

High Commission of India

Abuja

Celebration of 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and World Hindi Day 2021

The High Commission of India, Abuja celebrated the 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and World Hindi Day on 09 January 2021 in virtual format. The event was attended virtually by large number of participants from Indian diaspora in Nigeria, Benin & Chad.

2. The video of Hon'ble Prime Minister's speech on the occasion of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was telecast. PM's speech was followed by a welcome address by High Commissioner. In his address, High Commissioner highlighted the significant role being played by the Indian diaspora in the socio-economic development of India particularly in the context of this year's theme of PBD "Contributing to Atmanirbhar Bharat". High Commissioner informed the audience that Indian Cultural Association, Lagos has been conferred first ever Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award for Nigeria by the Hon'ble President of India at PBD 2021.

3. Heads of various Indian community organizations spoke about the role of their respective organizations in further strengthening bilateral ties. They included Chief Sanjay Jain, President, ICA Lagos; Shri Atul Kshetry, President, Indian Professional Forum, Nigeria; Mrs. Sonali Gupta, Principal, Indian Language School, Lagos; Shri P.S. Elvis, President, ICA, Abuja; Shri Ramesh Biswal, Coordinator, SABHA; Mrs. Geetika Tandon, President, Indian Women's Association, Lagos and Shri Hasmukh Patel, Indian Association in Benin. Honorable Abike Dabiri- Erewa, Chairman/C.E.O., Nigerians in Diaspora Commission also graced the occasion virtually and gave her goodwill message, bringing out Nigerian approach and engagement with its diaspora.

4. World Hindi Day 2021 was marked on the occasion. Indian nationals, students of Indian Language School, Lagos and Yaarana Association, Chad made presentations in Hindi. The results of the World Hindi Day Competitions, organized earlier by High Commission, were also announced on the occasion.

12 January 2021

Abuja