

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY,  
UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY  
(AYUSH)**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.161  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**PROMOTION OF YOGA AS SECULAR CONCEPT**

**161. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN :**

Will the Minister of **AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY** be pleased to state:

- (a) while giving international publicity to Yoga, whether Government consider it as a Hindu ritual or as a recipe for health promoted by various sections of people in ancient India;
- (b) whether Government will promote it in future as a secular concept; and
- (c) whether research will be promoted about all aspects of Yoga so that it will furnish as a growing branch of knowledge and not deteriorate into a ritual?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,  
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY  
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)**

(a) & (b): Yoga is ancient Indian heritage and has its roots in myriad spheres of Indian culture and traditions and is being promoted by Ministry of AYUSH as health promotive, disease preventive and rehabilitative drugless therapy without any consideration of caste or creed. The credentials of Yoga as a system for promoting holistic health has been acknowledged by the United Nations General Assembly by adoption of a unanimous Resolution to observe 21<sup>st</sup> June as International Day of Yoga.

(c): The Ministry of AYUSH, as part of its mandate, promotes research in Yoga through Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN) and other agencies.

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