

Sale of goods act, 1930

Formation of the contract of sale



future goods

Goods are not in existence at the time of contract of sale
Goods are to be manufactured/produced/acquired by the seller after making the contract of sale
Agreement to sell.

Contingent goods

Goods whose acquisition of which depends upon the happening or non-happening of an uncertain event
Type of future goods
Agreement to sell

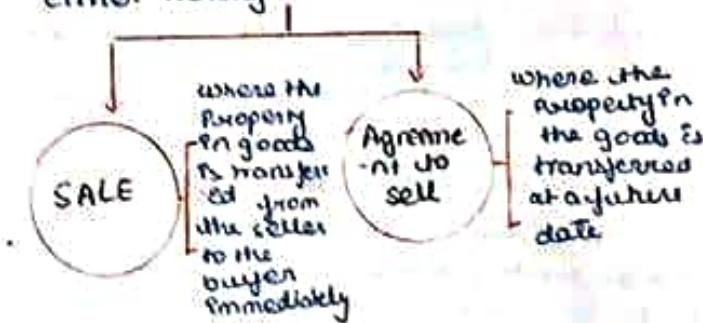
Sale and Agreement to sell

Meaning of contract of sale of goods

- It is a contract whereby
- the seller transfers or agrees to transfer the property in goods to the buyer for a price

Mode for contract of sale of good

A contract for the sale of goods may be either through



IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGIES

Buyer - A person who buys or agrees to buy goods

Seller - A person who sells or agrees to sell goods.

Goods

Means every kind of moveable property includes both tangible & intangible goods, stock, shares, growing crops, grass and things attached to or forming part of land which agreed to be severed

Does not include

Actionable claims, immovable goods, Money Supply of goods, hotel, contract for labour

Specific classification of goods

Existing goods

Goods in existence at the time of the contract of sale

or
Goods owned / possessed / acquired by the seller at the time of contract of sale

SPECIFIC

Goods agreed + identified upon at the time a contract of sale is made

Ascertained

Goods which are identified after the formation of the contract out of unascertained goods

Unascertained

Goods not identified at the time of making of the contract

An agreement to sell becomes a sale when the time elapses or the conditions are fulfilled subject to which the property in the goods is to be transferred

Essentials of contract of sale

- (i) Two parties
- (ii) Subject matter must be goods
- (iii) Consideration is paid
- (iv) Conditional or absolute
- (v) Agreement to transfer the ownership of goods
- (vi) Other essential elements

Perishable goods

- where there is a contract for the sale of specific goods & if the goods perish without knowledge of the seller know at the time when the contract was made that they are so damaged → contract is void ab initio
- seller is not liable to buyer for any damage
- goods perish after the contract, risk is of buyer
- when there is an agreement to sell specific goods subsequently the goods perish without any default on the part of seller or buyer, perish or become damaged → agreement becomes void
- seller is not liable

Stipulations as to title

Stipulation as to time of payment

→ not claimed
in law of the
country unless
a different
intention appears

Stipulation as to time of delivery

→ one usually the
essence of the
contract it
must be made
without any delay

Conditions & warranties

Conditions

- condition is a stipulation essential to the main purpose of the contract
- breach of condition gives right to repudiate & claim damages

Warranties

- warranty is a stipulation collateral to the main purpose of the contract
- breach of warranty gives right to claim damages

Cases where breach of condition is treated as breach of warranty

Offer by the contractor	Agreed to be fixed in a manner provided by the contract	Determined by the past dealings between the parties
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Agreement to sell or valuation

- where there is an agreement to sell goods on the terms that the price is to be determined by the valuation of third party and such third party cannot make valuation
- ↓
The agreement is thereby void
- ↓
Provided that, if the goods are in any part of it has been delivered to, the buyer shall pay a reasonable price
- where such party is prevented from making the valuation by the fault of the seller or buyer
- ↓
The party not in fault may maintain a suit for damages against the other party

