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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 478 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

LGDs

478. SHRI Y. DEVENDRAPPA:
SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to develop indigenous technology for producing critical machinery components and seeds required for production of Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

(c) the fresh steps taken by the Government to provide the indigenous technology to startups at affordable cost in order to increase employment opportunities as well as increased export of cut and polished LGDs?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) to (c) In order to promote indigenization of technology in producing Lab Grown Diamonds, a research Project has been awarded to IIT Madras with an outlay of Rs. 242.96 crores over a period of 5 years.

The Research Project on InCent-LGD is in its initial stage. Once the project gets completed, startups in Gems and Jewellery Sector may take benefit of the developed technology. In order to reduce input cost on LGDs, Custom duty on Seeds for use in manufacturing of rough labgrown diamonds has been reduced from 5% to "NIL" for a period of two years. In order to ensure that exported diamonds are correctly classified, separate HS Codes to differentiate and identify LGD stones and LGD stones studded in gold, silver & platinum jewellery from that of natural diamonds was announced in the Union Budget 2023- 24. All these steps are likely to increase the export of cut and polished LGDs which will also increase employment opportunities.
