

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5859

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012

UNACCOUNTED INVESTMENT IN GOLD AND SILVER

Alagiri Shri S. ;Rama Devi Smt.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of legal mandates to prevent unauthorised accumulation and hoarding of gold and silver alongwith details of agencies entrusted to enforce the same;

(b) the details of cases arising there from during each of the last three years and the current year till date; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Gold (Control) Act, 1968 .containing provisions about restrictions relating to the manufacture, acquisition, possession, sale, transfer or delivery of gold has been repealed by the Gold (Control) Repeal Act, 1990.

(c): The Customs Department prevents unauthorized import or smuggling of gold and silver into India. It initiates action for contravention of provisions of Customs Act, 1962 and read with Baggage (Amendment) Rules, 2006, In respect of such unauthorized import/smuggling, the offending goods are liable for confiscation and offenders are liable for penal action.

The Income tax Department conducts search, seizure and survey operations based on credible information relating to `persons`, which includes individuals, Hindu undivided families (HUFs), firms, companies, association of persons (AoPs), body of individuals (Bols), local authorities and any artificial juridical person, who are in possession of any money, bullion, jewellery, documents or any other valuable article or thing which represents undisclosed income of such persons. Unaccounted assets are seized during the course of search operations. Undisclosed income /assets are brought to tax and penal provisions invoked in appropriate cases, including levy of penalties and launching of prosecution.