

Ministry of External Affairs
(Overseas Indian Affairs II Division)

17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9th January every year to recognise the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India. The PBD conventions provide a platform for the government to engage overseas Indians from different countries on key issues concerning the Indian Diaspora, besides the networking opportunities for diaspora participants. The format of PBD Convention was revised in 2015, with the main PBD Convention being held every alternate year.

2. 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention was organised from 08-10 January 2023, in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The theme for the 17th PBD was “*Diaspora: Reliable partners for India’s progress in Amrit Kaal*”.

3. The 17th PBD Convention was inaugurated by Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, in the presence of Chief Guest, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, the President of Cooperative Republic of Guyana, and the Special Guest of Honour, H.E. Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Hon’ble President of the Republic of Suriname attended the three-day Convention.

4. Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi also released a Commemorative Postal Stamp ‘*Surakshit Jaayen, Prashikshit Jaayen*’ which underlines the importance of safe, legal, orderly and skilled migration. Hon’ble Prime Minister also inaugurated the first-ever digital PBD Exhibition on theme “*Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - Contribution of Diaspora in Indian Freedom Struggle*” to highlight the contribution of our diaspora freedom fighters in India’s Independence.

5. Hon’ble Rashtrapati ji, Smt. Droupadi Murmu presided over the Valedictory Session and conferred Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards 2023 to select Indian diaspora members to recognize their achievements and honour their contributions to various fields, both in India and abroad.

6. The other elements of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas included a Youth segment & a State segment which were organised on 8th January, 2023. H.E. Ms. Zaneta Mascarenhas, Member of Parliament of Australia, was the Guest of Honour at the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, which provided a platform for youth from all over India to interact and engage with the Diaspora Youth. The State of Madhya Pradesh in its segment showcased its culture,

tourism, trade and investment opportunities to the Diaspora participating in the PBD Convention.

7. The 17th PBD Convention had five thematic Plenary sessions, featuring panel discussions involving eminent diaspora experts:

- First Plenary on ‘Role of Diaspora Youth in Innovations and new Technologies’, chaired by Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur.
- Second Plenary on ‘Role of Indian Diaspora in promoting Indian Healthcare Ecosystem in Amrit Kaal: Vision @2047’, chaired by Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and co-chaired by Minister of State for External Affairs, Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh.
- Third Plenary on ‘Leveraging the soft power of India - Goodwill through craft, cuisine & creativity’, chaired by Minister of State for External Affairs, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi.
- Fourth Plenary on ‘Enabling global mobility of Indian workforce – Role of Indian Diaspora’, chaired by Minister of Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan.
- Fifth Plenary on ‘Harnessing the potential of diaspora entrepreneurs, particularly women, towards an inclusive approach to nation building’, chaired by Minister of Finance, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.

8. A Special Town Hall was organised on 09 January 2023 in view of India’s ongoing Presidency of the G20, wherein G20 Sherpa Shri Amitabh Kant and G20 Chief Coordinator Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla highlighted the G20 Presidency as an opportunity to give a global dimension to India’s “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” based developmental thinking and India’s glorious tradition and culture, and capabilities in various development sectors especially our technology based development, digital transformation, strong pharma sector, environment based lifestyle and development activities etc.

9. The 17th PBD Convention witnessed very enthusiastic participation from the overseas Indians from nearly 70 different countries. The Convention was the first one with participation of two Heads of State, and also had Ministerial level delegations from Panama, Mauritius, Malaysia and Zimbabwe. The 17th PBD Convention also held special significance as it was organized as a physical event after a gap of four years and the first physical Convention of Pravasis after the onset of Covid-19 pandemic.

10. The 17th PBD Convention was an overwhelming success in terms of renewing the bonding and connect with the Diaspora after an interval of four years, and laying the foundation for their participation and contribution to the growth and development of India in the Amrit Kaal.

