



6 Digit Alphanumeric HUID

Why in News?

[Bureau of India Standards \(BIS\)](#) has prohibited the sale of hallmarked gold jewelry or gold artefacts without 6-digit alphanumeric **Hallmark Unique Identification Number (HUID)** after 31st March 2023. However, Hallmarked jewelry lying with consumers as per old schemes shall remain valid.

- Earlier, the old hallmarked jewelry with 4 marks without HUID was also permitted to be sold by the jewelers along with the 6-digit HUID mark.

What is Hallmarking?

▪ About:

- Hallmarking is the **accurate determination and official recording of the proportionate content of precious metal** in precious metal articles.
- Hallmarking scheme for Jewelry was started by **BIS** in the year 2000. In India, at present two precious metals namely **gold and silver** have been brought **under the purview of Hallmarking**.
- However, **Mandatory Hallmarking** has been successfully implemented in 288 districts of the country **with effect from 23 June 2021 by Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts Order, 2022**.
- After introduction of 6-digit HUID in 2021, **hallmark consisted of 3 marks viz, BIS logo, purity of the article and six-digit alphanumeric HUID**. Each hallmarked article has unique HUID number which is traceable.



- **Working Mechanism:**

- A consumer can check and authenticate hallmarked gold jewelry items with HUID number using '**verify HUID**' in [BIS CARE app](#).
- It provides **information of the jeweler** who got the article hallmarked, **their registration number, purity of the article, type of article as well as details of hallmarking centre** which test and hallmark the article.
 - Using this information, a **common consumer can verify the article** being purchased by matching it with article type as well as it's purity.

What is the Significance of Hallmark?

- As per [BIS Rules, 2018](#), in case Hallmarked jewelry bought by the consumer is found to be of lesser purity than that marked on jewelry, then the **buyer/customer shall be entitled for compensation** which shall be **two times the amount of difference** calculated on the basis of shortage of purity for the weight of such article sold and the testing charges.
- It is a **tool to safeguard and protect the consumers** and enhance their confidence in purchase of hallmarked gold jewelry with traceability and assurance of quality.

[Source:PIB](#)

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