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Dear Shri Mehta,

I am enclosing a news item 'Sparkling diamonds' which appeared in the monthly magazine of **Fraunhofer Institute**. It would be of interest to you as India is an important country for diamond cutting. To remain competitive over the long term, we may have to **post** the talents available in our Software sector and the diamond cutting industry.

With regards & best wishes for a Happy New Year,

Yours sincerely,

*Ashok Kumar*

( **ASHOK KUMAR** )

**Shri Bakul R. Mehta,**  
**Chairman,**  
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## **SPARKLING DIAMONDS**

It's not easy to spot a diamond – especially when as is often the case, it is concealed as a dull lump of rock in the sediment of a riverbed. But its beauty is revealed when it has been cut and polished and set in a brooch or ring. Industry too has an interest in the costly material for producing semiconductor chips coating machine tools and building laser instruments.

Cutting and polishing is still largely done by hand Paul Wild GmbH, a company based near Idar-Oberstein, is planning an automated plant that optimizes the yield and quality of cut diamonds and other precious stones.

It is the final stage of faceting that transforms a rough, uncut gemstone into a sparkling jewel and greatly enhances its value.

Robots cut and polish the stones to an accuracy of one micrometer and a thousandth of an angular degree, in a numerically controlled production plant. The input data are provided by precise measurements of the raw material obtained using a method devised and tested by scientists at the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics ITWM. The uncut stone is scanned in three dimensions, and special software then calculates the optimum cut.

