Pravasi Bhartiya Divas
16th PBD Convention
9 January
New Delhi
2021
Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat
Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated once in every two years to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots. The 16th PBD Convention is being held Virtually on 9 January, 2021 in New Delhi. The theme of 16th PBD Convention 2021 is “Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat”.

PBD Convention will have three segments, starting with the Inaugural Session, when the PBD Convention will be inaugurated by Shri Narendra Modi, the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India and will include a keynote address by the Hon’ble Chief Guest, H.E. Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of Republic of Suriname. The winners of the online Bharat ko Janiye Quiz will also be announced.

The Inaugural session will be followed by the two virtual Plenary sessions where discussions between eminent diaspora experts will be held on themes– (i) Role of Diaspora in Aatmanirbhar Bharat, and (ii) Facing Post Covid Challenges - Scenario in Health, Economy, Social and International Relations.

The finale would be the Valedictory Session where the Hon’ble Rashtrapati ji will deliver his Valedictory address to mark the occasion of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. The names of the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awardees will also be announced during the Session. Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards are conferred to select Indian diaspora members to recognize their achievements and honor their contributions to various fields both in India and abroad.
PRAVASI BHARTIYA SAMMAN AWARDS

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is the highest honour conferred on a Non-Resident Indian, Person of Indian Origin; or an organisation or institution established and run by Non-Resident Indians or Persons of Indian Origin, who have made significant contribution in better understanding of India abroad, support India’s causes and concerns in a tangible way, community work abroad, welfare of local Indian community, philanthropic and charitable work, etc.

During the PBD convention, select eminent Indian diaspora members are awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards in the presence of Hon’ble Rashtrapati ji.

BHARAT KO JANIYE

Bharat ko Janiye Quiz was launched in 2015-16 in order to strengthen the engagement with young overseas Indians and encourage them to know more about their country of origin. The first edition of the online “Bharat ko Janiye” Quiz was organized for young overseas Indians and foreigners of 18-35 years of age in 2015-16. This was followed by the second edition of Bharat ko Janiye Quiz in 2018-19. This year, the third edition of Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz 2020-21 has been held virtually from 30 September to 28 December 2020. Fifteen winners of the Bharat ko Janiye Quiz will be announced during the PBD convention and will be invited for an India Tour (Bharat ko Janiye Darshan) after Covid.
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1005-1105 hrs</td>
<td><strong>Inaugural Session</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Welcome Remarks by Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister</td>
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<td>• Keynote Address by Chief Guest</td>
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<td>H.E. Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of Suriname</td>
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<td>1030 hrs</td>
<td>• <strong>Address by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India</strong></td>
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<td>• Announcement of “Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz” Awards</td>
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<td>1115 – 1300 hrs</td>
<td><strong>Plenary Sessions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Session I - “Role of Diaspora in Aatmanirbhar Bharat”</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ministerial Segment</strong></td>
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<td>• Opening remarks by Shri. Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Secretary (CPV &amp; OIA)</td>
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<td>• Address by Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister</td>
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<td>• Address by Shri. Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce &amp; Industry</td>
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<td><strong>Technical Segment</strong></td>
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<td>Session Moderator: Secretary (CPV &amp; OIA)</td>
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<td>• Panel Discussion with Moderator &amp; Panelists</td>
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<td>• Interactive Session with participants</td>
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<td>• Concluding Remarks by Secretary (CPV &amp; OIA)</td>
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## Programme of 16th PBD Convention

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| 1310 – 1455 hrs | **Plenary Session II:**  
|               | “Facing Post-COVID Challenges - Scenario in Health, Economy, Social, and International Relations”  
|               | **Ministerial Segment:**  
|               | • Opening remarks by Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary  
|               | • Address by Shri. V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State [External Affairs]  
|               | • Address by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister for Health & Family Welfare  
|               | **Technical Segment:**  
|               | Session Moderator: Foreign Secretary  
|               | • Panel Discussion with Moderator & Panelists  
|               | • Interactive Session with participants  
|               | • Concluding Remarks by Foreign Secretary  
| 1700-1745 hrs | **Valedictory Session**  
|               | • Welcome Address by External Affairs Minister  
|               | • Announcement of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards.  
|               | • Acceptance Speech by one of the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awardees.  
|               | • **Valedictory Address by Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon’ble President of India.**  
|               | • Vote of Thanks by Secretary (CPV&OIA), Ministry of External Affairs  
| 1732 hrs      | • **Conclusion of 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas**  

