

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4652
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
GOLD RESERVES
Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is holding huge quantity of gold reserves;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has earned huge profits due to steep hike in the prices of gold in the international market;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to further boost the gold reserves in the coming years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) holds 557.75 metric tonnes of gold as part of foreign exchange reserves. As on April 20, 2012, the value of gold reserve was US\$ 27.02 billion, which accounts for 9.2 per cent of foreign exchange reserves of US\$ 294.6 billion, (c) to (e) As per Reserve Bank of India's accounting policies, the gold held by the RBI is revalued on a monthly basis. Gains / Losses on valuation of gold due to movements in the price of gold are not taken to the Profit and Loss Account but booked under a balance sheet head.

The RBI purchased 200 metric tonnes of gold at the cost of US\$ 6.7 billion from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), under the IMF's limited gold sales programme, as part of the foreign exchange reserves management operations in the year 2009.