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

STARRED QUESTION NO:311
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
MORE HALLMARKING CENTRES
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to make Hallmarking mandatory for all gold jewellery;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up more accredited centres of Bureau of Indian Standards for Hallmarking in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the cities where such centres are proposed to be set up; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 311 FOR 13/03/2006 REGARDING MORE HALLMARKING CENTRES

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Hallmarking and Assaying Centres are expected to come up on account of increasing demand from consumers for Hallmarked gold jewellery. In order to ensure adequacy of assaying infrastructure particularly in uncovered areas prior to Hallmarking being made mandatory, a scheme for setting up of Gold Hallmarking/ Assaying Centres in India has been launched for implementation during 2005-07. Under this scheme, one time financial incentive of 15% of the cost of plant and equipment, subject to a ceiling of Rs.15 lakh will be provided to selected entrepreneurs. The list of districts selected under the scheme is annexed. br> Annex List of Districts Selected under the Pilot Project on Gold Hallmarking

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(1) Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir),
(2) Shimla (Himachal Pradesh),
(3) Ludhiana (Punjab),
(4) Chandigarh (Union Territory of Chandigarh),
(5) Panipat  (Haryana)
(6) Gurgaon (Haryana),
(7) Meerut (Uttar Pradesh)
(8) Lucknow  (Uttar Pradesh)
(9) Noida (Uttar Pradesh),
(10) Dehradun (Uttaranchal),
(11) Jaipur  (Rajasthan)
(12)  Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
(13) Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)
(14) Indore (Madhya Pradesh),
(15) Patna (Bihar),
(16) Burdwan (West Bengal)
(17) Siliguri (West Bengal)
(18) Ranchi (Jharkhand)
(19) Gangtok (Sikkim)
(20) Aizwal (Mizoram)
(21) Agartala (Tripura)
(22) Guwahati (Assam)
(23) Bhubaneshwar (Orissa)
(24) Raipur (Chattisgarh)
(25) Vadodara (Gujarat)
(26) Pune (Maharashtra)
(27) Jalgaon (Maharashtra)
(28) Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
(29) Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)
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(30) Hubli (Karnataka)
(31) Mangalore (Karnataka)
(32) Panaji (Goa)
(33) Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
(34) Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu)
(35) Pondicherry (Union Territory of Pondicherry).