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Press Release
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GJEPC announces to set up Common Facility Center (CFC) at Thrissur, Kerala

Mumbai, 31st October: GJEPC chairman, Shri Praveenshankar Pandya, during his recent visit to Kerala to inaugurate the Kerala Jewellery show, announced to set up Common Facility Center (CFC) at Thrissur, Kerala. CFC in this region would give a huge boost in production and quality of manufacturing jewellery by giving access of modern machines to small units in and around Thrissur and other Southern states like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Speaking at the occasion, **Shri Praveenshankar Pandya said**, “To achieve our vision of US\$ 60 billion gem & jewellery exports by 2022, we need to provide this industry with the best possible infrastructure and modern facilities which would be beneficial especially to small units across the south region of the country. Thrissur being a major jewellery cluster it would be apt to set up a CFC here, similar to the ones set up in Surat and Udupi. I am sure that such a set up in Thrissur would definitely enhance quality and production of jewellery in the entire Southern region.”

Mr. Pandya also emphasized on the fact that, to make India “Jewellers to the world”, it needs to have Jewellery Parks with modern facilities, Design Studios, Customs office, training institutions, etc. in nook and corner of the country. Currently the jewellery manufacturing units are located in Zaveri Bazaars and other clusters in India; and most of these units are content by selling their products domestically. To address the requirement of the Western markets, these Jewellery Parks would provide them with the required facilities and thus take the jewellery business to the next level.

“This US\$ 43 billion gem & jewellery export industry is contributing around 7% to India’s GDP in the current scenario where it works on ad hoc management of gold.

The Council has urged the Govt. of India to bring in structured policies for Gold and Jewellery. There is a need for one authority who not only monitors imports, follows consumption in terms of investment, use of gold for the purpose of making Jewellery which should be regarded as commodity and consumption of gold as an investment which should be regarded as a monetizing instrument. The consumption as a commodity gives employment, brings foreign exchange, hence it should be encouraged while the investment in primary gold should be discouraged” added Pandya.

Shri Praveenshankar Pandya also took the opportunity to invite all the jewellers from the region to participate at the upcoming International Gold & Jewellery Conference organized by GJEPC in association with World Gold Council to be held on 1st & 2nd December 2017 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

About GJEPC: The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) was set up by the Ministry of Commerce and industry, Government of India (GoI) in 1966. It was 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 it represents over 6,000 exporters in the sector. With headquarters in Mumbai, the 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, the 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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