







12<sup>™</sup> OCTOBER 2020



#### **COVER STORY**

# IIJS Virtual 2020: A **Triumph Over Adversity**

IIJS Premiere, opens today. The show which is being held from 12th-16th October will break the shackles of social distancing and trade paralysis imposed by the pandemic.

It's time to do business again! The entire gem and jewellery industry was in hibernation mode for months on end as Covid-19 had the world under its vicious grip. Gradually, the industry tried to shake off the fear and slowly the wheels of business began to move once again.

Holding a physical trade show of the magnitude of IIJS Premiere was out of question as the safety norms had to be honoured.

demand from various As countries began to trickle in at first, and then return to nearnormal, GJEPC decided to take the virtual route. Initially, two buyer-seller meets for diamonds

IJS Virtual, the digital avatar of and gold were held successfully. Although the format was small, the success of these virtual shows emboldened the Council and it was time to take the big leap! Riding on the anticipation of

#### **LOGIN NOW**

- To witness the collections of India's Top 330 Manufactures & Wholesalers
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great business potential are 330+ exhibitors who are already fielding queries from trade visitors. They have been 'window shopping' products displayed on each exhibitor's dashboard, adding items to their wish list, and prebooking hour-long appointments with their prospective vendors. Registration for visitors is free and the procedure to enter is simple and user-friendly.

The preview days of IIJS Virtual saw some interesting numbers in terms of buyers taking virtual tours and booking appointments. The five-day virtual show will host a series of seminars featuring the industry's best professionals such as Sachin Jain Forevermark, Vaishali Banerjee of PGI, Ajoy Chawla of Tanishq, and Tawhid Abdullah of Jawhara Jewellery, who will speak on a range of topics of vital importance to your business in the current scenario.

IIJS Virtual will be the guiding force in the post pandemic world -- bringing in a beacon of hope and perhaps chalking out the shape of things to come.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

**EXHIBITORS** 

**5 HALLS** 

**BUYERS REGISTERED** 

**MEETINGS** 

**KNOWLEDGE SEMINARS** 

Rough Supply Partners







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#### **MESSAGE**





#### **Smt Nirmala Sitharaman**

Honorable Minisiter of Finance and Corporate Affairs Government of India

निर्मला सीतारामन वित्त एवं कार्पोरेट कार्य मंत्री भारत सरकार



Nirmala Sitharaman Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Government of India

Dy. No. 1516503 FM/FMP/2020

0 9 OCT 2020

#### Message

Happy to note that GJEPC is organizing the virtual format of its flagship show IIJS from 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Congratulations to GJEPC team for taking this proactive step and making tremendous effort in hosting the meet with prevailing COVID-19 pandemic.

IIJS Virtual is the first of its kind biggest platform. With the use of the latest technology, the platform is seamlessly integrated with physical aspects. It has well-equipped digital architecture and facilitates, one-on-one meetings between sellers and buyers. Both the buyer and exhibitors' experience will be enhanced with 2D and 3D stalls, dashboards, and an appealing meeting interface with live product profiling.

Over the years, the Indian gem and jewellery sector has contributed immensely to the economy of the country; and GJEPC continues to play a leadership role in taking the Indian gem and jewellery industry to greater heights.

Glad to know that the markets across the world have started reopening and there is demand for gems and jewellery coming from USA, Europe, Middle East & China. GJEPC is organizing IIJS Virtual at an appropriate time, considering the upcoming holiday season in western countries and the festive season in India.

Wish all the buyers and exhibitors a successful IIJS Virtual.

With regards,

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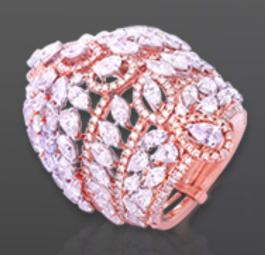
Yours sincerely,

(Nirmala Sitharaman)

Office: 134, North Block, New Delhi-110001 Tel.: 23092810, 23092510 Fax: 23092828 Residence: 15, Safdarjung Road, New Delhi - 110011, Tel.: 23793791 Fax: 23793792











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A Unit Of KOTAWALA GROUP

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#### **MESSAGES**



**Colin Shah**Chairman, GJEPC

Welcome to the first edition of IIJS Virtual. Although we missed out on the mega August show, which is a physical format, we couldn't let another opportunity go by. Bolstered by the midstream's confidence in a pick-up in festive and wedding demand, the Council went into high gear to organise IIJS Virtual in record time, to ensure that the IIJS lives up to its earned reputation as the backbone of the Indian industry's growth. IIJS Virtual has more than 330 exhibitors and more than 8,000 registered visitors.

