



GOPIO Academic Forum

Indian Diaspora: Emergence and Road map

Joint Organizers : GOPIO International and Organization for Diaspora Initiative (ODI).
Venue : Oval Hall, Conference Room –II, India International Centre (IIC) New Delhi.
Date : 10th January 2011
Conference Chairman : Ambassador Paramjit Sahai, New Delhi.

Sub-Themes for the three Sessions

1. Global network of Indian Diaspora: GOPIO through last 20 years

Starting with BOPIO in UK in 1988, the global network organizations of Indian Diaspora culminated in the formation and multiplication of GOPIO Chapters in numerous countries over last 20 years. It was a journey to accommodate the diversity and spread of a global Indian community. It is now the time to address the issue whether diverse and globally spread Indian Diaspora should be monolithic and monopolist entity or vibrant constantly coalescing groups replicating the microcosm of Indian unity and diversity at global level. This is an internal issue that GOPIO and other Indian Diaspora Networks must decide at this stage.

2. India and Diaspora networks

India initiated its new Diaspora policy under its economic crisis and with overt priority to economic links. Indian Diaspora in developed countries also proved important in global rush to link developing countries with developed economies under globalization. But when India is rising as global player with global interests, does the policy instruments, facilities and exclusive focus on NRI component of its Diaspora needs to be re looked to bring in the other two third of its old Diaspora in its policy preview? Or should an organized and affluent electronic warriors segment of this Diaspora left to keep hijacking Indian engagement with its overseas community?

3. Indian Overseas: Intra and Inter Diaspora dialogues.

World under globalization has witnessed several additional new international influencers who play important role in global governance and international civil societies other than states. Diasporas networks are one of the most powerful ones in this category. The permeable state boundaries and transnational networks have enabled Diasporas to emerge as international players. It is time to start dialogue within several global networks of Indian Diaspora as well as that of other non-Indian Diaspora communities to address the issues that challenges them as well as the world community at large.

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