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## **GJEPC & SEEPZ Sign An MoU For Execution And Running Of The Mega CFC For Gem & Jewellery Industry At SEEPZ, Mumbai**

**9<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Mumbai:** The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) and Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone (SEEPZ), Mumbai signed an MoU on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022, defining their respective responsibilities in developing, executing, and running of the Mega Common Facility Centre (CFC) at SEEPZ Mumbai.

The MoU for the execution and running of the Mega CFC was signed by Shri Vipul Shah, Chairman, GJEPC and Shri Shyam Jagannathan, Zonal Development Commissioner, SEEPZ, Mumbai in the presence of Shri Kirit Bhansali, Vice Chairman, GJEPC; Shri C.P. Singh Chauhan, Joint Development Commissioner, SEEPZ; Shri Adil Kotwal, Member Working Group and SEZ Authority; Shri Bobby Kothari and Shri Neville Tata, Members of the SEZ Committee, GJEPC and Working Group, Mega CFC; and Shri Sabyasachi Ray, Executive Director, GJEPC.

**Speaking on the occasion, Shri Vipul Shah** said, “The Mega CFC being the dream project of Honourable Minister of Commerce & Industry, Shri. Piyush Goyal, will go a long way in technologically transforming the industry.”

**Shri Shyam Jagannathan** stated, “I thank GJEPC for the assistance it is providing. GJEPC and SEEPZ, as partners, are translating a path-breaking project of the Mega CFC. I also thank everyone involved in this prestigious project for their efforts in reaching the objective.”

As agreed in the MoU, SEZ Authority shall be responsible for the construction of the proposed structure, building and interiors of the Mega CFC and hand it over to GJEPC for running of the Mega CFC. SEZ Authority will purchase the equipment, machinery, furniture and install the same at the Mega CFC. The fifth & sixth floors of the building may be furnished by GJEPC with voluntary Contribution of the Trade.

Apart from that, as committed in the MoU, a working group has been formed with an objective to help the SEZ Authority implement the project efficiently on a time-bound manner to meet the targeted deadlines and achieve the objectives earmarked for the Mega CFC in transforming the trade technologically.

The Working Group committee is headed by Shri Colin Shah, Ex-Chairman, GJEPC, and the members of the committee nominated by the Council are Shri Adil Kotwal, Shri Neville Tata and Shri Bobby Kothari.

The Mega CFC is one of the key projects initiated by the Department of Commerce, Govt. of India, with GJEPC as the nodal body for running of the project to enhance the capacity of the industry in manufacturing products utilising cutting-edge technology to provide and impart training and skilling facilities thereof to boost gems and jewellery exports from the country.

The work of Mega CFC has been in full swing, and it is slated to be operational by 1st May, 2023. The project is being taken from concept to creation at a cost of **₹70.76 crores**.

#### **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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