

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:873
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2006
IMPURE GOLD
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the business of impure gold is increasing in various parts of the country ;
- (b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken to prevent it; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)to(c) : No such complaint has been received by this Ministry on this matter.However, as per a market survey of non-hallmarked jewellery conducted by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in 16 cities of the country some time back shortage in purity of gold content in the jewellery was found to be widespread. On gold jewellery,BIS is running a voluntary hallmarking scheme under the BIS Act, 1986. The scheme is aimed at providing third party assurance to consumers on the purity of gold for its fineness. Purchasers of Hallmarked Jewellers can get their jewellery tested from any BIS recognized assaying centre. The scheme is operated through network of Regional and Branch Offices of BIS all over the Country.