

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5065

ANSWERED ON:24.04.2015

TAX CONCESSION AND LOAN FACILITY TO DIAMOND INDUSTRY

Chaudhary Shri P.P.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to provide special tax concession including reduction in excise duties and better loan/credit facilities to Diamond Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

(a): Proposal to exempt Basic Customs Duty on cut and polished colored gemstones has been received by this Ministry. Basic Excise Duty on diamonds (whether or not worked) is NIL by tariff.

(b): The proposal for reduction in Basic Customs Duty on cut and polished colored gemstones was examined as part of pre-Budget exercise for the Union Budget 2015-16 and it was decided not to make a change in the existing Customs Duty rate.

(c): Does not arise in view of (b) above.