

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2639
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2009
DUTY ON ORNAMENTS
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any suggestions/requests relating to decreasing excise/sales tax on items like bangles, ringlets, dots (bindi), sindoor, etc. used in marriages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) No, Sir Glass bangles are already levied a nil rate of excise duty. Further, ornaments made of precious metals including ringlets, and other items like sindur, kumkum, kajal, alta and mahavar are also fully exempt from excise duty. Sales tax is a State subject and the Central Government does not have power to alter the rates of sales tax.

(b) & (c): Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.