



राजस्थान फाउण्डेशन
Rajasthan Foundation

Rajasthan Foundation Newsletter राजस्थान फाउण्डेशन पत्रिका

June 2014

From the Chairperson's Desk



सत्यमेव जयते



The Diaspora of Rajasthan has made its presence felt across the globe by virtue of their hard work and commitment. You have done your home State proud through your acumen, hard work and entrepreneurial skills, no matter what part of the world you live in. Your motherland Rajasthan is also rapidly developing, courtesy its rich cultural, historical, archaeological, geographical and geological heritage nurtured with social peace and harmony.

The loyalty, entrepreneurial skill, commitment, sincerity and dedication shown by our 'Pravasi Rajasthanis' in the past years towards Rajasthan for preserving and promoting its culture and also for its growth and development, is worth appreciation. Rajasthan Foundation cherishes its long term association with you.

I invite you to join hands with Rajasthan Foundation, participate in the socio-economic development of the State and be a part of its rapid development on all fronts. We are committed to felicitate and facilitate every endeavour of yours for restoring and enhancing the pride of Rajasthan.

Vasundhara Raje
Chief Minister
Rajasthan

Rajasthan Foundation sets up two new chapters : Indore & Kathmandu



Nepal's First Billionaire takes over as President, Kathmandu Chapter

The Nepalese
Billionaire and

Chairman of the Chaudhary Group, Shri Binod Chaudhary has been appointed as the President of Kathmandu Chapter of Rajasthan Foundation. Born in 1955, Shri Chaudhary's antecedents are rooted in the colourful land of Rajasthan. His family migrated from Rajasthan and established its presence in Nepal with a small business of fabric export, imported from various parts of India. Today, under Chaudhary's tutelage, the group is a transnational conglomerate with over 80 companies, with an investment outlay of over \$1 Billion spread across diverse sectors!

Since 2002, he has served as the President of Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI).

He supports causes like arts, literature & social service that help lessen poverty and improve living conditions for an average person in the local community. Binod Choudhary has also founded the Chaudhary Group Foundation which directly works for development in the fields of education, health, sports and youth empowerment.

Shri Arun Kumar Mehta, Director of the BCM Group, a multi-activity organisation which has a strong presence in food processing, finance, construction & education sectors has joined as the President, Indore Chapter, Rajasthan Foundation. Shri Mehta is an alumnus of the prestigious Daly College, Indore and a graduate from Chennai University. He joined the family business at an early age. Apart from his remarkable business acumen, he also has immense attachment for his native State, Rajasthan.

A humble and grounded person, Arun Mehta believes that action speaks louder than words and he intends to bring the Pravasi Rajasthani Community of Indore as a close knit family connected to the land of their ancestors.

Indore Based Business Magnate joins as President, Indore Chapter



Engaging Diaspora, Inviting Growth - PBD 2014



Rajasthan Pavilion at 'Pravasi Bhartiya Divas - 2014', New Delhi

Every year, on 9th of January, the very day when Mahatma Gandhi returned from South Africa to India, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated in India. The convention is a remarkable congregation of the Overseas Indian Community. In its validating session every year NRIs and PIOs are awarded with the prestigious 'Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award' for their invaluable contribution in the development of India or their respective fields.

PBD provides a platform to Overseas Indians to proactively interact with the Government of India and their brethren from the land of their ancestors. This year, the 12th edition of the event was organised in New Delhi from 7th to 9th January. The event witnessed participation from a large number of NRI delegates.

Rajasthan Foundation & Bureau of Investment Promotion, Rajasthan represented the State at 'Pravasi Bhartiya Divas-2014' with beautifully ornate yet modern pavilion, meticulously designed



(From left) Shri Vinod Ajmera, Commissioner, Industries & Rajasthan Foundation, Smt. Veenu Gupta, Principal Secretary, Industries & MD, RIICO with other dignitaries at the 'Rajasthan State Interactive Session'.

and fabricated to symbolise the rapidly growing modern industries in Rajasthan which coexist with utmost respect for the age-old cultural heritage of the State. The State Government also hosted the Rajasthan State Interactive Session. The session was attended by a large number of Non-Resident Rajasthanis, senior officials from the Government of Rajasthan and many other dignitaries. At the session, Smt. Veenu Gupta, Principal Secretary, Industries & MD, RIICO spoke about the concrete steps taken by the Government of Rajasthan for economic growth & social welfare of the State. Shri Vinod Ajmera, IAS, Commissioner, Industries & Rajasthan Foundation explained how Rajasthan is not only a preferred tourist destination but also a preferred investment destination in various sectors including mines & minerals, auto, solar, energy and ceramics. He appealed

to the NRRs to stay connected with the land of their origin and also invited them to explore the State as an investment option.

The NRRs in return shared their inclination to support the State in its development. They shared inspiring thoughts and offered support for development in various sectors including health, sanitation and rural development. The NRI Guests at the session freely interacted with senior bureaucrats from the Government of Rajasthan and other delegates including Shri Raman Kumar Sharma (Honda India Ltd.), Smt. Shruti Nada Poddar (Convenor, Shruti Foundation) and Shri Gyan Prakash (Director, FICCI Rajasthan).

Bhoruka Charitable Trust



Bhoruka Charitable Trust (BCT) was established by Late Shri Prabhu Dayal Agarwal, an eminent Non-Resident Rajasthani, who had a strong bonding with the State of his origin. He hailed from Churu District in Rajasthan. BCT works as a charity foundation which provides financial assistance to individuals, educational institutions, hospitals & various other organizations.

