

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4330**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 07<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2019**

**GEMS AND JEWELLERY INDUSTRY**

4330. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

- (a) whether the gems and jewellery industry contributes significantly to the economy of the country being one of the major employment generating sectors and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether gems and jewellery industry was facing several challenges in the last few years and if so, the action taken by the Government during the last three years to improve the situation of this industry;
- (c) whether the gems and jewellery export are likely to grow by up to 5 per cent during this financial year and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is true that it had declined by 5 per cent to USD 40.97 billion in financial year 2018 from USD 43.16 billion in financial year 2017 and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) The gem and jewellery sector contributes significantly to the economy of the country in terms of exports as well as employment generation. In the year 2017-18, the gem and jewellery exports was 13.69% of total merchandise exports from the country. As per estimates, the sector provides employment to around 5 million people.

(b) With a view to strengthen the gems and jewellery industry, the Government has taken a number of steps, such as establishment of Special Notified Zone (SNZ), setting up of Common Facility Centres for Gems and Jewellery Sector, creation of separate ITC HS Code for lab grown diamond, reduction of GST rates for cut and polished diamonds and precious stones, exempting IGST on import of gold by specified agencies and banks, Exemption from GST on supply of gold by Nominated Agencies to exporters and providing financial assistance for participation of international fairs, for organizing buyer seller meets, creation of export related infrastructure etc. under various schemes

of Department of Commerce. Further, issues raised by the industry are resolved from time to time to improve ease of doing business.

(c) During the financial year 2018-19 (upto November, 2018), the gem and jewellery exports are USD 27.05 Billion as compared to USD 28.02 Billion during the corresponding period in previous year, showing decline of 3.46%.

(d) During the year 2017-18, gem and jewellery exports were 41.54 Billion as compared to USD 43.41 Billion, showing decline of 4.3%.

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