

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1235
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2015

DIAMOND BUSINESS

1235. SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.:

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

- a) the estimated quantity and value of generation of diamond business in the country particularly from Surat and other neighbouring areas and the number of workers associated with the industry and employment generation therefrom;
- b) whether there is a huge drop in the production of all major diamond polishing units and large number of employees associated with this industry are rendered jobless and few of them have committed suicides and the industries are facing the threat of closure;
- c) if so, the details thereof;
- d) whether the Government has taken any steps to protect the industry and the employees associated with these industries; and
- e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) Port-wise data in respect of cut and polished diamond is at Annexure-I. As reported by Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), approximately 4.6 Million people are employed in the industry.

(b) & (c) Due to the global economic slowdown, marginal decline has been noticed in the gem and jewellery exports during the year 2014-15 (US\$ 40.62 Billion) as compared to the previous year 2013-14 (US\$ 41.01 Billion). However, Government has taken a number of measures to boost the diamond industry and the same have been elaborated in the reply to part (d) and (e).

(d) & (e) With a view to promote the diamond industry, Special Notified Zone (SNZ) for consignment import/export of rough diamonds has been established at Mumbai where rough diamond mining companies will directly bring their production. This will help in reduction of transaction cost of Indian diamantaires and also ensure steady

supply of rough diamonds for the Indian diamond industry. Also, Government has taken a number of other steps such as providing financial assistance for participation in international fairs, organizing buyer-seller meets etc. under Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Schemes of the Department of Commerce to boost the diamond industry.

Annexure - I

**PORTWISE EXPORTS OF GEMS & JEWELLERY FROM INDIA DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS
2014-15**

Region	C & P Diamonds		Return Consignment		Total Net Exports		% Share in Total	C & P Diamonds		Return Consignment	
	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill		Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill		
Mumbai	342.12	22751.41	14.66	3356.31	327.46	19395.10	97.99	329.70	21697.42	18.93	4
Bangalore	0	3.30			0.00	3.30	0.02		3.22		
Delhi	0	6.85			0.00	6.85	0.03		16.64		
Surat	2.59	332.71	0.01	2.77	2.58	329.94	1.67	22.31	1833.57		
Kolkata	0.17	4.21			0.17	4.21	0.02	4.89	659.27		
Hyderabad	0.01	2.19			0.01	2.19	0.01	5.57	202.02		
Jaipur	0	27.84		7.62	0.00	20.22	0.10		30.60		
Chennai	0.14	1.15			0.14	1.15	0.01	0.03	1.60		
Vishakhapatnam	0.33	30.45			0.33	30.45	0.15	3.48	54.14		
TOTAL	345.36	23160.08	14.67	3366.70	330.69	19793.38	100.00	365.98	24498.48	18.93	4

