



**Embassy of India
Bahrain**

**PRESS RELEASE
Pravasi Bharatiya Divas**

The 17th edition of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), the flagship event for Indian diaspora organized by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India was held in Indore from 08 – 10 January, 2023 under the theme “Diaspora : Reliable Partners for India’s Progress in Amrit Kaal”. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated once every two years to mark the contribution of overseas Indian community to the development of India and to engage with the vibrant Indian community spread across all over the world. This year PBD was held in physical format after a gap of 4 years.

2. The PBD programme started with Youth PBD. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the PBD Convention on 9 January 2023. On 10 January 2023, Hon’ble President of India, Shrimati Droupadi Murmu presided the valedictory session during which Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards were conferred. The inaugural session of PBD was streamed LIVE at the Embassy with participation of an overwhelming number of Indian community members in Bahrain. Theme-based Plenary Sessions were organised during the Convention with participation of experts from diaspora as panelists and honoured Guests. Mrs. Meera Ravi, Editor of Salaam Bahrain was the speaker at Plenary Session “*Leveraging the soft power of India – Goodwill through Craft, Cuisine and Creativity*”.

3. Close to a 100 member-strong delegation from Bahrain attended PBD Convention in Indore this year. The delegates constituted previous Pravasi Bharatiya

Samman Awardees, delegations led by Bahrain India Society, Indian community Associations including Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF), Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam, Samasth Parivar Milan, World NRI Council, Nav Bharat, BAPS, The Indian School, BICAS and GOPIO. The diversity of the Indian community in Bahrain was also represented in the delegation which included CEO's, professionals and workers.

4. On the sidelines of PBD, the delegation from Bahrain met Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs Shri S. Jaishankar, Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan, Minister for Science & Technology, Government of Madhya Pradesh and other senior officials from Government of India and State Government of Madhya Pradesh. Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Shri S. Jaishankar appreciated the Indian community's contribution in taking India's partnership in the Gulf to a higher level. Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan briefed the delegation about Government of India's numerous initiatives of diaspora welfare as well as discussed matters concerning the Indian community in Bahrain.

12 January, 2023