Voluntary waiver

- waive the condition for his own benefit
- Elect to treat it as breach of warranty & claim damages

Compulsory waiver

- Contract of sale is not dispersible if the buyer has accepted the goods or part thereof
- Shall be treated as breach of warranty

Conditions & warranties may be expressed or implied

Implied conditions

Condition as to title

- In a contract of sale, unless the circumstances imply otherwise
- there is an implied condition on the part of the seller that he has right to sell
- In case of agreement to sell, he will have the right to sell at the time when the ownership gets past

2) Sale by Sample

Sale by Sample

Bulk shall correspond with the sample in quality

Buyer shall have a reasonable opportunity of comparing the bulk with the sample

Goods shall be free from any latent defect i.e. hidden defect

3) Sale by description

→ Goods shall correspond with the description

4) Sale by description as well as description
→ goods shall correspond with both description as well as sample

5) Condition as to quality + fitness

Condition as to quality + fitness

The goods supplied shall be reasonably fit for the purpose for which the buyer wants them, provided:

- The buyer should have made known to the seller the particular purpose for which the goods are required
- The buyer should rely on seller's skills + judgement
- The goods must be of a description dealt in by the seller.

6) Condition as to merchantability

• Goods shall be fit for the usual purpose for which the goods are used.

Exception - If the buyer has examined the goods, there should be no implied condition as regards defects which such examination ought to have revealed.

7) Condition as to wholesomeness
→ Goods shall be fit for human consumption

8) Condition by usage of trade.

9) Conditions by other law

Implied warranties

Warranty as to undisturbed possession

- buyer shall have & enjoy quiet possession of the goods
- if the buyer having got possession of the goods, as later on disturbed in their possession he is entitled to sue the seller for breach of warranty

Warranty as to non-existence of charge

- The goods shall be free from any charge
- in favour of any third party not declared or known to the buyer
- before or at the time the contract is entered into

Warranty as to quality or fitness

An implied warranty as to quality or fitness for a particular purpose may be annexed by the usage of trade.

Disclosure of dangerous nature

- The goods are dangerous in nature
- the buyer is ignorant of the danger
- the seller must warn the buyer of the probable danger
- failing which buyer can claim damages for injuries caused to him

Implied conditions + warranty can be removed by
 → Express agreement
 → Usual course of dealings
 → Customs or usage of trade

Caveat Emptor

There is no implied warranty or condition as to the quality or fitness for any particular purpose of goods supplied under the contract of sale.

In other words, it is no part of the seller's duty to give buyer an article suitable for particular purpose unless it is expressly stated.

Exceptions to above

Expressly states the particular purpose

Description

① Quality or fitness

② Merchantability

③ Sample

④ Brand

Specific & Ascertained goods

Transfer of property

Identification of goods

- Goods must be ascertained
- Goods must be specific & ascertained to acquire the ownership right.

Intention of the parties

- Intention of the parties
- Terms of the contract, circumstances of the sale

Different stages of goods while passing of property

→ Specific goods in deliverable state, the ownership passes at the time when the contract is made.

→ Specific goods not in deliverable state, property passes only when such thing is done & buyer has notice thereof.

→ where there is a contract for the sale of specific goods in deliverable state but the seller is bound to weigh, measure for ascertaining the price. The property does not pass till such act or thing is done & the buyer acknowledges.

Unascertained or future goods

Transfer of property

In case of such goods, the ownership is not transferred to the buyer unless until the goods are

(i) Ascertained and

(ii) Unconditionally appropriated

Ascertained

Process by which goods answering to the description or quality stated in the contract, are identified

Unconditionally Appropriated

Appropriation of goods involves selection of goods with the intention of using them performance of the contract & with the mutual consent of seller & buyer.

