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Alcohol Prices To Go Up, Expect Upheaval In Next Four Weeks: CIABC On Maharashtra Excise Duty Hike

The Maharashtra government should have hiked the excise duty on beer as well, according to CIABC Director General Anant S Iyer.

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The Maharashtra government's decision to hike excise duty on certain alcoholic beverages will cause "momentary upheaval" in the industry in the next four weeks, according to Anant S Iyer, the Director-General of the Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC).

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The Maharashtra government on Tuesday approved an increase in excise duty on Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL). It has been raised to 4.5 times from three times the manufacturing cost. At the same time, the duty on country liquor has been raised to Rs 205 from Rs 180 per proof litre.

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Iyer criticised the unexpected duty hike suddenly, while highlighting the fact that it has not been extended to beer.

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The state government has also approved a new category of Maharashtra Country Liquor (MCL). According to Iyer, this segment is intended to bridge the gap between country liquor and IMFL. The success in states like Rajasthan.

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