The fight against Covid-19 is not yet over, but the industry has been able to bounce back even during this unprecedented crisis that we have been facing since the last six months. Manufacturing activities have started again by taking all the safety measures as per the guidelines set by the Government, and the good news is that migrant workers have started to resume work.

We are optimistic that the third and fourth quarters will turn out to be strong as orders are coming in from the US, Hong Kong and the Middle East and other parts of the world. Slowly and gradually, the industry is gaining momentum to revive exports to the pre-Covid level. The demand is further expected to increase due to the upcoming festive and holiday season in the Western countries.

I am sure that IIJS Virtual will fulfil domestic and international buyers' gem and jewellery requirements in the run-up to the festive and wedding season. Let's make the most of this opportunity. Good luck to all of you!



**Vipul Shah**Vice Chairman, GJEPC

Covid-19 is an unprecedented situation that we have never faced before. But collectively, the gem and jewellery industry has exercised patience, adapted well to the situation, and has been quick on its feet to explore the digital medium to deal with day-to-day business. Overall, the industry has been fast to adapt to the new normal. Steps taken by the GJEPC and industry stakeholders have helped the industry to cope up with the current situation. The Government, too, introduced several relief and remedial measures to augment the growth of the Indian gem and jewellery sector.

India's decision to voluntarily suspend the import of rough helped stabilise prices of polished diamonds. Now, as markets are reopening, it's time to get back to business! The demand for gems and jewellery is gaining ground in global markets, and that is a good sign.

IIJS Virtual was the need of the hour as the industry didn't want to miss catering to the domestic demand. The first-of-its-kind large show is being held at a time when buyers need to stock up their inventory for the upcoming season.

I wish all exhibitors and buyers a successful IIJS Virtual.



**Shailesh Sangani**Convener, Exhibitions
(National), GJEPC

With the launch of IIJS Virtual, we have started a new chapter in the history of GJEPC. Lot of effort and hard work has been put in by all of us to give you an experience that is 'almost like live'. With the use of the latest technology, the platform is seamlessly integrated with physical aspects. It has well-equipped digital architecture and facilitates one-on-one meetings between sellers and buyers. Both the buyer and exhibitor experience will be enhanced with 2D and 3D Stalls, Dashboards, and an appealing Meeting Interface with live product profiling.

The show will have dedicated 5 Halls for Traditional Gold Jewellery; Diamond & Coloured Gemstone Jewellery; Couture & Bridal Jewellery; Loose Diamonds, Colour Stones, Pearls & Silver Jewellery; and Gold Jewellery (Mass).

Thanks to the participants and visitors, who have made IIJS one of the biggest shows in the world with their continued support.

With the kind of faith reposed in brand IIJS, I hope that the show is a grand success for each one of you.



**Sabyasachi Ray**Executive Director, GJEPC

The gem and jewellery industry in India and the world has always counted on the GJEPC in difficult times, and the Council has always made sure that it lives up to these expectations. Like many industries, the jewellery industry, too, has been impacted due to stoppage of business, movement of people, factories, shops and a long list of cancelled or postponed events, exhibitions, and social gatherings like weddings.

GJEPC has researched and is banking on technology to face the challenges and have come out with virtual solutions. Through its various virtual shows and events, GJEPC is making various endeavours to revive the B2B transactions in business. As a first step, the Council organised two Virtual Buyer-Seller Meets (VBSM) in September, one on Loose Diamonds and other on Plain Gold Jewellery, and I am happy to state that both the virtual initiatives saw great response from international buyers from across the world. In total we plan to do 8 to 9 VBSMs across all product categories including Studded Jewellery, Coloured Gemstones, Gold Studded Jewellery, Loose Diamond, Silver Jewellery and Platinum Jewellery. We also organised the first ever India Global Connect Meet with UK retailers recently, with a view to strengthen the business relationship between Indo-UK gem and jewellery trade. GJEPC will be organising more such meets with countries like Columbia, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, USA etc in the near future.

Markets are reopening and buyers and exhibitors are looking for ways to connect and do business. I believe that IIJS Virtual with 330 exhibitors and more than 8,000 registered buyers, including international buyers, will instil the much-required confidence in the Indian gem and jewellery industry.

