

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:92  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011  
PRICES OF GOLD AND SILVER  
Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India is the largest consumer of gold and silver;
- (b) if so, the details of revenue turnover from domestic sale of gold and silver during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether there is a steep rise in the prices of these commodities in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereon?

**Answer**

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 92 DUE FOR ANSWER ON AUGUST 5, 2011 BY SHRI BALKRISHNA K. SHUKLA

As per World Gold Council, India is the largest consumer of gold in the world followed by China. India is one of the larger consuming countries (but not the largest) for silver along with United States, Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

As per information available, data on revenue turnover in respect of Customs Duty collected from the import of gold is provided in the following table for the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. The information on Customs duty on silver will be collected and furnished separately.

(Rs. In Crore)

YEAR	REVENUE
2007-08	847.8
2008-09	673.66
2009-10	1567.64
2010-11	2553.52

The spot and near months futures prices of gold and silver quoted on the MCX platform for last 3 years are given below:

Spot and near months futures prices of gold and silver quoted on the MCX

Date Gold (Rs. Per 10 gm) Silver (Rs. Per kg)

	Spot Futures	Near Month Futures	Spot Futures	Near Month Futures
1-Apr-08	11656.00	11482.00	22113.00	21961.00
30-Jun-08	12936.00	12879.00	24545.00	24260.00

30-Sep-08	13337.00	13192.00	20511.00	20109.00
31-Dec-08	13445.00	13630.00	17847.00	18355.00
31-Mar-09	15066.00	15132.00	21890.00	21855.00
30-Jun-09	14558.00	14451.00	22357.00	21768.00
30-Sep-09	15620.00	15703.00	26040.00	26486.00
31-Dec-09	16705.00	16686.00	26870.00	26771.00
31-Mar-10	16300.00	16295.00	26875.00	26935.00
30-Jun-10	18805.00	18852.00	29575.00	29604.00
30-Sep-10	19165.00	19035.00	33350.00	32962.00
31-Dec-10	20575.00	20728.00	46065.00	46217.00
31-Mar-11	20760.00	20693.00	55900.00	55970.00

Percent  
increase  
in March,  
2011 as  
compared

to April 2008. 78.11 80.22 152.79 154.86

As far as gold and silver are concerned, India is a net importer and the prices of these precious metals depend on international prices. The volatility in the prices of gold and silver in India is mainly due to the volatility in the prices of these commodities in the international markets.