



GEM & JEWELLERY EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

Press Release

## **GJEPC Achieves Membership Strength of 9000**

**National, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023:** The total number of members of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), the apex body of Gem & Jewellery trade in India, has grown to 9000 members, its highest ever, registering a 38% increase as compared to 6,500 members in 2021.

**Vipul Shah, Chairman, GJEPC** said, "The Council attributes this milestone to the leadership and continued support of the Government towards the Gem & Jewellery sector, which has played a pivotal role in propelling the industry to new heights. It is through the combined efforts of the Government and industry that we are able to create an environment that promotes sustainable growth and generates opportunities for all our members."

Thanking the members for their trust and faith in the Council, **Vipul Shah** added, "This achievement is even more remarkable considering the challenges we have faced in the past two years, to overcome pandemic. It is a clear demonstration of the commitment of the gem and jewellery community to rise above adversity and drive export growth."

**Kirit Bhansali, Vice Chairman, GJEPC** said, "We are immensely grateful to the persistent support of our members. A whopping 85% of GJEPC's Members are MSME manufacturers across segments of gems & jewellery. And this undoubtedly demonstrates the commitment of India's gems & jewellery industry towards exports."

While the Council's primary goal is to promote and improve the export of gems and jewellery from India, it also undertakes various other activities to promote the industry. Over the past five decades, the Council has successfully provided guidance and information to its members, penetrated markets for expansion, acted as the "Voice of Trade" for all policy interventions, liaisoning between the trade and government, extended training, education and R&D support, developed infrastructure through Common Facility Centers (CFCs) /India Jewellery Park Mumbai (IJPM), facilitated international business through BSMS/Int Exhibitions/IJEX, promoted growth and revolutionised the sector through IJS shows.

In recent years, the Council has made significant strides towards enhancing its services by offering them online. The trade shows organised by GJEPC have undergone improvements, enabling our members to connect and network with both local and global buyers. Additionally, the Council has introduced various benefits such as the Parichay Card (identity card for karigars) and Health Insurance schemes to provide greater value to our members and their employees.

**Sanjay Kothari, Former Chairman, GJEPC** said, "My heartiest congratulations to GJEPC for reaching this landmark figure of 9000 members. And I believe and hope that within a year or so, they will reach the other landmark figure of 10,000 members. My compliments to the Council for offering the best of the possible services to its members."

**Praveenshankar Pandya, Former Chairman, GJEPC** said, "Congratulations to GJEPC for achieving record membership of 9000. From inception, GJEPC has been working towards not only increasing the exports of India, but creating an infrastructure to help the industry grow in a manner which is becoming of a leadership position in the world markets. It is truly an international platform and the functions or the projects that it undertakes are of international quality. Even the IJS exhibition that the Council started and the IIGJ institutes that it opened have become world-class. I wish all the best to the Council!"

**Russell Mehta, Member, Diamond Panel, GJEPC**, added, "My heartiest congratulations to GJEPC on reaching the milestone of 9000 Members. I'm proud to be associated with the Council over the years. The larger membership base can help strengthen the organisation's efforts to promote exports and contribute to the growth of the Indian economy."

#### **About The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC)**

The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), set up by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India (GoI) in 1966, is one of several Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) launched by the Indian Government, to boost the country's export thrust, when India's post-Independence economy began making forays in the international markets. Since 1998, the GJEPC has been granted autonomous status. The GJEPC is the apex body of the gems & jewellery industry and today represents 9000 members in the sector. With headquarters in Mumbai, GJEPC has Regional Offices in New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Surat and Jaipur, all of which are major centres for the industry. It thus has a wide reach and is able to have a closer interaction with members to serve them in a direct and more meaningful manner. Over the past decades, GJEPC has emerged as one of the most active EPCs and has continuously strived to both expand its reach and depth in its promotional activities as well as widen and increase services to its members.

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