

Liquor sales down by 12% in FY21

The strict lockdown in FY21 led to a 12% dip in the sale of Indian-made foreign liquor (IMFL), industry body Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) said on Thursday. Net sales for 2020-21 stood at 305 million cases (9 litres each), nearly 12% lower than last fiscal, the CIABC said. West Bengal, Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Puducherry and Chhattisgarh recorded the sharpest decline in sales over the last fiscal. The CIABC data includes FY21 sale figures for whisky, rum, vodka and other spirits, while excluding that of beer. The lockdown in March 2021 led to the closure of most non-essential stores. However, liquor stores were allowed to open in May with the gradual easing of restrictions. Sales picked up in the second half of 2020-21 in most parts, but states that imposed high corona cess and other taxes after the first wave showed poor recovery, the CIABC said.

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