



THE PRICE CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF PROFITEERING AND HOARDING ACT, 1977



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SCHEDULE

THE PRICE CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF PROFITEERING AND HOARDING ACT 1977

¹ ACT No. XXIX OF 1977

[21st May, 1977]

An Act to provide for price control and prevention of profiteering and hoarding.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for price control and prevention of profiteering and hoarding;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. Short title, extent and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called the Price Control and Prevention of Profiteering and Hoarding Act, 1977.

(2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.

(3) It shall come into force at once

2. Definitions. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

- (a) "Controller-General" means the Controller-General of Prices and Supplies appointed by the Federal Government, and includes any Deputy or Assistant Controller-General of Prices and Supplies so appointed, and any other officer authorised by the Federal Government to exercise all or any of the powers of the Controller-General under this Act;
- (b) "dealer" means a person carrying on, whether in conjunction with any other business or not, the business of selling any essential commodity whether wholesale or retail;
- (c) "essential commodity" means any of the commodities or classes of commodities mentioned in the Schedule;
- (d) "importer" means a person importing into Pakistan, whether under an import licence granted by the Federal Government or otherwise, any essential commodity from outside Pakistan, but does not include a person importing any essential commodity as part of his personal baggage;
- (e) "notified order" means an order notified in the official Gazette;
- (f) "producer" means a person engaged in the manufacture or production of any essential commodity.

¹For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Gaz. of P., 1977, Ext. Pt. III, p. 3539.

¹[**2A. Establishment of Price Control Councils.**—(1) There shall be a Federal Price Control Council at Federal Level and a Provincial Price Control Council in each Province.

(2) The Federal Price Control Council shall be headed by the Prime Minister and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

- (1) Minister for Finance or Advisor to the Prime Minister on Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs and Statistics ;
- (2) Minister for Food and Agriculture ;
- (3) Minister for Industries and Production ;
- (4) Minister for Interior;
- (5) Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission;
- (6) Chief Ministers of all Provinces; and
- (7) Such other member as the Prime Minister may deem fit.

(3) The Federal Price Control Council shall—

- (i) obtain information regarding prices of essential commodities prevailing in various markets ;
- (ii) review the prices fixed by the competent authorities in various parts of the country;
- (iii) monitor the action taken by the Social Magistrates and other enforcement authorities under this Act for purposes of price control; and
- (iv) issue directions and orders to ensure implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(4) The Provincial Price Control Council shall be headed by the Chief Minister of a Province and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

- (1) Minister for Agriculture;
- (2) Minister for Food;
- (3) Minister for Industries;

¹ Ins by ord. VIII of 2010 s. 2 (w.e.f. 26-03-2010 Mid upto 17-08-2010)

- (4) Minister for Agriculture and Marketing;
- (5) Chief Secretary;
- (6) Chairman/Additional Chief Secretary, Planning and Development;
- (7) Secretary Home Department ; and
- (8) Such other members as the Chief Minister may deem fit.

(5) The provisions of sub-section (3) shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to Provincial Price Control Council.

(6) The Provincial Price Control council shall also be responsible for ensuring implementation of the directions and orders issued by Federal Price Control Council.”]

3. Powers to make orders etc.—(1) The Federal Government, so far as it appears to it to be necessary or expedient for securing equitable distribution of an essential commodity and its availability at fair prices, may, by notified order, provide for regulating the prices, production, movement, transport, supply, distribution, disposal and sale of the essential commodity and for the price to be charged or paid for it at any stage of transaction therein.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), an order made thereunder may provide—

- (a) for controlling the prices at which any essential commodity may be bought or sold in any area;
- (b) for regulating the production, treatment and keeping of any essential commodity;
- (c) for regulating, by licences, permits or otherwise, the transport, movement and distribution between the Provinces of an essential commodity;
- (d) for prohibiting the withholding of sale of an essential commodity ordinarily kept for sale; .
- (e) for requiring any person holding stock in a Province of an essential commodity to sell in another province the whole or a specified part of the stock at such price, to such persons or class of persons and under such conditions as may be specified in the order;
- (f) for fixing the maximum quantity of any essential commodity which may at any time be possessed by a producer or dealer;
- (g) for collecting any information or statistics with a view to regulating or prohibiting any of the matters aforesaid;
- (h) for requiring persons engaged in any of the matters aforesaid in respect of any essential commodity to maintain and produce for inspection such books, accounts and records relating to their business, and to furnish such information relating thereto, as may be specified in the order;