

*Embassy of India
Rome*



भारत का राजदूतावास
रोम

Embassy of India, Rome

Press Release

Celebration of 9th International Day of Yoga

The 9th International Day of Yoga celebrations were organized by the Embassy of India in Rome on June 21 in various locations in order to maximize reach and give the possibility to everyone to participate and enjoy the benefits deriving from a daily Yoga practice.

Meditation and yoga classes were also organized in the premises of the Embassy of India, in collaboration with local associations, as pre-events in the run-up to IDY. All the events enjoyed an enthusiastic attendance and were well received by the local public, touching upon various themes and issues. Post-events, yoga and meditation sessions and a seminar, are also being organized in Mission's premises till July 6.

A series of 'in presence' Common Yoga Sessions were organized on June 21 under the aegis of the Mission in Rome, Florence, Turin, Savona, Bucine and in Puglia Region, to name a few. Other celebrations were also organized all over Italy on the day of the Summer Solstice by local schools and Yoga professionals.

Celebration in Rome, held for the first time in the stunning Circo Massimo at the Castel Sant'Angelo, saw participation of over 400 Yoga enthusiasts. In the magnificent backdrop of the Roman Forum, at walking distance from Colosseum and the "Mouth of Truth", the representatives of 10

yoga associations united on the stage to perform the common yoga protocol. Organized with the support of the Municipality of Rome, the event was opened by the remarks of the Ambassador Dr Neena Malhotra, followed by Mr Mariano Angelucci, President of the XII Permanent Municipal Commission for Tourism, Fashion & International Relations of the City Council of Rome Capitale in representation of the Hon'ble Mayor and Hon'ble Minister Carlo lo Cascio, Deputy Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Senior representatives of the Rome-based Diplomatic Community, including various Ambassadors and DCMs, graced the occasion and attended the Yoga practice. Also this year, the Yoga session was marked by participation of people from all the sectors of society, including elderly as well as young yoga enthusiasts, representatives of the diplomatic community, expats, etc. A large part of participants were members of the Rome based UN organization, the FAO, whose headquarters are located in front of the Circo Massimo. In order to best mark the ongoing celebration of the 75th year of India's independence, the 75 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Italy and the International Day of Music, the Yoga session was followed by Musical dhrupad Concert by Ustad Wasiffudin Dagar with Mr Mohan Sharma on pakhawaj. Yoga celebrations were also an occasion to popularize Mission LiFE programme through distribution of plants by Italian Hinduist Union.

Celebration of IDY will also be held in San Marino on June 23, where an engaging yoga session will be organized in collaboration with local Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs as well as Secretary of State for Tourism and Culture.

All the events received a very good response and achieved a resounding success among the local public and Yoga lovers.