

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3062  
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007  
PRAVASI BHARTIYA DIWAS  
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

**Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether inspite of holding Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas every year and taking steps to attract NRIs, they have not participated in the India's development projects in the manner expected;
- (b) if so, the rain ceases thereafter;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in such regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to hold mini Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas every year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS

(a)to(c): Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is held annually to provide a platform for the large overseas Indian community from across the world to interact with India and thereby strengthen their bonds with the country of their origin. The PBD also seeks to engage the Indian diaspora in India's development process. Engaging the diaspora is a long term process, the results of which are expected to be seen in due course. However, the PBD has contributed in increased interest of the diaspora in participating in India's socio-economic development.

(d)&(e): The Ministry is organizing the first overseas Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas in New York on September 23, 2007 with the theme "Engaging the diaspora : The way forward". This is being held as part of the 'India @ 60' celebrations being organized by the Government of India in partnership with the CII from 23-27 September, 2007 in New York. The focus of PBD-NY will be promotion of overseas Indian investments into India.