

## 35th India International Jewellery Show (IIJS) – Registers a healthy 8k crore order book IIJS, Asia's leading Gem & Jewellery trade exhibition organised by GJEPC concludes providing healthy lifeline to trade at a crucial time

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(Above image: Mr Pramod Agarwal, Chairman, GJEPC, Ms Nirupa Bhatt, India MD, Gemological Institute of America, Mr Colin Shah, Vice President, GJEPC, Mr Shailesh Sangani, Convener, National Exhibitions, GJEPC, Mr Sabyasachi Ray, Executive Director, GJEPC and Dr Gaetano Cavaleri, President CIOBJ, The World Jewellery Confederation at the inaugural ceremony of 35th Edition of India International Jewellery Show (IIJS) 2018 at Mumbai today. The event started with an auspicious Indian traditional lamp lighting ceremony.)

The 35th edition of the India International Jewellery Show IIJS organised by GJEPC concluded in Mumbai today with a note of positivity and cheer for the entire trade. IIJS, a premium annual event received all round support with over 40,000 visitors from over 800 cities across 80 countries attending and previewing exhibitions of over 1300 exhibitors.

GJEPC had organised a Prelude to IIJS, jewellery fashion extravaganza by the IIJS 2018 Exhibitors to showcase their exquisite jewellery collections to crème de la crème audience comprising of leading retailers, design houses & International buyers visiting IIJS 2018. This was an excellent opportunity for buyers to get an overview of the new and innovative designs and trends from the exhibitors of IIJS 2018.

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(L-R) – Mr Sabyasachi Ray, ED, GJEPC, Mr Pramod Agarwal, Chairman, GJEPC, Dr. Gaetano Cavaleri, President CIOBJ, The World Jewellery Confederation, Mr Colin Shah, Vice Chairman, GJEPC and Shri Shailesh Sangani, Convener, National Exhibitions, GJEPC, unveiling the catalogue of IIJS 2018, at the inaugural ceremony of 35th Edition of India International Jewellery Show (IIJS) 2018, held today at Mumbai.

**Mr Suresh Prabhhu**, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation in his message at the inauguration of IIJS praised the GJEPC's role in promoting the sector and said **"With each successive year, IIJS reflects the progressive evolution of the Indian gems and jewellery industry towards greater heights. India's gems and jewellery industry is an integral and significant part of our economy and contributes considerably towards the country's GDP and also has huge employment potential. It has one of the most skilled and dynamic workforces. Over the last three decades, this prestigious jewellery show has become a perfect platform to showcase and offer the best of India's expertise and craftsmanship in all segments of the gems and jewellery sector."**

**Mr Pramod Agrawal**, Chairman, GJEPC, who was behind several milestones during the five-day event including the MOU with the Shenzhen Rough Diamond Exchange, applauded Mr Suresh Prabhhu's role and personal attention as the nodal Minister and tireless efforts to help the sector facing several issues. He said **"we have so much unrealised potential of our artisans and workers and alongside it there is so much demand for Gems and Jewellery sector that can be tapped by us. Our partnerships with new economies and geographies like China will unleash a varied and increased demand of resources and talent. With IIJS this year we have yet again been able to showcase to the world our ability and preparedness for continuing to be number one gem and jewellery sourcing destination in the world."**

Gem and jewellery export is a \$41 billion industry, contributing 7% to India's GDP. It also plays a bigger role in generating employment, with 5 million people currently employed in the sector.


**Mr. Colin Shah**, Vice Chairman, GJEPC said, **"This year the total volume of business generated in this event has crossed a good 20% which is over 8K crore worth order book. This has come at a time when the industry needed it the most due to prevailing headwinds that the trade has seen over the past 12 months."**


**Mr. Pramod Agrawal** also added, "The GJEPC understands that the skills and capabilities of artisans in remote areas of the country can be enhanced further through training and skilling. This would help in generating employment in the sector and increase exports. The Council is working in this direction and has identified clusters to enhance their quality of work and production by setting up Common Facility Centres (CFCs). We believe that by facilitating better infrastructure and conducting skill development programmes, these clusters would play a bigger role by contributing to the world market. The GJEPC has the Government grant to set up 13 CFCs across all major clusters in India, of which three are already set up in Amreli, Visnagar and Palanpur in the state of Gujarat. In the near future, you will see CFCs in Junagadh, Rajkot, Coimbatore, Kolkata, Jaipur, Delhi and Hyderabad. The Council's vision is to add another 2 million-strong workforce to the sector and take gem and jewellery exports to \$60 billion in the next few years.


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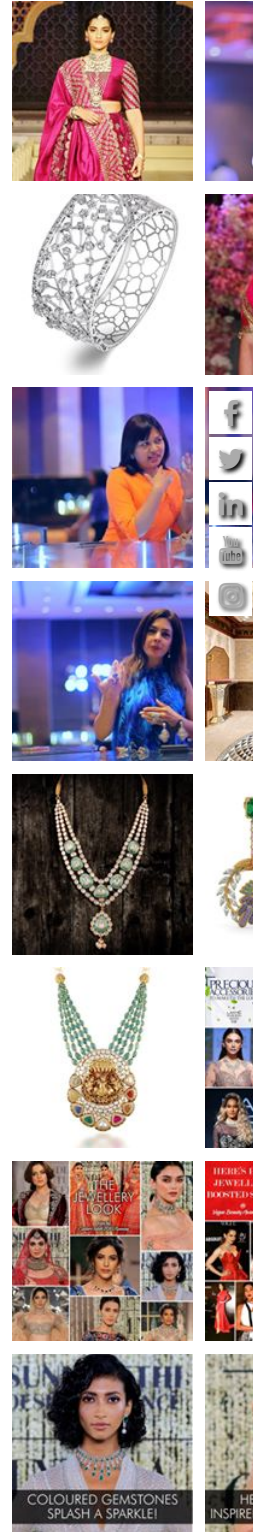
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GJEPC also organized CSR initiative "Jewellers for Hope" Charity dinner on the evening of 9th August at Hotel JW Marriot, Mumbai. This year Rs. 1 Cr was donated among Voluntary Action Association/ Bachpan Bachao Andolan run by Nobel Prize winner Mr. Kailash Satyarthi working with a mission to end all forms of exploitation of Children in India; Giants Welfare International run by Social Activist Ms. Shaina NC working with an objective to carry, support, maintain, assist and promote Social Services and Projects in India and abroad; Celebrities who graced the event were Mrs. Shilpa Shetty, Mr. Zaheer Khan, and Ms Manisha Koirala. They all were representing Giants Welfare International; Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayta Samiti or Jaipur Foot run under the supervision of Padma Bhushan Recipient, Mr. D.R. Mehta and working with an objective of to provide mobility and dignity to the handicapped.

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