The IIJS Virtual platform has all the features to give you a better experience – and conduct business transactions in the B2B space, almost like you have always done at the physical IIJS show. I wish everybody a successful transition to the 'Virtual Avatar' of IIJS - IIJS Virtual 2020.





Glad to present our various inhouse highend designer jewellery at India's first online mega gems and jewellery b2b trade show!





#### Hall - 2

Diamond/Coloured Gemstone Jewellery Super Premium Section, Room No: 1,2,3,4

Junagadh Uncut Diamond Jewellery

**CVM Signature Collection** 

• Real Diamond Polki Jewellery

Moon Collection

Modern Amritsary Jewellery

Ajarakh Collection

Gold Bangles

Plain / Machine Bangles

Accessories

Purse, Beads

Silver Jewellery

Cufflinks, Pen, Spects etc



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#### Hall - 2

Diamond/Coloured Gemstone Jewellery Premium Section, Room No: 1,2

• Bariki Gold Collection

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• Bariki Diamond Collection

Regular Designs For Routine Use Dailyware Products

Bariki Signature Collection

**Highend Designer Products** 

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Bariki Artistic Collection

22k Gold Jewellery Fusion with Kundan and Precious and semi Precious Stones



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At IIJS Virtual 2020























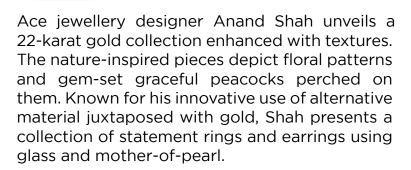






# **DESIGN CORNER**





"I have been experimenting with coloured glass for a couple of years. The medium fascinated me and although my loyalty towards the sacred yellow metal remains steadfast, I like combining alternative material to lend an exciting design aesthetic, which may appeal to the woman of today," remarks Anand Shah. One of his latest collections also features mother-of-pearl articulated as petals and florets in his largely nature-inspired bridal suites.





A self-taught jewellery designer, Anand Shah creates one-off bridal jewellery pieces in antique-finish 22-karat gold. The creations are further enhanced with ancient craft techniques such as filigree, granulation, textures, and kundan-setting.





WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO VIEW OUR EXCLUSIVE JEWELLERY COLLECTION AT IIJS VIRTUAL

## **Shree Devi Jewellers**

56, Dagina Bazar, Mumbadevi Road, Mumbai Contact: 9768695656, 9869145687



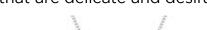




# BRAND WATCH

# Wondrous **Creations**

A fusion of high fashion and regal touch underscores the various collections by A'Star Jewellery. Patterned with fancycut diamonds, the jewellery sure makes a statement! The exhibiting company is unveiling four versatile lines, namely, Nova, Belisama, Baguettes & More and Floral Expressions that are delicate and desirable.

















# **Colour Crush**

Rich and vibrant colour gemstones are at the heart of Gem Plaza's gold collection consisting of sleek neckpieces, broad cuffs and oversized ear studs that underline contemporariness. Teeming with pastel to dark hued gemstones like morganite, rubies, emeralds, tanzanites and onyx, these eye-catching lines give a whole new spin to modernity.



# Luxury **Personified**

Fancy colour diamonds grace classic silhouettes of multicolour rings, Eternity bands and Tennis bracelets presented by P. Hirani. Classic meets modern diamond-studded forms in these pieces amplified with rare and zesty blue, green, yellow, and pink diamonds. Perfect for connoisseurs of jewellery, who like to possess well-curated collections.































# BRAND WATCH

# **Contemporary Grandeur**

Looking for magnificent bridal jadau jewellery? Look no further. Raniwala 1881 unveils its handcrafted Princess collection that bears an aristocratic vibe. Bringing forth the elegance of an urban aristocrat with an air of independence, the 18-karat gold collection consists of enticing chokers, layered neckpieces, chandelier earrings, cocktail rings, bewitching bangles and alluring haath phools.







# **Star Attraction**

Fan-shaped tiered earrings sprinkled with diamonds, playful diamond hoops and transformable two-in-one rings by Walking Tree Design Studios are high on originality and innovation. The scrumptious diamond-encrusted designer collection exudes a luxurious feel. Feast your eyes on these masterpieces.

















