

Rare Diamonds:

The Pink Star

Diamond is an allotrope of Carbon. Carbon atoms bond with 4 other carbon atoms in an orderly manner called “Lattice”. As all 4 of its electrons are used in bonding, diamond is a poor conductor of electricity but very hard, in fact it is the hardest material known. It has many attractive properties when exposed to light and that makes diamond a sought after material as a component of jewelry. Cut and polish enhance its appearance.

Diamond as a material is rare, formed at a depth of about 150 kilometers below the Earth’s surface. To get 1 carat of rough diamond, 250 tons of rock needs to be excavated hence big size rough pieces are extremely rare and highly prized. The manufacturing process is also very unforgiving, the best yield which can be expected out of a carat size diamond is between 17% to 30% maximum, rest all is considered as wastage.

Keeping these factors in mind, GII, during this lockdown period, tries to bring forth interesting information about some “Famous Diamonds”. We will try and showcase information of some of the rare and expensive cut and polished diamonds with reference to their rough material size, their clarity, color and eventually the price they command because of the simple fact that they are one of a kind.

“The Pink Star” is one such famous diamond. It is formerly known as the Stienmetz Pink is a diamond weighing 59.60 cts and is graded as Fancy Vivid pink. The pink star was mined by DE BEERS in 1999 in South Africa, and weighed 132.5 carat in rough state. It is the largest known Vivid Pink graded diamond and took about 20 months to cut.

It was unveiled in Monaco on 29th May 2003 in a public ceremony and subsequently sold for a whopping \$71 Million at a Sotheby's auction , breaking a record at that time for the highest price ever paid for a jewel.

Bibliography-www.ritani.com,www.wikipedia.com