

**Embassy of India
Santiago**

PRAVASI BHARTIYA DIVAS, 7-9 JANUARY, 2017

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9 January every year to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India. January 9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.

PBD conventions are being held every year since 2003 to connect India to its vast overseas Diaspora and bring their knowledge, expertise and skills on a common platform. These conventions provide a platform to the overseas Indian community to engage with the government and people of the land of their ancestors for mutually beneficial activities. These conventions are also very useful in networking among the overseas Indian community residing in various parts of the world and enable them to share their experiences in various fields.

During the event, individuals of exceptional merit are honoured with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award to appreciate their role in India's growth. The event also provides a forum for discussing key issues concerning the Indian Diaspora.

The 14th PBD Convention will be held from 7-9 January 2017 in Bengaluru, India. The programme for the event and other details regarding PBD 2017 can be seen at <https://pbdindia.gov.in/>. Delegates are required to register online and make payment of Registration Fees through the Payment Gateway on this portal. A link for the same is provided at the website of the Embassy of India, Santiago.

Indian community is requested to register for the event at the earliest, as the deadline for registration is 7 December 2016.
