## ALL INDIA GEM AND JEWELLERY DOMESTIC COUNCIL

**PROMOTING • PROTECTING • PROGRESSING** 

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Formerly known as "ALL INDIA GEMS AND JEWELLERY TRADE FEDERATION"



Date: 28th April 2018

To, Respected Industry Members

Dear Sir,

There have been some messages and letters which are being circulated by certain members of the industry expressing their apprehension of GJF becoming GJC and GJC further becoming a domestic council. I believe that this due to some communication gap and matters that are being wrongly construed upon. Here, I want to take the opportunity to clarify some of the apprehensions raised by certain industry members. GJF had been approached to become a Domestic Council way back in 2007 by the Ministry of Commerce - (MoC) after the Sivaraman Expert Committee Report, which recommended that there was a need for a Domestic Council in the Gems and Jewellery Industry. It was seconded by GJEPC and it also proposed that GJF was the most eligible body for this.

However, GJF said it will come back when it is ready for a Council status since the Board of Directors (BOD) then felt that GJF needed a lot of restructuring for the same. GJF thereon started to restructure its way of working and started to build its membership based on category basis and amended its AOA from time to time to become suitable to operate as a Quasi Council. MoC meanwhile in 2014 invited number of Associations to give a presentation over its eligibility to become a Domestic Council. An assessment was made by the then Secretary of MoC amongst the bodies who had contested for the same. It was in 2016 that GJF informed MOC about its intention to be considered as a Domestic Council and submitted its Articles of Associations (AoA) for a review.

The MoC recommended several amendments in the AoA and they also referred to expand the panels. Allied was included as a panel while refinery was added with the bullion panel and also imitation and fashion jewellery were also included as panel. MoC also informed that a fresh election will be called and the new Chairman and Vice Chairman will also be elected by the general body in the elections. The restructuring of the panels was also done as required by MoC. The elections would be conducted by an independent body and monitored by the DGFT and every member would be entitled to stand for the elections that would be conducted on the basis of Panels that they represent.

Accordingly GJF amended its AoA to imbibe all the recommendations made by the MoC and got it approved from the MoC and the ROC. The formal announcement of GJC as domestic council will be made by Shri. Suresh Prabhu, Honorable Minister for Commerce and Industry. As GJC now becomes a Council, the entire Board of GJC including the Chairman and Vice Chairman shall volunteer to resign from GJC to enable fresh election. In My capacity as Chairman of the GJC, I assure you that I will not contest for the post of Chairman again as this has been the culture of GJC right from its inception. In GJC, no Chairman has ever tried to contest the elections and has always believed that there should be an opportunity given to new members to lead GJC. The entire GJC shall now be surrendered to the industry.

The date of fresh elections shall be declared soon. All general body members shall have the right to send in their nominations for the COA as per the panels they represent as well as for the post of Chairman and Vice Chairman. I also invite my fellow industry friends to join GJC as members to become one voice of the industry. There is a simple procedure to become a member by just downloading the membership form from the GJC website. The duly filled form can be send to the GJC office in Mumbai along with the membership and admission fee based on the respective panel and classification. For more information and details about membership visit: <a href="http://www.gjf.in">http://www.gjf.in</a> or email: westsales@gjc.org.in.

Within few months, GJF will have its new avatar as the new COA shall be formed with a new Chairman and Vice Chairman elected by the members who will take the industry further. We are handing over GJC to the industry and herby I invite all my fellow members to take the lead and become Chairman & hold important position in the council to lead the industry and its growth. The prime objective of the formation of Domestic Council is to have a broader platform of working and to assure industry stays united and organized. Moreover, it will help us in addressing the issues and matters of the industry with the government in a supportive manner with the help of MoC.

At the same time I also understand the apprehension coming from certain section of the industry through different communications and statements and I feel that they are fully justified for the same. I feel that such apprehensions are due to a communication gap which can be sorted through constructive dialogues. I have tried to put forth my clear intentions and I can assure you that GJC is of the Industry, by the Industry and for the Industry. We shall put in our best efforts to make sure that the gems and jewellery industry has a true representation in GJC with the presence of each and every member of the Industry. If there are any further recommendations or suggestions that you may wish to provide, kindly e-mail me directly. I shall personally try to address it.

**Yours Truly** 

Nitin Khandelwal

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