

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*208**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.01.2018**

**MANDATORY HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY**

\*208. SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR: SHRI SUMAN BALKA:

**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 has made the hallmarking of 14 carat, 18 carat and 22 carat jewellery along with carat count mandatory from January, 2018 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the World Gold Council (WGC) has submitted a report on 'Mandatory Hallmarking: Global practices and road map for India' to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and if so, the details thereof along with the main recommendations made by the WGC in this regard;
- (c) whether jewellers have opposed the recommendations of the WGC, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the response of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has received representation regarding implementation of hallmarking of 20 carat gold jewellery and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government is also working on bringing hallmarking regulations under the new BIS Act, 2016 and if so, the details thereof?

**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.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*208 FOR 02.01.2018 REGARDING MANDATORY HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY.**

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(a) : The BIS Act, 2016 has enabling provisions for making hallmarking of precious metal articles mandatory by the Central Government. However, Central Government is yet to take a final decision in the matter.

(b) : World Gold Council (WGC) has not submitted any such report to BIS. However, on the website of WGC a report dated 7th December, 2017 is available in which the key recommendations include:

- i. BIS should plan to introduce mandatory hallmarking in a phased manner.
- ii. Credibility of hallmarking may be raised through tighter enforcement and a technology solution to eliminate counterfeit hallmarking, etc.

(c) : No representation has been received by the Government so far from jewellers on the recommendation of WGC report.

(d) : A number of representations have been received from jewellers, various stakeholder associations wherein they have requested for inclusion of 20 carat grade also under hallmarking.

Based on the recommendations of the BIS technical committee, three grades, namely 14k, 18k and 22k, for manufacturing gold jewellery/artefacts under the Indian Standard 1417 have been notified w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017. The technical committee had observed that since primary demand in gold jewellery/artefacts was under these three grades it will be prudent to keep these three grades only for hallmarking gold jewellery/artefacts in consumer interest.

(e) : The hallmarking regulations under the new BIS Act, 2016 are under finalization.

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