary action under the provisions of both "The Essential Commodities Act, 1955" and "The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980", to prevent hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities. Depending upon the nature of the case filed in the court, a matter will be decided/dealt with by the concerned court.