PANELISTS

PLENARY SESSION – I : ROLE OF DIASPORA IN AATMANIRBHR BHARAT

Prof. Arvind Panagariya is Professor of Economics and the Jagdish Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy at Columbia University. He served as the first Vice Chairman of the NITI Aayog, Government of India, India’s G20 Sherpa, Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank. He also worked with the World Bank, IMF and UNCTAD in various capacities. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from Princeton University. Professor Panagariya has authored more than fifteen books. His book India: The Emerging Giant (2008, OUP, New York) was listed as a top pick of 2008 by The Economist and described as the “definitive book on the Indian economy” by Fareed Zakaria of the CNN. In March 2012, the Government of India honored Professor Panagariya with Padma Bhusan, the third highest civilian honour the country bestows in any field.

Shri. Amitabh Kant is presently CEO of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) and has been the Chairman & CEO of the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMICDC). He is the author of Branding India-An Incredible Story and has edited “The Path Ahead- Transformative Ideas for India”. Shri Amitabh Kant has been a key driver of the 'Make in India', 'Start-up India', 'Incredible India' and ‘God’s Own Country’ initiatives that positioned India and Kerala State as leading manufacturing and tourism destinations. These campaigns have won several international awards and embraced a host of activities – infrastructure development, product enhancement, private-public partnership and positioning and branding based on extensive market research.
Mr. Piyush Gupta has been Chief Executive Officer and Director of DBS Group since 2009. DBS is a leading financial services group in Asia, headquartered in Singapore. Mr. Piyush is also the Vice-Chairman of the Institute of International Finance, Washington. In addition, he is a member of Singapore’s Advisory Council on the Ethical Use of AI and Data, McKinsey Advisory Council, and the Bretton Woods Committee - Advisory Council. Mr. Piyush is a term trustee of the Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA). Piyush was named one of the world’s top 100 best-performing chief executives in Harvard Business Review - 2019 edition of “The CEO 100”. In 2020, he was awarded the Public Service Star by the President of Singapore for his meritorious services to the nation.

Ms. Sheba Nandkeolyar is the Founder and CEO of MultiConnexions Group, Australia’s leading multicultural and diaspora marketing and advertising agency. Global Connexions, a part of MultiConnexions Group, specializes in cross cultural and cross border marketing including international trade. Sheba actively works to facilitate bilateral trade between Australia and India in several capacities and all in a voluntary capacity. She was the first woman National Chair of Australia India Business Council (AIBC). A great believer in diversity, she has recently been inducted into the Global Board of International Advertising Association (IAA) as the Global Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion. She is passionate about the bilateral business relationship and tries to promote it in every way she can and is a sought-after expert among international, Indian, and Australian media.
Mr. Yusuff Ali M.A. ranks among reputed NRI business personalities around the world today. Under his dynamic leadership, Lulu Group has achieved significant growth and diversified into various business lines. The Lulu Group with its headquarters based in Abu Dhabi is one of the leading importers, wholesalers and retailers of all kinds of consumer items with a world-wide business. He was the first and only Indian from the Middle East elected to the Director Board of Abu Dhabi Chamber consecutively for a record third time. In recognition of his remarkable achievements in Business & Industry and his distinguished services in the field of social work, he was conferred prestigious “Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award” in the year 2005 and Padma Shri award in the year 2008.

Mr. Jayant Krishna is Group Chief Executive Officer of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC), and leads UKIBC in strengthening bilateral economic ties between the UK and India. He has led key initiatives of the Prime Minister’s Skill India mission as CEO, and Executive Director & Chief Operating Officer of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). As Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington, DC and Executive Director, Public Policy at Silicon Valley nonprofit WF, he focused on Indian economic reforms, employment generation and US-India bilateral business ties. He also served as India’s Official Delegate to World Skills International, and on the India-EU Skills Committee and the National Skill Development Agency’s Governing Body.
Mr. Deepak Bagla, Managing Director & CEO, Invest India, has a professional career of over three decades, starting with the World Bank in Washington DC. In 1989, he joined Citibank Global Corporate and Investment Banking team and held several responsibilities across Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia. Mr. Bagla is currently Managing Director & CEO of Invest India, the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency promoted by the Government of India. Invest India is also the execution agency for Government of India's Start-up initiative. He is also a member of the Ministry of Finance steering Committee on Fintech and a Member of the High-Level committee of the Atal Innovation Mission responsible for establishing and scaling up incubators and tinkering labs across India.
PLENARY SESSION – II : FACING POST COVID CHALLENGES - SCENARIO IN HEALTH, ECONOMY, SOCIAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Ms. Mamta Sahu Landerman is the Founding President of The California Association of Ayurvedic Medicine (CAAM) and served from 1998 to 2003. She produced three International Symposia held at UC Berkeley, California from 2001 to 2003. CAAM Conferences were the venue of the largest gathering of Ayurvedic practitioners in the US convened under one roof. She serves on the Faculty of the Kerala Ayurveda Academy (KAA) and teaches Ayurveda and Jyotisha in several parts of the U.S. She has presented at numerous workshops, conferences and retreats. She runs an organic blueberry farm and has inspired several students of Ayurveda and Jyotisha across the US with her energy and wisdom. In 2017, Ms. Mamta again joined CAAM Board as President.