Angola • Belgium • Botswana • Brazil • China • Hong Kong SAR • India • Japan • Namibia • Russia South Africa • Chinese Taiwan • Thailand • UAE • USA



# GIA Melee Analysis Service for Round and Fancy-Shaped Melee Diamonds



Hall #4







# **IN FOCUS**



# Demand Resurgence for Handcrafted Gold Jewellery

s gold prices shoot up, demand for traditional jewellery in the bridal segment is reaching a new high. In the last six months or so, there have been no weddings and now with the lifting of the lockdown across several Indian states, weddings are taking place sans the regular grandeur. Wedding parties and the guest numbers have shrunk to align with the health and safety parameters, but the budget that was earlier spent on floral decorations,



catering and more,

is being diverted into

jewellery. And that is

manufacturers.

good news for jewellery



reveals that demand is high these days for handcrafted gold jewellery in temple and traditional forms. Gold jewellery patterned with emerald and ruby beads is also popular as the younger generation prefers to accessorise it with the bridal lehengas.

'Brides, who inherit heirloom pieces, are keen to add additional jewellery pieces of similar antique finish, workmanship and designs," states Seth. Transparency at

parents whobuy bridal jewellery for their daughters, prefer to receive proper bills and don't mind paying the extra 3% GST. "This is a very good sign for the industry, as the transactions are clean and clear."

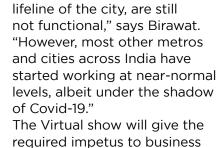
Complete gold wedding sets between 700 gm and 2 kilos are in demand these days. In the months to come, demand will only increase according to Seth as production levels are at 30%, while demand will touch 500%. Although karigars have returned, their efficiency in delivering goods on time has taken a slight beating.

**Chain N Chains** Jewels Ltd., Mumbai, emphasises that gold has time and again the retail level is up proved that it is a safe SK Seth Jewellers since demonetisation. investment haven. "It's Seth says that most demand for gold jewellery is positive, but it will increase gradually. Since July, when the jewellery industry slowly opened

**Anish Birawat, Director,** obvious that consumers'

up, we have seen month-on-month increment in sales." Challenges in the form of restricted travel,

SK Seth Jewellers production due to karigarmigration and implementing safety norms, were faced by one and all. "There was a huge labour problem then, but now as demand is rising owing to festive and wedding sales, we are seeing karigars coming back to work," comments Birawat. The timing of the IIJS Virtual show is perfect, agree gold jewellery manufacturers. "Mumbai is still not normal, as local trains, the



and get some traction in terms of sales, feels Birawat. IIJS is a huge brand and the virtual show will complement it. "Exhibitors have already started selling even before the show has begun, and we, too, have booked meetings and

> Sandeep Mehta, **Director. Mehta** Gold, Bengaluru, says

fielded queries."

that almost 80% of their business is back to normal. Demand for bridal gold jewellery is going to firm up as the extraneous expenditure on weddings is going to be curtailed due to social distancing. "Not just bridal, but traditional jewellery between 70gm to 150gm per piece is also in demand," says Mehta.



Mehta Gold is functioning at 100% capacity and is introducing a better spread of collections that are large in form. "We have tried to bring in new designs in bigger formats. while keeping a watch on the gold weight." He adds that although the

company has not booked a larger space at IIJS Virtual, they have been getting decent queries - and 80% of their buyers are regulars while 20% are new.

"IIJS Virtual is one a new way of doing business for all of us - perhaps, in the future, we may have a mix of virtual and physical formats for the trade shows."







# **VISITOR VOICES**



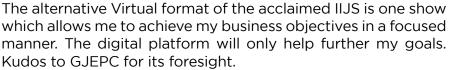
ANIL TALWAR
Talwarsons



M.P. AHAMMED

Malabar Group of

Companies



IIJS Virtual is a great event where I can reinforce my existing relationships, meet new exhibitors and keep track of trends. I would recommend all jewellery buyers to visit the show.



