

**Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *182
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2016**

HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY

*182. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that inferior quality jewellery are being sold by jewellers in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards has directed all the jewellers to comply with the hallmarking of jewellery and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of hallmarking centres in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether there is adequate number of hallmarking centres in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the consumers from inferior quality of jewellery?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री
(श्री राम विलास पासवान)

**THE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)**

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*182 FOR 29.11.2016 REGARDING HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY.

(a) : Yes, Madam. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) had conducted two market surveys in the year 2001 & 2006 of non-hallmarked jewellery being sold by the jewellers across the country.

Details of the same are given below:

Particulars	2001 (120 samples in 8 cities)	2006 (162 samples in 16 cities)
Samples failing	89%	90%
Average shortage in purity	11%	13.5%
Highest purity shortage	38.6%	44.6%

(b) : Presently the Hallmarking of gold and silver jewellery is voluntary.

(c) : As on 25th Oct 2016 there were 409 BIS recognized Assaying and Hallmarking Centres (A & H Centre) in the country. The State/UT wise list of Assaying & Hallmarking (A & H) Centre is at **Annexure.**

(d) : The setting up of A&H Centre is a market driven activity depending upon the commercial viability as assessed by the entrepreneurs. To provide impetus to the hallmarking activity, Government provides financial assistance to the A & H Centre in deficient locations of the country which do not have an A & H Centre.

(e): To protect the consumer interest with respect to the purity of hallmarked jewellery, surveillance audit is carried out of the A & H Centre. Besides, market sample are drawn from the licensed jewellers to ensure compliance to relevant Standards. Further, in the BIS Act, 2016 enabling provisions have been made to make hallmarking of precious metal articles mandatory.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*182 FOR 29.11.2016 REGARDING HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY.

The state wise distribution of the BIS recognized Assaying & Hallmarking Centres as on 25th October 2016:

Sl No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Assaying & Hallmarking Centres
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Assam	02
3.	Bihar	03
4.	Chandigarh	03
5.	Chhattisgarh	01
6.	Delhi	32
7.	Gujarat	48
8.	Haryana	08
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	02
10.	Jharkhand	03
11.	Karnataka	27
12.	Kerala	45
13.	Madhya Pradesh	07
14.	Maharashtra	59
15.	Odisha	06
16.	Puducherry	01
17.	Punjab	13
18.	Rajasthan	18
19.	Tamil Nadu	54
20.	Telangana	10
21.	Tripura	01
22.	Uttar Pradesh	16
23.	West Bengal	28
	TOTAL	409