Dr. Sangita Reddy is a Global Healthcare Leader, Indian Entrepreneur and Humanitarian. Passionately committed to transforming healthcare system through technological advancements and accelerating positive transformation for effective healthcare service delivery. She is an Honorary Consul of Brazil in Hyderabad. She is the President of The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. She has been conferred with an Honorary Doctorate by Macquarie University Australia, in recognition of her untiring efforts and resolute commitment to bring transformative changes in healthcare, development of Health IT and championing manifold initiatives both in India and abroad.
Mr. K. V. Rao, has worked in diversified industries and enterprises, in leadership positions including a stint with the Singapore Civil Service as a Director with International Enterprise Singapore. He has specialized in International Business, and has an experience that covers 40 countries in the developed and emerging markets, with a focus on Asia. A very senior corporate leader, he is currently the Resident Director- ASEAN, for Tata Sons Limited, promoter of the Tata Group.

MR. K. V. RAO
PRESIDENT SIFAS
(SINGAPOREAN INDIAN FINE ARTS SOCIETY), SINGAPORE

Prof C. B. Sanjeevi is Vice Chancellor of Sri Sathya Sai Institute at Higher Learning in Puttaparthi and Professor & Senior Scientist at the Dept of Medicine at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. He is also Senior Advisor to the Innovation office of Karolinska Institute. He heads the Diabetes-Immunology research group at the Center for Molecular Medicine at Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm. He has won many awards. Dr. Sanjeevi has also delivered several notable orations. He has edited series of five volumes of the Annals of New York Academy of Sciences entitled “Immunology of Diabetes”. In addition, Dr. Sanjeevi serves in the Editorial Board of several journals and has extensively published in peer-reviewed medical journals.
Dr Malini Ranganathan, a French National of Indian origin, is an internationally known & qualified Kathak dance exponent and Doctorate (Ph.D) in Didactics of Educational Sciences, in French language from the European University, qualifying as a Professor in Humanities. She has achieved several medals/Certificate of appreciation on International level. Dr Malini is also the Founder-Director-Teacher-Choreographer of eminence in Kathak, at BINDI, a non-profit Indo French Center of Indian Arts, where she has trained numerous French students. She has created a new teaching protocol for Kathak dance which combines traditional teaching contents with new methods of transmission tailored especially for French students. She has built closer links between India, Indian Diaspora and France being at the forefront of strengthening the Franco-Indian relationship.

Ambassador Anil Sooklal is the Deputy Director-General responsible for Asia and the Middle East, Department of International Relations and Cooperation. He is also South Africa’s BRICS Sherpa, G20 Sherpa and IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) Sherpa and of the IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation). He is Doctorate (Ph.D) (Oriental History) from University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). He has held several National and International Positions. Dr Sooklal published more than 20 journal articles in monographs, both local and international and has served as the Editor of Nidan, University of Durban-Westville. He also served on the editorial board of the Journal of Religion in Southern Africa. He is a winner of several awards both National and International for his dedicated Services.
Prof Ajay Kapoor is Pro Vice Chancellor at Swinburne University, Australia. He has established strong research collaboration in India (IIT-M, IIT-H) and globally with more than 300 Joint PhD students. He has completed B.Tech & M.Tech from IIT, BHU and PhD from Cambridge University. He joined academia in 1987. He is internationally renowned for research and has published 3 books, more than 250 papers and has won several prizes in UK and Australia. He is also Pro Chancellor of Chinmaya Vishwa Vidhyapeeth.