Decline in Indian Diamond Exports

Source: TH

India's **diamond** export is anticipated to witness a significant downturn, with projections indicating a decrease to a 5-year low of approximately **USD 15-16 billion in 2023-24.**

- This bleak outlook is attributed to subdued demand from major markets such as the U.S. and China, which collectively contribute around 65% of India's diamond exports.
- Factors including the emergence of alternative spending options, the growing popularity of <u>lab-grown diamonds(LGDs)</u>, and geopolitical tensions further exacerbate the export slowdown.
 - LGDs are manufactured in laboratories, as opposed to naturally occurring diamonds. However, the chemical composition and other physical and optical properties of the two are the same.
- Major Diamond Producing Countries: Russia, Botswana, Canada, South Africa, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
 - In India, Surat is dubbed as the Diamond City. It holds a commanding position in processing precious gems, with roughly 90% of the world's rough diamonds cut and polished in the city.

Read more: Lab-grown Diamonds

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