

主要食糧の需給及び価格の安定に関する法律の一部を改正する法律の概要

背景

- 今般の米価高騰の要因及び政府備蓄の売渡しの対応を検証する中で、農林水産省が**多様化する流通実態を適確に把握できていなかった**ことや、**政府備蓄は売渡手続に時間を要し、機動性を欠く**という課題が明らかとなった
このような課題に対応し、米の安定供給を確保するためには、
 - ① **外食・中食を含め流通業者の取引実態を幅広く把握**するとともに、
 - ② **官民を挙げた備蓄体制を構築**し、備蓄米の機動的放出を可能にする必要
- 米の需要を拡大し、これに応じた生産を推進するためには、**米の需要の減少を前提とした生産調整に関する規定を見直す**必要

法律の概要

1. 多様化する流通実態の把握強化

- (1) 届出事業者の拡大
 - ・ 米穀の出荷・販売業者に加え、**加工・中食・外食の事業者を追加**
(第9条関係)
- (2) 定期的報告の義務化、罰則の強化
 - ① (1)の事業者に対し、**国への定期的な在庫量、出荷・販売量等の報告**を義務化
(第11条関係)
 - ② 届出・定期報告等の適正性を担保するため、**罰則を措置**
(第56条第2号、第58条、第59条第1号及び第2号並びに第62条第1号関係)

2. 備蓄制度の見直し

- (1) 目的の見直し
 - ・ **生産量の減少による供給不足**に加えて、**需要量の増加等による供給不足**にも備えて保有できるよう、備蓄の目的を見直し (第3条第2項関係)
- (2) 民間備蓄制度の創設
 - ・ 政府備蓄に加え、**一定規模以上の民間事業者に対して、基準量以上の米穀の保有を義務付け** (第33条の2から第33条の8まで、第48条の2等関係)

3. 需要に応じた生産の促進

- (1) 生産調整方針の廃止
 - ・ 米の需要減少を前提とした**生産調整方針に関連する規定を廃止**
(改正前第2条、第5条から第7条まで及び第9条第1号関係)
- (2) 需要に応じた生産に係る責務規定の新設
 - ・ **生産者は需要に応じた生産に主体的に努力すること、政府は需要に応じた生産を促進すること等を明記** (第5条関係)

施行期日

公布の日から起算して1年を超えない範囲内において政令で定める日。
ただし、2(1)は公布の日、2(2)は公布の日から起算して2年を超えない範囲内において政令で定める日。

Outline of the Act Partially Amending the Act on Stabilization of Supply, Demand, and Prices of Staple Food

Background

○ As a response is being evaluated to tackle the causes of the current rise in rice prices and the sale of the rice stockpiles by the government, various issues have become evident, including the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries **does not have a proper understanding of the increasingly diversified situation in the distribution field**, and that **the procedures for the sale of the rice stockpiles by the government take too long and lack flexibility**

To tackle these issues and ensure a stable supply of rice, it is necessary to

- (i) gain a **broader understanding of the state of rice distribution among market participants including food service operators and prepared meal providers**, as well as
- (ii) **create a stockpile scheme by involving both public** and private sectors and ensure a flexible release of the rice stockpiles.

○ To increase the demand for rice and boost production accordingly, it is necessary to **review the provisions related to the rice production adjustment policy that is predicated on a decrease in the demand for rice**.

Outline of the Act

1. Efforts to Better Understand the Diversified Situation in the Distribution Field

- (1) Expanding the category of business entities required to submit notification
 - **Adding processors, prepared meal providers, and food service operators** to the current category that includes rice shipping operators and rice retailers

(Related to Article 9)

- (2) Making periodical reports obligatory and imposing stricter penalties

- (i) Making it obligatory for the entities in (1) **to periodically report their stock, shipping and sales volumes, etc. to the government**

(Related to Article 11)

- (ii) **Introducing penalties** to ensure that the notifications, periodical reports, etc. are done properly

(Article 56, item (ii), Article 58, Article 59, items (i) and (ii), and Article 62, item (i))

2. Reviewing the Stockpile Scheme

- (1) Reviewing the objectives
 - Reviewing the objectives of stockpiling to ensure rice stocks are held to offset not only **supply shortages due to a decrease in production** but also **supply shortages due to an increase in demand, etc.** (Related to Article 3, paragraph (2))

- (2) Creating a private stockpiling scheme

- Making it obligatory for **private operators above a certain size** to hold **at least a prescribed amount of rice stocks**, to supplement the government stockpiles

(Related to Articles 33-2 through 33-8, Article 48-2, etc.)

3. Promoting Production to Meet the Demand

- (1) Abolishing the production adjustment policy
 - **Repealing the provisions related to the production adjustment policy** predicated on a decrease in demand for rice (Related to Article 2, Articles 5 through 7, and Article 9, item (i), before the amendment)
- (2) Establishing provisions on obligations related to production based on demand
 - Stating that **producers are to take initiative and make efforts to achieve a production level that meets the demand, stating that the government is to promote the production based on demand**, etc. (Related to Article 5)

Effective Date

The day specified by Cabinet Order within a period not exceeding 1 year from the date of promulgation. However, for 2 (1), the date of promulgation, and for 2 (2), the day specified by Cabinet Order within a period not exceeding 2 years from the date of promulgation.