

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBJECT: PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS (PBD) CONVENTION - 2019

Kind attention is invited to members of Indian Community including Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Organization/Association established & run by a PIOs/NRIs in Belgium & Luxembourg on abovementioned subject.

2. The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in partnership with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh is organizing the **15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas at Varanasi from 21-23 January 2019**. The participants will also have the **opportunity to participate in the Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj and Republic Day celebrations at New Delhi**.

3. While inaugurating the PBD website at a joint press conference in New Delhi on 15th September 2018, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Aditya Nath commenced the **registration process for PBD Convention 2019**. The registration will be open for two months till 31 December, 2018. The registration, program and payment details are available on PBD website – www.pbdindia.gov.in.

4. The important elements of the preparations towards the mega-event of PBD 2019 include arrangements for travel and stay of over 5000 participants that are expected to join the PBD Convention. The entire duration of the programme spans six days – from 21 January to 26 January, 2019; however, **participation in Kumbh Mela and witness Republic Day Parade is optional**.

5. The participants will have the option to choose their stay either in **hotel or tented Swiss cottages** in Varanasi when they register on the website. Tented accommodations will be arranged at Prayagraj near the Sangam for those who choose to partake in the Kumbh Mela. As number of accommodation in Prayagraj and number of tickets for Republic Day Parade are limited, these would be provided on **first come first serve basis**. Arrangements will be made for local transport for pick and drop to the venue and guides tours for local sightseeing in and around Varanasi and Prayagraj, including visit to Kashi Vishwanath temple and River Ganga Aarti at Varanasi. Participants will be taken to Prayagraj in Special AC Volvo coaches and brought back to Delhi in Special AC trains. Arrangements are also being made for their participation in the Republic Day Parade. Lunches and dinners will be arranged for all the three days of PBD Convention. Participants will experience India's rich cultural heritage and progress and innovation through Cultural Evenings and Exhibitions that are being arranged as part of PBD 2019.

6. A copy of the Programme is attached with this Public Notice.

**Programme for Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 to be held
on 21-23 January, 2019 at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**

21 January 2019 – Monday

Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

Time	Session/Programme
09:30 hrs-11:00hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inauguration of Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas • Special Guest His Excellency Mr. Himanshu Gulati, Member of Parliament, Norway • Guest of Honour His Excellency Mr. Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi, Member of Parliament, New Zealand
11:30-13:00 hrs	Plenary Session: Engagement with Younger Members of Indian Diaspora
13:00-14:30 hrs	Lunch hosted by Shri Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore , Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports
14:30-21:00 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction with Banaras Hindu University Students (Banaras Hindu University Campus Campus) • Dinner hosted by Shri Chetan Chouhan, Minister of State for Sports & Youth Welfare for youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas participants
11:30-Onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inauguration of Uttar Pradesh State Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Simultaneous event) • Cultural programme (Showcasing dance and music of Uttar Pradesh) in the Evening • Dinner hosted by Shri Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for State Pravasi Bharatiya Divas participants

22 January 2019 - Tuesday

Inauguration of 15th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention 2019

Time	Session/Programme
10:00 hrs-12:30 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plenary I: Inauguration of 15th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention 2019• Chief Guest His Excellency Shri Pravind Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius• Address by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi• Joint Unveiling of Plaque of Mauritius Diaspora Centre by both Prime Ministers• Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz Award Ceremony & Group Photo
13:00-14:30 hrs	Lunch for delegates
14:00-15:30 hrs	Plenary Session II: Developing Cyber Capacity of India
16:00-17:30 hrs	Plenary Session III: Giving Back to India: Opportunities and Challenges
18:00-19:30 hrs	Cultural Programme (organised by Indian Council for Cultural Relations)
20:00 hrs onwards	Dinner hosted by Smt. Sushma Swaraj , Minister for External Affairs

23 January 2019 - Wednesday

15th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention

Time	Session/Programme
09:00-10:20 hrs	Plenary Session IV : Indian Community Organizations Working for Indian Nationals in Distressed Situation
10:20-11:40 hrs	Plenary Session V : Indian Diaspora's Role in Capacity Building of Artificial Intelligence in India
11:40-12:00 hrs	Tea Break
12:00-13:30 hrs	Plenary Session VI : Role of Indian Diaspora in Capacity Building for Affordable Waste Management
13:30-15:00 hrs	Lunch hosted by Shri Ram Naik , Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh
15:00-16:30 hrs	Plenary Session VII : Role of India Diaspora in Capacity Building for Affordable Solar Power
17:00-18:30 hrs	Valedictory Session and Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards Ceremony by Hon'ble President
20:00 hrs	Dinner hosted by Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe , President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations

24 January, Thursday

In Prayagraj (Visit to Kumbh Mela)

Participants would arrive in Prayagraj by bus (Volvo AC Bus). Arrangements for holy bathing at Sangam

25 January, Friday

In Delhi

After Kumbh Mela, participants would travel from Prayagraj to Delhi by train (two-tier AC coaches)

26 January, Saturday

Witnessing the 70th Republic Day Event in New Delhi

Special passes for foreign delegates of PBD 2019 have been arranged for the Republic Day Parade.