

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:258

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009

EXPORT OF DIAMOND AND JEWELLERY

Harnsrajbhai Shri Radadiya Vitthalbhai ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any targets have been set for the export of diamond and jewellery from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made in this regard during the last three years, country-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote export of diamond and jewellery?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a) to c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 258 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH DECEMBER 2009 REGARDING "EXPORT OF DIAMOND AND JEWELLERY"

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Details of exports of gems and jewellery to major countries during the last three years is given below:-

India's export of gems and jewellery to major countries

(in US \$ million)

Country 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 (Provisional)

U.S.A.	4751.59	4974.69	4429.88
U.A.E.	3297.33	4040.96	10634.47
U.K.	277.89	285.37	550.58
Hong Kong	3460.25	5100.82	5317.16
Belgium	1468.10	1964.24	1875.11
Singapore	151.46	217.38	543.13
Israel	874.88	1038.24	800.58
Japan	430.19	450.31	369.95
Thailand	339.86	390.72	320.60
Spain	38.74	43.12	71.49
Switzerland	117.52	211.98	205.79
Others	756.71	970.48	2586.23
Total	15964.52	19688.31	27704.97

Source: DGC&S

(c) The Government has announced a number of measures in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2009-14 and the Union Budget 2009-10 to promote export of diamond and jewellery, such as Import of gold of 8 carat and above have been allowed under the replenishment scheme, subject to import being accompanied by an Assay Certificate specifying the purity, weight and alloy content; Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council have been added in the list of nominated agencies for purpose of import of precious metals; reduction in the threshold limit for recognition of Premier Trading House from Rs.10000 crores to Rs.7500 crores in export turnover in the previous three years and current year taken together; recognition of Surat (Gujarat) as a Town of Export Excellence; increase in the value limit of personal carriage from US\$ 2 million to US\$ 5 million in case of participation in overseas exhibitions and from US\$ 0.1 million to US\$ 1 million in case of samples in personal carriage for export promotion tours; Import of diamonds on consignment basis for Certification/Grading & re-export by the authorized offices/agencies of Gemmological Institute of America (GIA) in India or other approved agencies will be permitted; Extension in number of days for re-import of unsold items in case of participation in exhibition in USA increased to 90 days; extension of Interest subvention of 2% on rupee export credit up to March 31, 2010; exemption of Service Tax on services received by exporters from goods transport agents and commission agents where the liability to pay service tax is ab initio on the exporter, etc. Duty drawback has been introduced on the export of gold and silver jewellery.