**T.S. KALYANARAMAN**Kalyan Jewellers

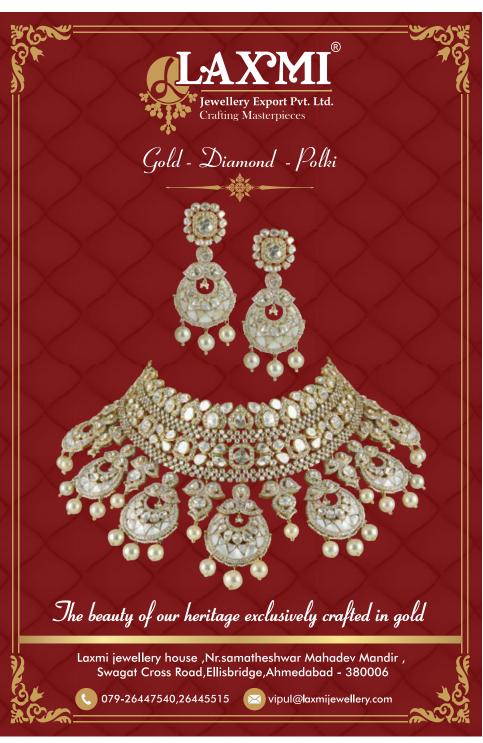


**TANYA RASTOGI**Lala Jugal Kishore
Jewellers

IIJS has been a one-stop show for all our gem and jewellery requirements. It showcases the widest selection of jewellery with latest designs. IIJS Virtual would be a completely different experience!

The lockdown has forced all of us to become proficient on digital platforms. I am expecting IIJS Virtual to be a great, productive event. Weddings have been delayed, and are expected to take place in the last quarter of the year, and we are seeing demand for bridal jewellery already. IIJS Virtual will be a must-attend show for us.











# **VISITOR VOICES**



HEMANT M. **JHAVERI** Al Sulaiman Jewellers **Qatar** 



**AJOY CHAWLA** Titan Company Ltd

Sourcing new jewellery products has always been my main looking forward to visit the show.

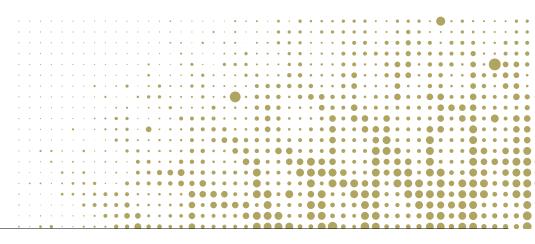
reason to attend IIJS shows. Year after year, exhibitors have enthralled and surprised us with design innovations that are in keeping with the market trends. I am confident that the Virtual Avatar of IIJS will bring its own value additions. I am eagerly

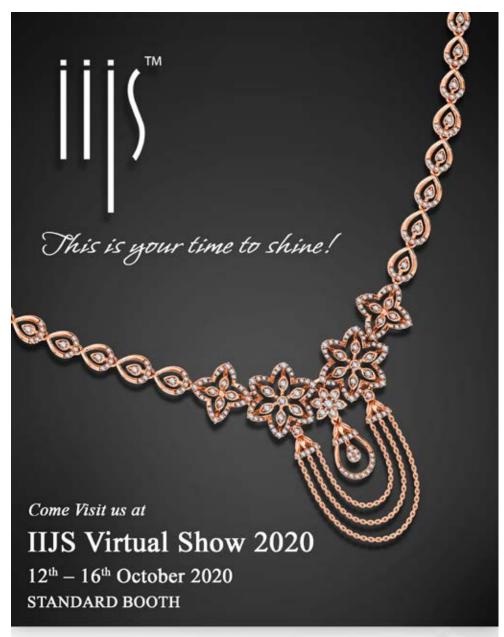


**PRINCESON JOSE Prince Jewellery** 

I have never missed an IIJS show. So this year, when GJEPC announced the Virtual Show, it came as a pleasant surprise. I was relieved that my visit to this prestigious show will not be interrupted. IIJS Virtual will offer a new way of doing business. The current challenging situation demands a new and collaborative approach from the jewellery industry. GJEPC has been a great forum which has over the years brought our industry together to drive growth in our category, this time through a promising new virtual format of IIJS 2020! I am confident that it will enable us to exchange ideas freely and think collaboratively to grow business.

Wishing GJEPC all the very best and looking forward to meeting our partners through this virtual platform.







#### UNI DESIGN JEWELLERY INDIA PVT. LTD.

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### **EXHIBITOR VOICES**



#### **KISHORE SHARMA**



Kishore Motiwala



**MANGESH CHAUHAN** 



Sky Gold Pvt. Ltd.