BCT has progressed from a charity based organization to a developmental institution. It has worked extensively as a social service institution for the rural & underprivileged in Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The primary objective of the BCT's operations in Rajasthan is to contribute to the social development of the State.

BCT has been involved in sectors like Health (from mother and child health, spreading HIV/AIDS awareness to conducting 6,000 cataract surgeries annually with its National Blindness Control Program), Education, Water and Sanitation .It was considered the leading agency of Rajasthan to have worked on the construction of more than 40,000 low cost toilets and on adopting a much different participatory approach towards dealing with issues related to community and household.

Shri PD Agarwal popularized the practice of Rooftop Rain Water Harvesting and also worked on Planet Saving Initiatives which were supported by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and Ministry of Non-Renewable Energy (MNRE) of India.

He was deeply attached to Rajasthan and firmly believed that rather than giving money to charity one should give himself to the cause. The businessman and philanthropist, PD Agarwal was an enthusiast with a never give up attitude.



An Inspiring Life... Shri PD Agarwal

Late PD Agarwal made a humble beginning and had to strive hard to rise to great heights. In 1958, PD Agarwal started a company called Transport Corporation of India (TCI). It became the largest road transport company in Asia with over 650 branches. TCI went through a critical phase but soon it emerged as a winner again.

A very dynamic and distinguished achiever since the very beginning of his professional career, Late Shri PD Agarwal has brought laurels to his Home State Rajasthan and is an inspiration to the budding entrepreneurs.

Pride of Rajasthan: Dr. Renu Khator

Dr. Renu Khator, a proud daughter of Rajasthan holds dual titles of Chancellor & the President of University of Houston System. Her roots are from Osian, near Jodhpur. First woman Chancellor and the first Indian immigrant to head a comprehensive research university in the United States, she assumed her post in January 2008.



Dr. Khator was Honored with the prestigious 'Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award' by Hon'ble President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee at the renowned NRI Convention 'Pravasi Bhartiya Divas - 2014, New Delhi'.

A noted scholar in the field of global environmental policy, she has published numerous books and articles on the subject.

As President of the University of Houston, she is the Chief Executive Officer of the largest and oldest of the four Houston System of Universities. University of Houston System enrolls approximately 40,000-plus students, offers more than 300 undergraduate and graduate programs and awards 7,000 degrees each year. The university in her tenure has experienced remarkable success. It has been recognized by the Princeton Review for excellence in Undergraduate Education and by the Chronicle for Higher Education as an exceptional workplace.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has included her among its Outstanding Americans by Choice awardees, recognizing her achievements as a naturalized citizen. She was honoured with the prestigious Hind Ratan (Jewel of India) award, given to Non-Resident Indians for making outstanding contributions in their field.

Dr. Renu Khator is a member of Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council, Government of India. She serves on several boards, including the American Council of Education, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, the Houston Technology Center, the Texas Medical Center Policy Council, the Methodist Hospital Research Institute Board and the Business Higher Education Forum.

Dr. Khator was also a keynote speaker & a special guest at the Youth Interactive Session at 'Pravasi Bhartiya Divas-2012', Jaipur.

Unique and Luxurious Train Journeys



With an aim of fulfilling tourists demand for service above the ordinary, Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. (RTDC) developed and executed projects that create travel experiences that are royal and luxurious. The '**Palace on Wheels**' is an award winning train which was conceptualized in collaboration with the Indian Railways to give travelers a splendid experience.

'**Palace on Wheels**' & '**Royal Rajasthan on Wheels**' are high-end luxury trains that have been delicately created to give the traveler an experience that takes one on a regal sojourn across princely Rajasthan, once known as Rajputana. The trains are designed in a

contemporary royal style with the magnificent interiors, sumptuous meals, expensive wines and personalized service.

The heritage trains offer a heart-warming trip to the magnificent forts and palaces of Rajasthan. The journey, almost like time travel is a treat to the soul as the train takes the traveler to historic sites with beautiful architecture, fascinating festivals and age-old tradition. The palatial trains invite travelers to step aboard for a glimpse of the glorious past... the most mesmerizing experience!

RTDC was honoured for the Best in Print Publicity Material & Luxury Train Category at Travel and Tourism Fair, Hyderabad in July 2013. It also participated in Travel and Tourism Fair held at Pune, September 2013. The events were attended by a large number of local citizens and the RTDC exhibit created a buzz about Rajasthan as a holiday destination.

The super luxury trains 'Palace on Wheels' and 'Royal Rajasthan on Wheels' of RTDC were unanimously appreciated as the most attractive of all the diverse tourism products offered by Indian and Foreign exhibitors.

Best Luxury Train... the 'Palace on Wheels'



Shri Vinod Ajmera, IAS

Commissioner Industries & Rajasthan Foundation
(Former Managing Director, RTDC)

In a ceremony attended by important personalities of tourism sector, trade and media on 30th August 2013 at New Delhi, lifestyle magazine 'Today's Traveler' selected RTDC's renowned luxury train 'Palace on Wheels' for their prestigious 'Best Luxury Train Journey' award. Shri Vinod Ajmera, who was then serving as the Managing Director, RTDC received the award.

“Rajasthan's beautiful landscapes already attract a good number of tourists every year and our luxury trains are appreciated worldwide. Further, Rajasthan's reputation in maintaining law and order and its colorful culture is among the best in India. In coming times, Rajasthan's tourism sector will see new heights” said Vinod Ajmera, Commissioner, Industries & Rajasthan Foundation at the award ceremony.



Rajasthan Foundation looks forward to hearing from you. Kindly get in touch and register online (Free) with us at:

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