



**Embassy of India  
Jakarta**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Celebrated in Jakarta**

The Embassy of India in Indonesia celebrated Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on 9 January 2016 in its premises in Jakarta. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Manish, Charge d’Affaires and was attended by prominent Indian businessmen, professionals, academics and Indian expatriate community. Delivering the keynote address, Mr. Manish, Charge d’Affaires, said that Indian Diaspora has been staying in Indonesia since the times of Sri Vijaya and Majapahit empires. The Indian expatriate community has achieved success in Indonesia due to their hard work, sincerity and dedication. He said that Indian diaspora can be instrumental in increasing the trade between India and Indonesia and in bringing investment from Indonesia to India. He encouraged Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) to contribute to India’s success by investing their capital and skills in new opportunities created by the Government of India through its various programs like Make in India, Digital India, Smart Cities and the NRI Fund to clean and develop the Ganga River.

There were two panel discussions in which Indian community participated and shared their views. The first with theme of ‘Role of Diaspora Community Organizations’ discussed the role of community organisations in resolving issues faced by Indian employees, including providing assistance to Indians in jail, repatriation of mortal remains, assisting Indians in distress, and other issues of relevance. The second panel discussion was on “Government of India’s Flagship programmes of Smart Cities, Renewable Energy, Make in India, Skill India, and Digital India”. The Session discussed ways and means of realizing the full potential of the involvement of Indian Diaspora in these programmes.

The Indian community appreciated Government of India’s programs like Make in India, Smart Cities and Skill India and wanted to participate in the growth story of India. They also thanked Charge d’Affaires for involving Indian community in various programs of the Mission and for taking care of Indian expatriate community and Diaspora.

There are about 100,000 persons of Indian origin in Indonesia. Most of them are settled in Medan, Surabaya and Jakarta. The Indian community has cumulatively invested USD 15 billion in Indonesia and created 250,000 jobs. The early settlers among Indian community are largely engaged in textile, sports and entertainment sectors while those who have arrived later are mostly professionals.

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Jakarta: 9 January 2016