

Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Districts Hospitals (DHs) and upgradation of exclusive AYUSH Hospitals including Yoga and Naturopathy facilities are included in the AYUSH Services component of National AYUSH Mission (NAM). Further, under flexible components of NAM, a provision has also been kept for AYUSH Wellness Centres including Yoga and Naturopathy.

Besides the above, Ministry of AYUSH also promotes Yoga and Naturopathy by carrying out campaigns through print and electronic media. AROGYA fairs at National and State level are organized to make public aware of the benefits of AYUSH systems of medicine including Yoga and Naturopathy. The Ministry under its Central Sector Schemes of Information Education and Communication (IEC) and International Co-operation extends financial assistance to State Governments and other reputed Government/Non Governmental Organizations/Universities for conducting National/International seminars/workshops/symposiums to promote Yoga and Naturopathy.

To give further impetus to research, the Government encourages research on Yoga and Naturopathy by providing grants under Extra Mural Research scheme to research organizations.

Clamping down on Yoga in U.S.A.

2085. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of reports in the US that American lawmakers are trying to clamp down on some aspects of the Yoga practice, particularly women wearing "Yoga Pants";
- (b) whether Government plans to counter such misconceptions as the Prime Minister has got the United Nations to endorse June 21 as the International Day of Yoga; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The Indian Mission at USA has informed that they have not come across any such report in the UDA. It is further informed that recently a lawmaker in Montana State had introduced a Bill seeking to revise indecency laws in the State of Montana for making the indecent exposure in public place an offence. There was, however, no mention of "Yoga Pant" in the Bill.

(b) and (c) Misconceptions about practices of Yoga are countered through promotion and propagation of authentic classical knowledge of Yoga under the approved Central Sector Schemes of the Ministry to make masses aware of benefits of Yoga.