

## **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2016 – Panel Discussion I**

India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians: Diaspora Contributing to India's  
Social and Development Efforts  
27<sup>th</sup> February 2016



The first Panel Discussion of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2016 on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in New Delhi was chaired by Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj. The panel discussed how India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI) can effectively enable Overseas Indians to connect back and contribute to India's social and development efforts. Participants acknowledged IDF-OI's outreach to States in putting together several projects for funding by Overseas Indians. They gave valuable inputs and suggestions about how IDF-OI can strengthen its presence among Overseas Indians and work with Indian Missions and Indian Associations abroad to create awareness about IDF-OI.

The panel highlighted the need for credibility i.e. accountability, efficiency, and transparency to make IDF-OI a '*one stop shop for philanthropic outlet for India*'.

The Panel Discussion was attended by prominent Overseas Indians many of whom are directly engaged in philanthropy to India such as Yusuff Ali M.A., UAE; Subhash Jindal, UAE; Krishankumar Taori, Oman; Hari Kiran Vadlamani, Singapore; Prof. Sree Sreenath, USA; Susheel Saraff, Thailand; Rameshbhai Shah, USA; Arun Kankani, USA; Bharat Vadukul, UK, and B.S Dhankar, Australia. The Indian participants included Ritu Beri and Vijay Chauthaiwale.