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PRESS RELEASE

Mr Premal Udani takes over as AEPC's new chairman

New Delhi, Jan 7– Mr Premal Udani has taken over the new chairman of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

He took charge from Mr Rakesh Vaid whose two-year term has ended successfully. Mr Vaid is now president of the Garment Exporters Association.

Mr Udani has been AEPC's executive committee member since 1986. He has been part of the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India and the Federation of Hoisery Manufacturers Association for many years.

"AEPC has today become multi-functional and multi-dimensional," he said after taking over as the new AEPC chairman. "Apart from our traditional markets of the United States and the European Union, the council is actively engaged in assisting exporters to diversify exports to markets like the ASEAN region, Latin America and East European countries."

Mr Udani has presented several papers on textiles and clothing industry in national and international seminars. He has been on the committee of Indo-Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the past five years and was part of the committee of Indian Merchant Chambers till 2006.

Mr Udani, chairman of the Mumbai-based Kaytee Corporation, has also been associated with Tirupur and is founding member of the India Knit Fair Association. He joined the family business of textiles and yarn trading after completing his masters in business administration in the United States during 1980.

AEPC's executive committee also elected Mr Praveen Nayyar as vice-chairman of the eastern region, Mr H.K.L. Magu as vice-chairman of the northern region and Mr Rajendra Hinduja as vice-chairman of the southern region.

Mr Nayyar was elected as the senior vice-chairman. The council also elected Mr Ashok Rajani as chairman of the export promotion sub-committee and Mr Nayyar as chairman of the finance and budget sub-committee.

The AEPC is a body of 8,000 small, medium and large garment exporters. Apart from its core activity of export promotion and assisting the government in complex trade negotiations, the council is involved in training of workers and management students through its Apparel Training and Design Centres and initiatives of the Institute of Apparel Management.

In the near future, the AEPC plans to launch initiatives to improve productivity of factories and also impart guidance in matter of compliance.

India exports apparel worth 11 billion dollars annually and ranks as the fifth largest worldwide.