

Gold monetisation norms eased further

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New Delhi, January 24:

To popularise the gold monetisation scheme, the Centre has further relaxed norms to benefit customers and banks.

The new guidelines allow premature redemption under medium- and long-term deposits, and withdrawals after three and five years, respectively, against five and seven years earlier.

“These will be subject to a reduction in the interest,” said a Finance Ministry statement. Banks can hedge their positions in the case of short-term deposits, it said. Further, banks would earn a commission of 2.5 per cent for their services including testing, storage and transportation charges. While 900.087 kg had been mobilised till January 20, banks are said to be worried about the costs. The government wants to popularise it with people, as it wants to mobilise 20,000 tonnes of idle gold.

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