The complete Programme details of the 17th PBD Convention is placed below :

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2023

8-10, January, 2023

[Brilliant Convention Centre, Indore, Madhya Pradesh]

[Diaspora: Reliable partners for India's progress in Amrit Kaal”

“प्रवासी: अमृत काल में भारत की प्रगति के विश्वसनीय भागीदार”]

8 January 2023 – Sunday

Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

Time	Session/Programme	Venue
0900 hrs	All delegates to be seated	Grand Hall, Ground Floor
0930- 1023 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting of the Traditional Lamp • Welcome Remarks by Dr Ausaf Sayeed, Secretary (CPV & OIA), Ministry of External Affairs • Opening Remarks by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports • Remarks by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh • Special Address by Guest of Honour, Ms. Zaneta Mascarenhas, Member of Parliament, Australia • Inaugural Address by Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs • Vote of Thanks by Ms. Meeta Rajivlochan, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports 	Grand Hall, Ground Floor

1035-1215 hrs	Plenary Session I: Role of Diaspora Youth in Innovations and new Technologies Chair : Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports	
1230-1400 hrs	Lunch	Nakshatra Lawns
Sessions hosted by Madhya Pradesh State Government		
1500–1615 hrs	• Textile & Garments: Weaving the growth story of MP	Orchid, First Floor
	• IT/ITeS sector: Coding the Stories of Change in MP	Orion, Ground Floor
	• Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals investments: Reshaping the Global Health Value Chain	Phoenix, Lower Ground Floor
1615–1630 hrs	Tea Break	
1630–1745 hrs	• Invest in Madhya Pradesh, the Food Basket	Orchid, First Floor
	• Start-up Ecosystem: Unleashing the strength of Madhya Pradesh	Orion, Ground Floor
	• Tourism opportunities in the 'Heart of Incredible India'	Phoenix, Lower Ground Floor
1745–1800 hrs	Tea Break	
1900 hrs onwards	Cultural programme (Showcasing dance and music of Madhya Pradesh) Dinner	Nakshatra Lawns

9 January 2023 - Monday

Inauguration of 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2023

Time	Session/Programme	Venue
1000 hrs	All delegates to be seated	Grand Hall, Ground Floor
1030 – 1136 hrs	Inaugural Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBD Theme Song • Welcome Remarks by Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs • Remarks by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh 	Grand Hall, Ground Floor

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address by Special Guest of Honour, H.E. Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of the Republic of Suriname • Special Address by Chief Guest of PBD, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana • Release of Commemorative Postal Stamp 'Surakshit Jaayen, Prashikshit Jaayen' • Keynote Address by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India • Inauguration of PBD Exhibition by Hon'ble Prime Minister on theme "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - Contribution of Diaspora in Indian Freedom Struggle / आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव - भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में प्रवासी का योगदान" 	
1200-1400 hrs	Lunch	Nakshatra Lawns
1430-1555 hrs	<p>Plenary Session II: Role of Indian Diaspora in promoting Indian Healthcare Eco-system in Amrit Kaal: Vision @2047</p> <p>Chair : Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers</p> <p>Co-Chair: Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs</p>	Grand Hall, Ground Floor
1600-1730 hrs	<p>Plenary Session III: Leveraging the soft power of India - Goodwill through craft, cuisine & creativity</p> <p>Chair : Ms. Meenakashi Lekhi, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs</p>	
1730-1745 hrs	Tea Break	
1745-1845 hrs	Town Hall [Speakers: G-20 Sherpa Shri Amitabh Kant and G20 Chief Coordinator Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla)	
1855-1940 hrs	Cultural Programme by Indian Council for Cultural Relations	Nakshatra Lawns
2000 hrs onwards	Dinner	

10 January 2023 - Tuesday

Time	Session/Programme	Venue
0930-1100 hrs	Plenary Session IV: Enabling global mobility of Indian workforce – Role of Indian Diaspora Chair : Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship	Grand Hall, Ground Floor
1100-1130 hrs	Tea Break	
1130-1245 hrs	Plenary Session V: Harnessing the potential of women diaspora entrepreneurs towards an inclusive approach to nation building Chair : Smt. N. Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance	
1300-1500 hrs	Lunch	Nakshatra Lawns
1500 hrs	All delegates to be seated	Grand Hall, Ground Floor
1530-1632 hrs	Valedictory Session and Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing of National Anthem (Instrumental) • Welcome Address by Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs • Remarks by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh • Remarks by Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation • Conferment of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards 2023 by Hon'ble President of India • Acceptance Speech by one of the Samman Awardees • Group Photo with recipients of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards 2021 and 2023 • Valedictory Address by Hon'ble President of India • Vote of Thanks by Shri V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs 	Grand Hall, Ground Floor

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playing of National Anthem (Instrumental)	
1830 hrs	Dinner	Nakshatra Lawns