

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1079

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001

PURITY OF JEWELLERY

GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `Gahano Ke Sudhata Ke Bare main Chokane Wale Tathya Samane Aye` appearing in the Nav Bharat Times dated October 13, 2001;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein alongwith the details of jewellers whose samples were not found correct and the action taken against the defaulters;
- (c) whether the Union Government have taken any concrete measures for the purity of jewellery;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether these facts are likely to have any impact on the export of Indian jewellery; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : The facts reported in the news item are correct except that there are 248 jewellers in the country who have been licensed by BIS to get their jewellery Hallmarked from 12 approved Assaying and Hallmarking Centres and not 248 Assaying and Hallmarking Centres as reported.

BIS conducted a survey in some of the major cities and out of 75 samples of jewellery tested, only 9 were found conforming to the claimed purity. Whether any action can be taken by BIS against those whose samples were not of the claimed purity is under consideration of BIS.

(c) & (d): Implementation of Hallmarking Scheme by BIS is being strengthened through education of jewellers and by bringing awareness among the common consumers.

(e) & (f): Government have not received any report of any impact on the export of Indian jewellery.