



For immediate release

Ministry of MSME Signs an MoU with GJEPC – Appoints GJEPC as One of the implementing agencies for Capacity Building of First-Time MSE Exporters

21st September, 2022 | Mumbai: GJEPC was appointed as the implementation agency of the MSME Ministry's Capacity Building scheme for First Time MSE (Micro & Small Enterprise) Exporters (CBFTE), which is part of the International Cooperation (IC) scheme. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) finalising the same was signed by Ms. Mercy Epao, Joint Secretary (SME), Ministry of MSME and Mr. Sabyasachi Ray, Executive Director, GJEPC in the presence of Mr. B B Swain, Secretary MSME and Mr. Naresh Lathiya, Convener MSME, GJEPC in New Delhi on 20th September.

The Ministry of MSME had revised the IC Scheme in August 2021 and a new Sub-component II: Capacity Building of First Time MSE Exporters (CBFTE) had been incorporated. And one of the components of this scheme is the reimbursement of the Registration-Cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) fee paid by the first-time exporters for registration with Export Promotion Councils (EPCs).

Vipul Shah, Chairman, GJEPC said, "The Ministry of MSME has taken a good step in capacity building for first-time exporters. This is an ideal time to encourage MSME units to become exporters, as we need all available support to reach the Govt.'s export target of \$45.7 billion for this fiscal year. Moreover, the Govt. of India has been negotiating FTAs with major export markets. All in all, it will be a win-win situation for small and medium units entering the export segment."

Talking about GJEPC's collaboration with Ministry of MSME, **Sabyasachi Ray, ED, GJEPC**, "As an export promotion council, this is an opportunity for us to incentivize MSE units to become exporters. I would like to thank Ministry of

MSME for choosing us to be the implementing agency of CBFTE for our gem & jewellery industry.”

MSMEs fulfilling following criteria shall be eligible for availing benefit under CBFTE:

- a. Micro and Small Enterprise with valid Udyam Registration
- b. The applicant’s Importer Exporter code (IEC) must not be older than 3 years on the date of export shipment
- c. MSE shall be eligible for refund of 75% of the cost paid subject to a maximum of Rs. 20,000/-

GJEPC would have the discretionary power in regard to the eligibility of the MSE subject to the IC scheme (CBFTE) guidelines and the eligible amount of refund claim in respect of an individual MSE, based on documents provided by MSEs.

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 8300 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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For more information contact:

- Dolly Choudhary, Director, PM&BD, GJEPC; M: +91 9987753823; e-mail: dolly@gjepcindia.com
- Pradeesh Gopalan; M: +91 7045795199; e-mail: pradeesh.gopalan@gjepcindia.com
- Vaishnavi Kanugula; M: +91 8527496991; email: vaishnavi.kanugula@@pitchforkpartners.com