

Embassy of India

Paramaribo

Press Release

9th International Day of Yoga

The Government of India has been celebrating the International Day of Yoga across the world on 21st June every year since 2015. In December 2014, India's proposal under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi was adopted as a United Nations General Assembly resolution sponsored by 177 member nations out of the total 193 members of the UNGA, to unanimously proclaim 21st June, the longest day in the northern-hemisphere, as the International Day of Yoga.

The Embassy of India, Paramaribo has been celebrating the International Day of Yoga every year since 2015 in a befitting manner. To mark the 9th International Day of Yoga, the Embassy of India, Paramaribo in association with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) organized an event on 21st June 2022 at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Paramaribo from 0800 hrs to 0930 hrs. The programme began with a lighting of a traditional lamp by the Ambassador Dr. Shankar Balachandran, his spouse among others, accompanied by a Vedic Chant by the Art of Living guru Swami Prabuddhanand. This year's theme is "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam". The Embassy of India has also held curtain raiser events for this year's Yoga Day at various districts of Suriname i.e. Saramacca, Nickerie etc.

In his address, H.E. Dr. Shankar Balachandran, Ambassador of India explained the special significance of the day with India holding the Presidency of G20 and SCO and the celebrations spanning all iconic ports forming a Global Ocean Ring from the Arctic to the Antarctic.

This was followed by a performance of Yoga by all the participants. The programme concluded with a Vote of thanks by Dr. Somveer Arya, Director of SVCC. Above 50 guests attended the event, including local yoga practitioners and yoga enthusiasts from all parts of Suriname.

In a separate celebration, the Mission, in collaboration with the Barbados Olympic Association, observed the 9th International Day of Yoga (IDY) this morning, from 0615 to 0715 hrs (21 June 2023), at the Barbados Community College in St. Michael, Barbados. Mrs. Padma Mythili Nanduri, a Barbadian of Indian origin, coordinated the program on behalf of the Mission, with assistance from the Indian community in Barbados. Ms. Vaneisha Cadogan, Director of National Olympic Academy, addressed the gathering. Mr. Panicker and Dr. Belgrave performed the Vinyasa yoga and mind yoga respectively. Over 50 yoga admirers participated in the event.

A few photographs of the event are enclosed.

**Paramaribo
21 June 2023**





























