

Embassy of India

Paramaribo

Press Release

8th Ayurveda Day

The Embassy of India in Paramaribo celebrated the 8th Ayurveda Day at Saramacca, Suriname with the theme 'Ayurveda for every one every day' i.e. 'हर दिन हर किसी के लिए आयुर्वेद' on November 10, 2023, coinciding with the Dhanvantari Jayanti, the birthday of the pioneering figure of Ayurveda, to advance Ayurvedic and traditional medicine practices, as part of the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) programme. India and Suriname signed an MoU on Traditional Medicine (TM) cooperation in Jan 2020. Therefore, the Government of the Republic of Suriname joined hands with the Embassy by launching an Ayurveda Health Centre and a Medicinal Plants Garden Project at Proeftuin Dirkshoop in the District of Saramacca on the occasion of the 8th Ayurveda Day.

2. The celebration began with a playing of the National anthems of Suriname and India, followed by a ceremonial lighting of a traditional lamp amidst vedic chants by Pandit Nitin Jagbandhan. Prof. Christiaan, welcomed the guests, emphasizing the significance of Ayurveda in daily life and outlining the measures taken to foster Ayurveda in Suriname. Mrs. Sherin Bansi-Durga, the District Commissioner of Saramacca, Dr. Rakesh Gajadhar Sukul, Permanent Secretary of Health, H.E. Mr Parmanand Sewdien, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Fisheries and Hon'ble Minister of Health and Foreign Affairs a.i. H.E. Ms. Krishnakoemarie Mathoera spoke about the initiation of the project. The Ambassador Dr. Shankar Balachandran appreciated the measures taken to promote Traditional Medicine, noting the auspicious alignment with the Dhanvantri Jayanti celebrations. He extended his heartfelt thanks to the Honorable President for his guidance, for constituting a Presidential Task Force & Steering committee and for inaugurating the project.

3. The Chief Guest, H.E. Mr Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of the Republic of Suriname, in his speech, called Ayurveda as a science and the Ayurveda Day as a celebration internationally of science. He said the establishment of an Ayurveda centre and a herbal garden in Saramacca heralds a new chapter in Suriname's healthcare landscape, that would transform Suriname into a wellness tourism centre, an export hub of herbal medicine besides helping conserve the fragile plant life. He described the project as a milestone in the strategic partnership between the two countries. He urged the stakeholders to fast-track the project. On this occasion, the President together with the guest speakers also unveiled a plaque marking the launch of the project.

4. Over 120 guests from various walks of life attended the event, including the Mission officials.

A few photographs of the events are enclosed.

Paramaribo

10 November 2023

    

प्रवासी समुदाय के साथ सांस्कृतिक संबंधों को बढ़ावा देने की योजना के अधीन
भारतीय दूतावास, पारामारिबो तथा सूरीनाम गणराज्य सरकार के सहयोग से आयोजित

As part of Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) scheme
the Embassy of India, Paramaribo jointly with the Government of the Republic of Suriname celebrates

  **8th आयुर्वेद दिवस**
Ayurveda Day

आयुर्वेदिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र-सह-औषधीय वनस्पति उद्यान परियोजना का शुभारंभ
with the launch of an Ayurveda Health Centre-cum-Medicinal Plants Garden Project

10 NOVEMBER 2023 **Proeftuin Dirkshoop, Groningen, Saramacca**






























