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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 441 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2020

HALLMARKING OF GOLD JEWELLERY AND ARTIFACTS IN INDIA

441. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK: SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE: SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

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 proposes to make hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and artifacts mandatory in the country and if so, the details thereof and the time frame fixed by the Government for implementation of the said proposal;
- (b) whether the Government is also insisting upon having hallmarks on all ornaments made of different grades numbering about 10;
- (c) the total number of assaying and hallmarking centres in the country, district and State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether there is adequate number of assaying and hallmarking centres in the country and if so, the details thereof:
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the consumers from buying inferior quality jewellery?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव)

THE MINISTER OF STATE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

- (a): Yes Sir, Quality Control Order for Mandatory Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts Order, 2020 dated 15-1-2020 has been notified in the Gazette of India vide S.O. No. 205(E) dated 15-01-20 making hallmarking of Gold jewellery and artifacts mandatory in the country w.e.f. <u>15-1-2021</u> giving a year's time for its implementation.
- (b): Only three grades namely 14,18 and 22 carats for gold jewellery and artefacts, as prescribed in Indian Standard IS: 1417: 2016 can be hallmarked.
- (c): As on 25 Dec 2019, 892 Hallmarking and Assaying (A & H) centres throughout India have been recognized by BIS. The district and State/UT-wise list is attached at **Annexure.**

- (d) & (e): The average number of articles hallmarked per day per centre in the year is nearly 225 only. A typical centre can hallmark 500 pieces per shift (or about 1500 pieces per day) with one set of machines. Thus, the average utilization of the capacity of the A&H centres is less than 50 % and Therefore, the average utilization of the capacity of the A&H centres is less than 50% and as on date there is no capacity constraint.
- (f): Bureau of Indian Standards organizes regular Awareness Programmes through its various Regional Offices/Branch Offices. Many of these awareness programmes are conducted in association with Consumer Organizations. These programmes focus on enhancing quality consciousness of consumers by highlighting issues of Standardization, promotion of BIS Standard Mark, Hallmarking of Gold & Silver and educating them on the misuse of BIS Standard mark & Complaint Redressal System for products with BIS Standard Mark.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.441 FOR 04.02.2020 REGARDING HALLMARKING OF GOLD JEWELLERY AND ARTIFACTS IN INDIA.

Region	istrict wise list of Assayi State/UT	No of A&H Centres	No of District.	District. Covered	District. Not Covered
Central	Delhi	42	11	6	5
	Madhya Pradesh	16	52	8	44
	Rajasthan	42	33	15	18
	Total	100	96	29	67
Northern	Punjab	23	22	11	11
	Chandigarh	5	1	1	0
	Uttarakhand	3	13	2	11
	Himachal Pradesh	2	12	2	10
	Jammu and Kashmir	3	20	1	19
	Ladakh	0	2	0	2
	Haryana	19	22	12	10
	Uttar Pradesh	66	75	20	55
	Total	121	167	49	118
Western	Maharashtra	122	36	22	14
	Gujarat	76	33	23	10
	Goa	2	2	2	0
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	1	0	1
	Daman & Diu	0	2	0	2
	Total	200	74	47	27
Southern	Tamil Nadu	101	32	22	10
	Andhra Pradesh	43	13	12	1
	Telangana	34	31	3	28
	Kerala	70	14	13	1
	Karnataka	52	30	13	17
	Puducherry	2	4	1	3
	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	1
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	3	0	3
	Total	302	128	64	64
Eastern	Bihar	25	38	11	27
	Jharkhand	9	24	4	20
	Odisha	20	30	6	24
	Chhattisgarh	6	27	2	25
	Assam	5	33	3	30
	Tripura	2	8	2	6
	Arunachal Pradesh	0	25	0	25
	Nagaland	0	11	0	11
	Meghalaya	0	11	0	11
	Sikkim	0	4	0	4
	Mizoram	0	8	0	8
	West Bengal	102	23	17	6
	Manipur	0	16	0	16
	Total	169	258	45	213
	Grand Total	892	723	234	489