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The Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018

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The Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018

Highlights of the Ordinance

- The Commercial Courts Act, 2015 provides for commercial courts and commercial divisions of high courts to adjudicate commercial disputes with a value of at least one crore rupees.
 The Ordinance reduces this limit to three lakh rupees.
- The Ordinance allows state governments to establish commercial courts at the district level, even in territories where high courts have ordinary original civil jurisdiction.
- In areas where high courts do not have original jurisdiction, state governments may set up commercial appellate courts at the district level to consider appeals from commercial courts below the level of a district judge.

Key Issues and Analysis

 The Ordinance reduces the pecuniary jurisdiction of commercial courts from one crore rupees to three lakh rupees. It may be argued that the transfer of all commercial disputes above three lakh rupees may overburden the commercial courts and defeat the objective with which they were established.



Current Status: Ordinance:

In force

Ministry: Law and Justice

Stage

Date

Introduction

May 3, 2018

Com. Ref. Com. Rep. Lok Sabha

Rajya Sabha

Relevant Links

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Ordinance Text (445

KB)

PRS Legislative Brief (702 KB)

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Related news articles

Ordinance on commercial courts may not improve ranking, Business Standard, May 13, 2018

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