Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2027: 19th convention in Kolkata, 7-9 January

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12 November 2026: The Ministry of External Affairs announced that the 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention will be held in Kolkata from 7 to 9 January 2027. Its theme is 'Return to Roots: Reigniting the Diaspora Connect with Bharat'.

Website launch: The convention website pbdindia.gov.in was jointly launched in New Delhi by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari.

Programme: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the convention; President Droupadi Murmu will preside over the valedictory session and confer the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards.

Day one: Will be observed as Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.

Legacy: PBD is observed every year on 9 January - commemorating Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa in 1915; the convention is the Central government's flagship event for engaging the Indian diaspora.

BKJ Quiz: A PBD Special 'Bharat Ko Janiye' (BKJ) Quiz was also launched - on the BharatVerse App and bkjquiz.com, running 11 November to 20 December 2026; winners across three categories - NRIs, PIOs and foreigners - get a 10-day immersive tour of India and will join the PBD celebrations in Kolkata.

Syllabus link: General Studies - Governance/International (diaspora policy, MEA programmes).

Key: PBD = 9 January (Gandhi's return, 1915); Pravasi Bharatiya Samman = the highest honour for the diaspora, conferred by the President; convention held since 2003, biennial format since 2015.

Possible confusion: The 2027 convention is the 19th edition and its venue is Kolkata - do not confuse with earlier venues (Bhubaneswar 2025, Indore 2023).

Q1: Where and when will the 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention be held?

(a) Bhubaneswar, January 2026(b) Kolkata, 7-9 January 2027(c) Indore, January 2027(d) New Delhi, 9 January 2027

Answer and explanation: (b) The 19th PBD Convention will be held in Kolkata on 7-9 January 2027.

Q2: What is the theme of the 19th PBD Convention?

(a) Diaspora: Partners in Progress(b) Return to Roots: Reigniting the Diaspora Connect with Bharat(c) Apna Bharat Apna Gaurav(d) Engaging Diaspora for Viksit Bharat

Answer and explanation: (b) The theme is 'Return to Roots: Reigniting the Diaspora Connect with Bharat'.

Q3: Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on 9 January commemorates which event?

(a) The first PBD convention, 2003(b) Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa, 1915(c) Adoption of the Indian Constitution(d) The first Pravasi Bharatiya Samman

Answer and explanation: (b) Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa on 9 January 1915.

The Indian Express - 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention to be held in Kolkata

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