Essentials of Appropriation

↓
Goods match with descrip & fit for d. quality

↓
Goods must be in deliv- -enable state

Seller does not retain the right disposal over same - ship & delivery

↓
The appropri- -ation must be made by the seller with the assent of the buyer & vice versa

↓
The assent may be expressed or implied. It may be given before or after the appropriation

Sale on Approval Basis

Transfer of property

- When the signifies his acceptance or approval
- fails to return the goods to seller within specified or reasonable time
- Does something to the goods which is equivalent to acceptance

Risk passes with ownership

- (i) until the ownership is transferred to the buyer
→ goods remain at seller's risk
- (ii) when the property therein transferred to the buyer
→ goods are at buyer's risk whether delivery has been made or not
- (iii) if the delivery is delayed by the fault of the seller or the buyer
→ goods remain at the risk of party in fault
- (iv) The owner of the goods must bear the loss or damage of goods unless otherwise is agreed to
→ There may be special agreement b/w parties wkt will pass sometimes after or before passing of ownership

Nemo Dat Quia Non Habet

- The general rule is that only the owner of the goods can transfer a good title
No one can give a better title than what he himself has
- where goods are sold by a person who is not the owner thereof + who does not sell them lawfully with consent of owner
- buyer acquires no better title than what the seller had.

Exceptions to the above

① Sale by mercantile agent

- Sale by mercantile agent shall pass validly upto the bona fide buyer even though such sale is not made as per directions of the seller, if the following conditions are satisfied
 - a) The sale is made by mercantile agent in capacity of mercantile agent
 - b) Goods came into his possession with the consent of the seller
 - c) It should take place in the ordinary course of business
 - d) Buyer buys the goods in good faith for consideration.

② Sale by one of JN joint owners

- The sale by one of the joint owner shall pass validly upto the buyer even though such sale is not made as per the directions of other joint owners if following conditions are satisfied
 - a) goods came into his possession with the consent of other joint owners
 - b) The goods are in sole possession of him
 - c) Buyer buys in good faith & for consideration

③ Effect of estoppel

- when the true owner, by his conduct or act or omission
 - leads the buyer to believe that the seller has the authority to sell
 - & induces him to buy the goods
 - he cannot deny the fact of want of authority of the seller
 - The buyer gets the better title

④ Sale by a person in possession under a voidable contract

- A resale of goods by a buyer shall pass a valid title to new buyer if following conditions are satisfied
 - a) A buyer buys the goods under a voidable contract
 - b) Such buyer resells the goods to a new buyer
 - c) At the time of resale, the voidable contract has not been rescinded by the original seller.
 - d) The new buyer buys the goods in good faith & for consideration

⑤ Sale by seller in possession of goods after sale

- The ownership of goods has been passed to the buyer
- b) Seller continues to be in possession of goods
- c) Seller resells the goods to a new buyer
- d) The new buyer buys the goods in off for consideration

① Sale by buyer in possession of goods before sale

- A person buys or agrees to buy, with the consent of seller
- Obtains the possession of the goods or document of title to the goods
- The delivery / sale or transfer by such person will be effective & valid.
- Accordingly, the person receiving acted in good faith & for consideration

② Under other acts

- a) Sale by holder of lost goods
- b) Sale by pawnee or pledgee

③ Sale by unpaid seller

Unpaid seller

- 1) The whole price has not been paid & the seller has an immediate right of action.
- 2) When a BOC or other negotiable instrument has been received as conditional payment & it has been dishonored

Rights of unpaid seller

Rights of unpaid seller

Against goods

- Lien
- Stoppage in transit
- Resale

Against buyer

- Suit for price
- Suit for damage
- Suit for interest

Right of lien

- 2) Lien is a right to retain the goods in the possession until conditions fulfilled
- 3) It can be exercised only for non-payment of the price not for any charges due against the buyer
- 4) When part delivery has been made, he may still exercise his right of lien for the full price on remaining goods.

