The Embassy of India, Lima commemorated the 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on January 9, 2016 in its premises. The India-Peru Friendship Association (AAPI) and the India-Peru Chamber of Commerce (INCHAM) were partners. The event was well attended with the presence of prominent Indian businessmen, professionals, and members of the Indian expatriate community and friends of India. Ambassador Mr. Sandeep Chakravorty inaugurated the event and spoke about the policies of the Government of India for engaging the Indian diaspora worldwide. He mentioned recent developments with regard to the OCI card, merger of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs with Ministry of External Affairs and the plans and programmes for greater involvement of the Non Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) in India’s Development. He highlighted the contribution that they can make to India’s success by investing their capital and skills in new opportunities created by the Government of India through its various programs like Make in India, Digital India, Smart Cities and the NRI Fund to clean and develop the Ganga River. He also mentioned the recent initiatives taken by the Embassy for greater involvement of the Indian Community in Peru by the introduction of free Hindi and Yoga classes in the Embassy. He also added that during this year, the Indian Cultural Centre in Lima would become fully functional as an active platform for the Indian community with a wide range of activities.

Mr. Pramod Mittal, President of AAPI also spoke on the occasion and reaffirmed the role of the Indian Community in Peru to work together for India’s development. On behalf of ESKE Group, Mr. Hemant Nangia spoke about how the Group was involved in promoting India in Peru and how it plays a key role in being a bridge between India and Peru.

Mr. Ruben Devoto, eminent Peruvian expert on Ayurveda delivered the keynote address on Ayurveda and its origins in India and how Ayurveda can play an important and complimentary role in the wellness of Peruvians. Dr. (Ms.) Dora Bazan Montenegro of Ricardo Palma University spoke on the values of Indian culture and offered University’s cooperation for promotion of Indian culture, art and Hindi language.

*Lima*
*9 January 2016*