



*For immediate release...*

## **H.E. Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to UAE, inaugurates the 2nd edition of International Gem & Jewellery Show in Dubai**

- **Ms. Laila Suhail**, CEO Strategic Alliance & Partnerships Sector, Dubai Economy and Tourism; **Mr. Chandu Siroya**, Vice Chairman, Dubai Gold & Jewellery Group (DGJG) were part of the opening ceremony
- 350+ pre-registered visitors from 25+ countries are participating at IGJS Dubai
- A range of products including plain gold jewellery, diamond & gemstones studded jewellery, etc. are exhibited at the show

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Dubai:** The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) of India inaugurated the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Gem & Jewellery Show (IGJS) in Dubai, in the presence of His Excellency **Mr. Sunjay Sudhir**, Ambassador of India to UAE; **Ms. Laila Suhail**, CEO Strategic Alliance & Partnerships Sector, Dubai Economy and Tourism; **Mr. Kirit Bhansali**, Vice Chairman GJEPC; **Mr. Chandu Siroya**, Vice Chairman, Dubai Gold & Jewellery Group (DGJG); **Mr. Nilesh Kothari**, Convener International Exhibitions, GJEPC; and **Mr. Milan Chokshi**, Co-Convener International Exhibitions, GJEPC along with others.

The show is being organised from 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at the Intercontinental Dubai Festival City, Dubai. IGJS Dubai is supported by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt of India & Embassy of India, Dubai and partnered by **Sequel, IGI** and **Suntech Business Solutions**.

UAE has been a key market for the Indian gem & jewellery exports accounting for 14% of its overall G&J exports in FY 2021-22; and post the India-UAE CEPA, it has further gained traction. A platform like IGJS in Dubai will further help members from both the countries to understand their strengths and take advantage of the India-UAE CEPA.

Another advantage is that the UAE serves as India's gateway to the WANA (Western Asia and North Africa) region, and it helps strengthen trade ties with other Gulf Cooperation Council members such as Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

IGJS is a curated exhibition with a global focus, offering top-quality 'Made in India' jewellery exclusively to international buyers. This year IGJS Dubai is hosting more than 350+ pre-registered international visitors from 25+ countries. A range of products including plain gold jewellery, diamond & gemstones studded jewellery, etc. are being exhibited at the show. IGJS Dubai is GJEPC's first standalone show organised consecutively in Dubai for the second time.

**His Excellency Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to the UAE** speaking at the Inauguration said, "I am glad to know that a large number of top Indian manufacturers are showcasing India-made gems and jewellery products to the global buyers who have come in large numbers -- more than 350 buyers from 25+ countries. This reflects the spirit of the recently signed India-UAE CEPA, and the importance of Dubai as valuable platform for business and permanence of this show. The Indian gem and jewellery industry is one of the largest contributors to the global market and enjoys a similar position back home, contributing substantially to the economy of India."

**Mr. Vipul Shah, Chairman, GJEPC** said, "Today India stands at the pinnacle of the jewellery pyramid, and the IGJS show demonstrates a depth of product design that is sure to delight this global audience. Post the India-UAE CEPA, India's overall gem and jewellery exports to UAE have grown by 12.36% to USD 2.9 billion for the period April-September 2022 as compared to the previous year. The IGJS is a crucial platform for building trade relationships and capitalising on the trade opportunities provided by CEPA."

**Mr. Chandu Siroya, Vice Chairman, Dubai Gold & Jewellery Group**, said, “We welcome every jewellery manufacturer in the world to come and showcase their jewellery and sell it to the global audience. Dubai is the jewellery destination of the world because we have here more than 195 nationalities living here in the UAE. Jewellers here have adapted well and we cater to every taste in the world. India plays an important role by supplying jewellery to UAE.”

Speaking on the occasion, **Ms. Laila Suhail**, CEO Strategic Alliance & Partnerships Sector, Dubai Economy and Tourism said, “I would like to thank the GJEPC India for organising IGJS in Dubai, which is the right location for organising a show of this stature. We, as Dubai Economy and Tourism department, will continue to work on positioning Dubai as the leading destination for business and investment.”

**Mr. Kirit Bhansali, Vice Chairman, GJEPC** said, “In terms of worldwide gem and jewellery exports, India leads the world in Diamond manufacturing, Coloured Gemstones, Gold Jewellery, Silver Jewellery... and the new sunrise sector of Lab-Grown Diamonds. At IGJS Dubai, you will get to meet jewellers exhibiting collections made with age-old handcrafting techniques as well as jewellery made with the latest technology appealing to the international markets.”

**Mr. Kirit Bhansali** added, “India Jewellery Exposition (IJEX) centre in Dubai is expected to become fully operational with 98% of the work being completed. The centre will serve as a permanent, one-stop destination for the international buyers to source Indian jewellery in Dubai. The 365-day exhibition will promote specific categories of ‘Made in India’ gems & jewellery, divided into four seasons, each lasting three months.”

**Mr. Nilesh Kothari, Convener, International Exhibitions** said, “India’s contribution is intrinsic to the global gem and jewellery supply chain. And GJEPC, through its IGJS Dubai trade fair, is connecting diverse groups of stakeholders in a world-class setting. The trade show format’s stupendous success is a major confidence booster for the participants.”

**Mr. Milan Chokshi, Co-convener, International Exhibitions, GJEPC** said, “A trade-friendly environment has been created by both countries and this would result in unprecedented growth in bilateral trade between India & UAE in the coming years. The Indian gem & jewellery industry is already benefiting from the CEPA

agreement that came into force from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022. With IIBX, India is well on its way to becoming the largest consumer of bullion from the UAE.”

### **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 8500 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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