

12 October 2021  
12.30 pm

Ministry of External Affairs  
&  
Indian Council for Cultural Relations  
&  
Diaspora Research and Resource Centre  
Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad

Virtual Conference

***Leveraging the Soft Power of India***  
(Goodwill through craft, cuisine and creativity)

**SEGMENT-II:** Western Region

**DATE:** 16 October 2021

**TIME:** 1900-2030 India Time

**PROGRAMME**

**INAUGURAL SESSION**

**Chair/ Opening Remarks– Shri Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Secretary (CPV & OIA)**

**Introductory Remarks- Amb. Virendra Gupta, President, ARSP**

**Keynote - Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Hon'ble President, ICCR**

**Guest of Honour- Dr. Vindhya Vasini Persaud, MP and Minister of Human Services and Social Security, Government of Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Guyana**

**Inaugural address- Shri V. Muraleedharan, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs of India**

**TECHNICAL SESSION**

**Chair/Moderator: Shri Dinesh K Patnaik, Director General, ICCR**

**Ms Usha Bora, CEO and Founder of Jamini, France**

**Mr. Ashok Kalra, Hotelier and Advisor to Indian Business Network, Kuwait**

**Ms. Anjana Das-Hasper**, Textile Designer, **Germany**

**Ms. Shefali Adhikari**, Dance Teacher and TV Show Host, **Canada**

**Mr. Nirav K Patel**, Businessman and Owner, KSD Technology, **USA**

**Ms. Rama Vaidyanathan**, Bharatanatyam Artist, Director, Ganesha Natyalaya, (ARSP nominated member) **India**

## **DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS**

**Summing up and Vote of Thanks- Shri Narayan Kumar**, Hon. Director, ARSP