Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

The Prime Minister of India extended greetings to the global Indian community on the occasion of the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas.

- **Aim –** To ***recognise and honour the contribution of the Indian diaspora*** to India's development and to strengthen their engagement with the motherland.
- **Organized by -**Ministry of External Affairs.
- **Commemoration –** Observed on 9 January, marking the ***return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in 1915.***
- **Historical Milestone –** Celebration started in 2003.
- Symbolises the historic and emotional bond between India and its overseas community.
- **Event Frequency –** Initially held annually. Since 2015, organised ***once every 2 years.***
- **Key Highlights, 2026 –** As the event follows a biennial format, no large-scale convention was held this year.
- 18 Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas have been held so far.
- The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (2025) was held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, with the theme *"Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat"*
- The ***19th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas convention is expected in 2027.***
- **Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) –** Highest honour for Non-Resident Indians, Person of Indian Origins, or organisations run by them.
- **Recognises contributions in** -
  - Enhancing India's image abroad
  - Supporting India's causes
  - Welfare of Indian communities overseas
- **Awarded by -** The Hon'ble President of India.

References

1. PIB | Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas
2. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

