

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, 2015

The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas which is aimed at connecting the overseas diaspora and People of Indian origin was organised on January 7-9, 2015 in Gandhinagar 2015. This year Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was special as it marked the 100 years of Mahatma Gandhiji's return to India, the greatest Pravasi Bhartiya of all times. Pravsi Bhartiya Divas is organised by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), Government of India, each year, wherein thousands of Indian settled in various parts of world, visit their mother country, India.

For this year's Pravasi Bhartiya Divas, WOSY was invited. The Chairperson of WOSY, Dr. Rashmi Singh was invited to address the inaugural function of the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. The Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was inaugurated by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs and Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India accompanied by Shri Sunil Soni, Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, Ms Priti Patel, MP, UK Prime Minister's Diaspora Champion and Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, United Kingdom and Shri Rajeev Gupta, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

A team of 30 volunteers of WOSY belonging to 11 different countries had the chance of witnessing this grand ceremony and to hear from the top Ministers of the Government of India and who's who of global affairs.

Dr. Rashmi Singh spoke on the various activities undertaken by WOSY on youth development and building cross cultural relations. She emphasised on the importance of international youth organisations like WOSY. She spoke on principles that define India and how WOSY lives by those principles. She emphasised on the remarkable initiatives of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to bring growth to the South Asian Region as he marshalls the growth agenda for India. Relationship with our neighbours and foreign countries, the support for Afghanistan in terms of security and education have raised India's global esteem. India has always had the ethics of volunteerism. WOSY is an exceptional example of volunteerism. WOSY volunteers work on the idea driven by the concept Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. "We have unlocked the imprisoned splendour of the human spirit in abundance," Dr Singh said. She urged the overseas Indians and Indians to look at the development of India as a common cause and increase each other working powers. She thanked Ministry of External Affairs for inviting WOSY to this global event.