

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1310**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2025

**ENFORCEMENT OF HALLMARKING STANDARDS IN JEWELLERY  
SECTOR IN WEST BENGAL**

1310. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in Kolkata has conducted any raids on shops in West Bengal for selling gold jewellery without BIS hallmark;
- (b) if so, the details of raids, including the number of raids conducted, locations and outcomes, during the past three years;
- (c) whether BIS is aware of the prevalence of shops in West Bengal selling gold jewellery without a BIS hallmark;
- (d) the number of legal actions taken by BIS against shops that were found selling non-hallmarked gold jewellery; and
- (e) the penalties imposed under BIS Act, 2016 for such violations and whether any cases have been prosecuted in courts?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI B.L VERMA)

(a) & (b) : Yes, BIS has conducted three raids on shops in Kolkata for selling gold jewellery without BIS hallmark. The first raid took place on 24-05-2022 at M/s Gostho Behari Dey and Sons (1, Mithapukur Road, Bardhaman, West Bengal) where no jewellery was seized during the enforcement activity. However, the jeweller admitted to the misuse of the BIS Standard Mark on bangles. Accordingly, BIS had initiated legal action against the jewellery shop. The second raid was conducted on 09-06-2022 at Nilima Hallmarking Centre (Basantitala, Sonapatti, Bolpur, West Bengal), resulting in the seizure of gold articles weighing 2.710 grams. Subsequently, the third raid occurred on 26-09-2022 at M/s Mahalaxmi Refinery (Nichu Bazar, Bhagawangola, Murshidabad, West Bengal), where gold articles weighing 27.61 grams were seized.

(c) to (e) : In last three years, Bureau of Indian Standards has received 15 complaints through online portal regarding the misuse of Hallmark in West Bengal. Following investigation and necessary action, 12 complaints have been closed, while 3 are under investigation. Additionally, legal actions against 3 shops had been taken by BIS for Search and Seizure as mentioned in part (a) & (b). Under the BIS Act, 2016, penalties are imposed for violations related to selling gold jewellery without BIS hallmarking. In these cases, all three matters are currently subjudice.

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