Even before the start of the show, we got 80 visitors during the IIJS Virtual Preview, and of those 50% were new clients. we provide 1,000 variety of pearls. South Sea pearls, especially peacock black colour, and Akoya and Keshi are popular. Freshwater pearls are in great demand - ranging from 0.5mm to 15mm in all shapes and colours. Basra pearls, which are circulating in the market, since no new production has taken place since the last 80 years, are gaining traction. We have a chain of traders who are into buying old jewellery from customers. We buy Basra from them and the cost - depending on the damaged ones to those in perfect condition - can range from Rs.500 to Rs.5,000 per gram. These are incomparable gems and are priceless.

We have been regularly exhibiting at IIJS since the last seven years, and we are happy to participate in the Virtual show. At physical shows, we get limited time to interact with all our visitors. In the virtual format, we approach all those who browsed through our digital gallery. This way we are getting an opportunity to establish new contacts. I am only seeing huge possibilities of growth through this format in the future.



I am mighty impressed by the IIJS Virtual format. Truth be told: I was reluctant at first to participate, but now I am an ardent convert of the digital expo. The reasons are very many.

Almost 30 new visitors dropped by to window shop at our product gallery during the Visitor Preview, and once we received the list of names through the Council, my team members got in touch with them via emails and WhatsApp messages. Of the 30 visitors, five have already confirmed small jewellery orders totalling from 200 gm to 500 gm per lot. Most of these buyers are from tier III or IV towns.

We deal in plain gold jewellery and studded jewellery with cubic zirconia. Normally, we deal with big retail chains and during the physical show, and at times, are so busy catering to our regular clients, that we are unable to give attention to the new walkins. The virtual show has helped us to connect with small and medium-size buyer companies as well, and that is a good thing. New buyers have faith in exhibitors participating in IIJS because it is a brand in itself. Also, since the 'touch and feel' factor in buying jewellery is missing in virtual shows, newcomers are booking smaller orders to test the waters. At our end, we also have allowed them freedom to return the goods, in case they are not satisfied. Payments are already happening through bank transfers, and we have no reason to worry.

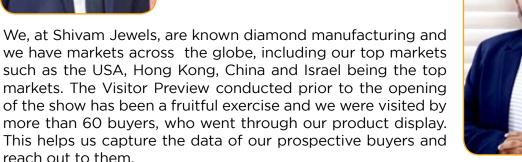


**ASHWIN** SHANKAR



Shivam Jewels

A big plus of virtual shows is that the overheads are considerably less and we don't have any limitations in exhibiting our products on the gallery. At shows, we limit brining our inventory, but if we realise the customer is serious, we can digitally show him more products. I hope that such shows are held every quarter, to drive business.



We have about 5,000 natural diamonds ranging from 30 cents to 25 carats and they are certified by labs like GIA and HRD. We also have non-certified goods. IIJS Virtual should work out in everybody's favour as this is the first mega show of the digital world.

My optimism stems from the fact that there is shortage of goods currently -- factories were working at 50% capacity; India had voluntarily halted the import of rough, miners had slowed down operations. This helped stablise prices of polished goods, but as we are observing now, prices of certain goods have risen three-fold.

I think the shortage will help drive the demand at least till the end of the year.



**KALPESH** VAGHAN



Kapu Gems

At IIJS Virtual, we would like to forge new business relationships and contacts. In these days of pandemic, the distance between buyers and sellers has increased, and the Virtual show has offered an excellent opportunity to bring all of us together. Due to the lockdowns, initially, it was felt that diamond consumption would go down drastically, as supply was high and demand was low. But with the opening of lockdown in different countries, the demand for diamonds has only risen. Demand has picked up in certain goods, mainly in certified diamonds ranging from 0.30 to 0.89 carats, and mostly, below 2 carats. There is some demand for 2 to 3 carats. However, we have noticed that 3 carats and up have been moving slowly. Since the order was limited and demand was low, fulfilling these orders was manageable.

We are looking forward to a good opening of IIJS Virtual and hope it brings new business relationships and opportunities from newer regions.



# THE ISSUE SUPERIOR AWARDS 2021—

# THE 4th EDITION OF INDIA'S MOST COVETED JEWELLERY DESIGN AWARDS IS HERE!

THE 2021 THEME

# REINVENTING VINTAGE

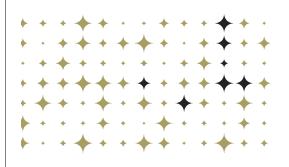
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19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2020

Exhibitor Profile Target Buyer Regions

Manufacturers of Diamond Studded Jewellery

USA, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Russia

For Exhibitor Registration

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Neha Sawant (2) +91 91520 97690 neha.sawant@gjepcindia.com



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