

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 399
ANSWERED ON 21/07/2026

INCREASE IN IMPORT DUTY ON GOLD AND SILVER

399. SHRI RAMPRIT MANDAL:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an apprehension that the increase in import duty on gold and silver will now lead to an increase in gold smuggling and illegal trade, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said smuggling and illegal trade may cause a loss of revenue to the Government, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there is also an apprehension that a parallel economy may emerge in the country due to said smuggling and illegal trade and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c) Customs field formations and DRI maintain constant vigil and operational readiness to prevent and detect smuggling activities, including smuggling of gold and silver.

Such risks are continuously monitored and addressed through enforcement measures under the extant legal framework. Wherever instances of smuggling are detected, action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 and other applicable laws, including seizure and confiscation of smuggled gold and silver, and arrest and prosecution of the persons involved, as warranted.

Details of gold and silver seized by CBIC from FY 2022-23 to FY 2026-27 (till 30.06.2026) are enclosed as

Annexure-I.

Gold Seizure Data				
F.Y.		No. of Cases	Qty. of Gold Seized (in Kgs)	No. of persons arrested
2022-23		4619	4342.85	1740
2023-24		6599	4971.68	2003
2024-25		3005	2600.40	1240
2025-26		836	646.66	508
2026-27	(01.04.2026 to 12.05.2026)	165	86.16	67
	(13.05.2026 to 30.06.2026)*	287	160.91	116

*Customs duty on import of gold and silver was changed with effect from 13th May, 2026.

Silver Seizure Data				
F.Y.		No. of Cases	Qty. of Silver Seized (in Kgs)	No. of persons arrested
2022-23		64	784.29	1
2023-24		50	984.42	1
2024-25		47	2505.18	4
2025-26		44	542.58	3
2026-27	(01.04.2026 to 12.05.2026)	7	49.53	8
	(13.05.2026 to 30.06.2026)*	16	535.95	2

*Customs duty on import of gold and silver was changed with effect from 13th May, 2026.
