

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 792
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2017

HALLMARKING CERTIFICATE

792. SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR:

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

- (a) the quantum and financial volume of gold jewellery exported by India in the last three years;
- (b) whether any complain has been received so far against the quality, caratage, or hallmarking certificate of those exported jewellery from the foreign buyers or World Gold Council, if so, measures taken to resolve the issues;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the faulty hallmarking system of gold, still prevailing in the country, is helping dishonest jewellers to dupe several customers, if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the consumers;
- (d) the measures taken so far to spread awareness about buying only hallmarked jewellery especially of gold and silver among common people in the last three years;
- (e) the number of incidents involving customers being cheated in terms of purity/ quality of gold/ornament they bought and the actions taken thereon; and
- (f) the number of raids conducted, if any, in the last three years in Assaying Centres, authorised recognized to issue hallmarking certificates and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) : The quantum and financial volume of gold jewellery India exported in the last three years are given in **Annexure-I**.
- (b) : The Government has not received any complaints regarding quality, caratage of hallmarking certificate of those exported jewellery from the foreign buyers or World Gold Council.
- (c) : To safeguard the interest of the consumer, in April 2000 the gold hallmarking scheme was started by BIS. The gold hallmarking scheme is voluntary in nature and the jewelers interested in selling hallmarked jewellery have to obtain licence from BIS. A licensee jeweler under the scheme has to get their jewellery hallmarked for purity from BIS recognized Assaying and Hallmarking (A&H) Centres.

(d): BIS organizes consumer awareness programs and jewellers awareness programme, wherein the details of Hallmarking Scheme are explained to the participants. The numbers of such programs conducted in the last three years and the current year, are given below:

Year	Number of consumer awareness programmes	Number of jewellers awareness programmes
2013-14	115	33
2014-15	292	40
2015-16	166	36
2016-17 Upto Dec 2016	132	30

Further, BIS to spread awareness amongst consumers regarding hallmarked jewellery/artefacts carries out advertisement through print, electronic and outdoor media.

(e): There has been no complaint by any customer regarding cheating by BIS licensed jeweller. However, in two of the complaints relating to hallmarked jewellery by licensed jeweller, one related to the product becoming unshaped, which was replaced by the jeweler. The other complaint was related to copper percentage in jewellery for which sample was drawn by BIS, tested and found to be conforming.

(f): Raids are not conducted on BIS recognized Assaying and Hallmarking (A&H) centres. However, surveillance audits are carried out on BIS recognized A& H centres to verify their satisfactory performance. The details of such surveillance audits are given at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE -I

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.792 FOR 07.02.2017 REGARDING HALLMARKING CERTIFICATE.

QUANTITY IS IN KGS AND VALUE IS IN USD (Export)

ITCHS	Description	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
71131910	Jewellery of Gold unset	107726	4605045762	140197	5817873121	97753	3655695565
71131920	Jewellery of Gold set with pearls	3593	489863181	1080	95618890	1310	55752586
71131930	Jewellery of Gold set with Diamond	54197	4129419242	44279	3811668488	44424	3539022055
71131940	Jewellery of Gold set with precious and semi-precious stones other than diamonds	8897	390828267	12355	537297946	18414	579376755
Total		174413	9615156452	197911	10262458445	161901	7829846961

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.792 FOR 07.02.2017 REGARDING HALLMARKING CERTIFICATE.

Details of surveillance audits on Assaying and Hallmarking (A & H) centre carried out during the last three years and the current year.

Year	No of Surveillance audit of A & H Centres	No Of A & H centre de- Recognized
2013-2014	128	13
2014-2015	159	7
2015-2016	233	24
2016-2017 (up to 25 th Dec 2016)	73	65