Right of lien in law

- ① When the seller delivers the goods to a carrier or other bailee for the purpose of transmission to the buyer without reserving the right of disposal of goods
- ② By holding the rights of seller or seller's successive credit period
- ③ Buyer or agent lawfully obtains the goods
- ④ Where the asserts to submit by the buyer
- ⑤ Where the takes a security from the buyer for payment of the price

Right of stoppage in transit

- Right of stopping the goods in transit after the has parted with the possession to a carrier, only if
- ① Seller is unpaid
- ② Buyer becomes insolvent
- ③ The goods must be in transit
- ④ Seller has parted with the possession of goods

Transit comes to an end

- ① If the buyer obtains the delivery before the arrival of the goods at their destination
- ② If the carrier wrongfully refuses to deliver to the buyer
- ③ If the carrier/bailee acknowledges to the buyer that he holds the goods on his behalf.

Right of resale

- a) Buyer fails to pay the price within the reasonable time
- b) Unpaid Seller has exercised right of stoppage in transit
- c) Has given the notice to resell the goods without notice

After notice

Buyer is entitled	Seller cannot claim	Seller is entitled	Seller can claim
Profit	Loss	Profit	Loss
Buyer is entitled	* Seller cannot claim	Seller is entitled	Seller can claim
→ No notice required in case of perishable goods		→ Contract contains a clause of resale	

Reasonable opportunity of examining them

(14) Where the goods are delivered at a distant place, the liability for deterioration necessarily incident to the course of transit will fall on the buyer, even if otherwise agreed.

(15) The buyer is not bound to accept delivery in instalments

Effect of resale or pledge by the buyer

→ The unpaid seller's right of lien or stoppage in transitus is not affected by any further sale or disposition of the goods by the buyer.

Exception .

- a) Seller has assented to the sale, mortgage.
- b) Document of title has been transferred to buyer + the further transfers to the new buyer in good faith

Buyer's rights against the seller

- ① Suit for specific performance
- ② Suit for interest
- ③ Damages for non-delivery.

Auction Sale

It is made selling property by inviting bids publicly & it is sold to the highest bidder.

- Goods sold in lots
- Completion of contract of sale
- Right to bid may be reserved
- Bid may be withdrawn before the final call
- Reserved price
- Pretended bidding

Delivery

"means voluntary transfer of possession by one person to another"

Types of delivery

Acknowledgement

It is actual when the goods are physically delivered to the buyer.

Constructive delivery

When it comes into effect without any change in the custody or actual possession. Delivery by acknowledgement.

Symbolic delivery

When there is delivery of a thing in token of a transfer of something else i.e. delivery of goods in the course of transit may be made by handing over document of title of goods.

(1) When the goods at the time of sale are in possession of a third party, there is no delivery unless & until such third party acknowledges to the buyer that he holds the goods on his behalf.

(2) For short & excess only the buyer may either accept the same if they for it at the contract or reject it when the buyer rejects the seller may give contracted quantity & buyer is bound to accept. For mixed delivery the buyer may either accept the goods in accordance with the contract or reject the rest or neglect the whole.

(3) Delivery of goods to the carrier for the purpose of transmission to the buyer deemed to be delivery of goods to the buyer.

(4) Acceptance of delivery of goods
 a) intimates to the seller, acceptance
 b) does any act to the goods which is inconsistent with the ownership of seller
 c) retains the goods after lapse of reasonable time.

(5) Return of rejected goods sent on approval basis -
 He is not bound to return them to the seller but he is bound to inform the seller who has refused them within reasonable time.

(6) If the buyer neglects or refuses to take delivery within a reasonable time, he is liable to the seller for loss & charges for care & custody of the goods.

(7) Where goods, which are not previously exempted are delivered to the buyer, he is not deemed to have accepted them unless he has a

Rules of delivery

(1) Delivery and payment are concurrent condition.

(2) Delivery of part with the intention of delivering whole has the same effect as delivery of the whole.

(3) The seller is under no obligation to deliver unless the buyer applies for it.

(4) The goods sold are to be delivered at the place at which they are at the time of sale.

(5) The goods should be delivered within reasonable time.

(6) The expenses of putting the goods in deliverable state are borne by the seller.