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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2016

MANDATORY HALLMARKING

258. SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION milkfork ekeys [kk | vks | kot fud for j.k eahbe pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for mandatory Hallmarking of gold and silver items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which it is likely to ensure purity of the items made from these precious metals:
- (d) whether the Government has set up recognized hallmarking centers across the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b): The Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016 has enabling provisions for making hallmarking of precious metal articles mandatory by the Central Government.
- (c) : The objective of the hallmarking scheme is to ensure purity of precious metal articles.
- (d) to (f): Madam, no hallmarking centre has been set up by Central Government or by Bureau of Indian Standards. Hallmarking centres are generally set up by private entrepreneurs. As on 30th June 2016 there are 376 BIS recognized hallmarking centres across the country, state wise details of which are given in the **Annexure**.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (d) to (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.258 FOR 19.07.2016 REGARDING MANDATORY HALLMARKING.

The state wise distribution of the BIS recognized Assaying & Hallmarking Centres as on $30^{\rm th}$ June 2016.

Sl No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Assaying & Hallmarking Centres
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20
2.	Assam	2
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Chandigarh	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	1
6.	Delhi	31
7.	Gujarat	37
8.	Haryana	7
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
10.	Jharkhand	3
11.	Karnataka	26
12.	Kerala	39
13.	Madhya Pradesh	7
14.	Maharashtra	51
15.	Odisha	7
16.	Puducherry	1
17.	Punjab	12
18.	Rajasthan	16
19.	Tamil Nadu	51
20.	Telangana	10
21.	Uttar Pradesh	16
22.	West Bengal	31
	TOTAL	376