

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5326**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 05<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2023**

**LGDs**

**5326. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the size of the lab-grown diamonds (LGD) industry in India;
- (b) the details of the quantum of revenue generated and the growth rate of the industry in the last five years;
- (c) whether the Government has contemplated the impact of the growing lab-based diamond industry on the natural diamond markets in India and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has taken into cognizance the plight of Surat-based diamond workers who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 impact and further would severely be affected by the promotion of lab-grown diamond reforms;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether the Government plans to provide lab-based skills to the existing diamond cutting and polishing workers to increase their employment opportunities in the lab-based diamond industry and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

- (a) and (b) The details of exports of Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD) during last 5 years are as under: -

Year	Exports	
	US\$ Million	% Growth
2017	163.37	-
2018	259.19	59%
2019	445.56	72%
2020	532.35	19%
2021	1,178.77	121%
2022	1,780.59	51%

Source: DGCI&S

(c) to (f) The natural diamond market in India is marginal and most of the diamonds cut and polished in India are exported. LGDs are a low cost alternative to natural diamonds, having same chemical and optical properties. As a result, higher production of LGD will further reduce costs and that is expected to expand the diamond market in India. Natural diamond production has peaked and is expected to decline in medium to long term. With the introduction of LGDs, the aggregate consumption of diamonds would increase thereby increasing employment opportunities. LGDs being chemically and optically same as natural diamonds, the skill set required for cutting and polishing of LGDs are similar to that of natural diamonds.

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