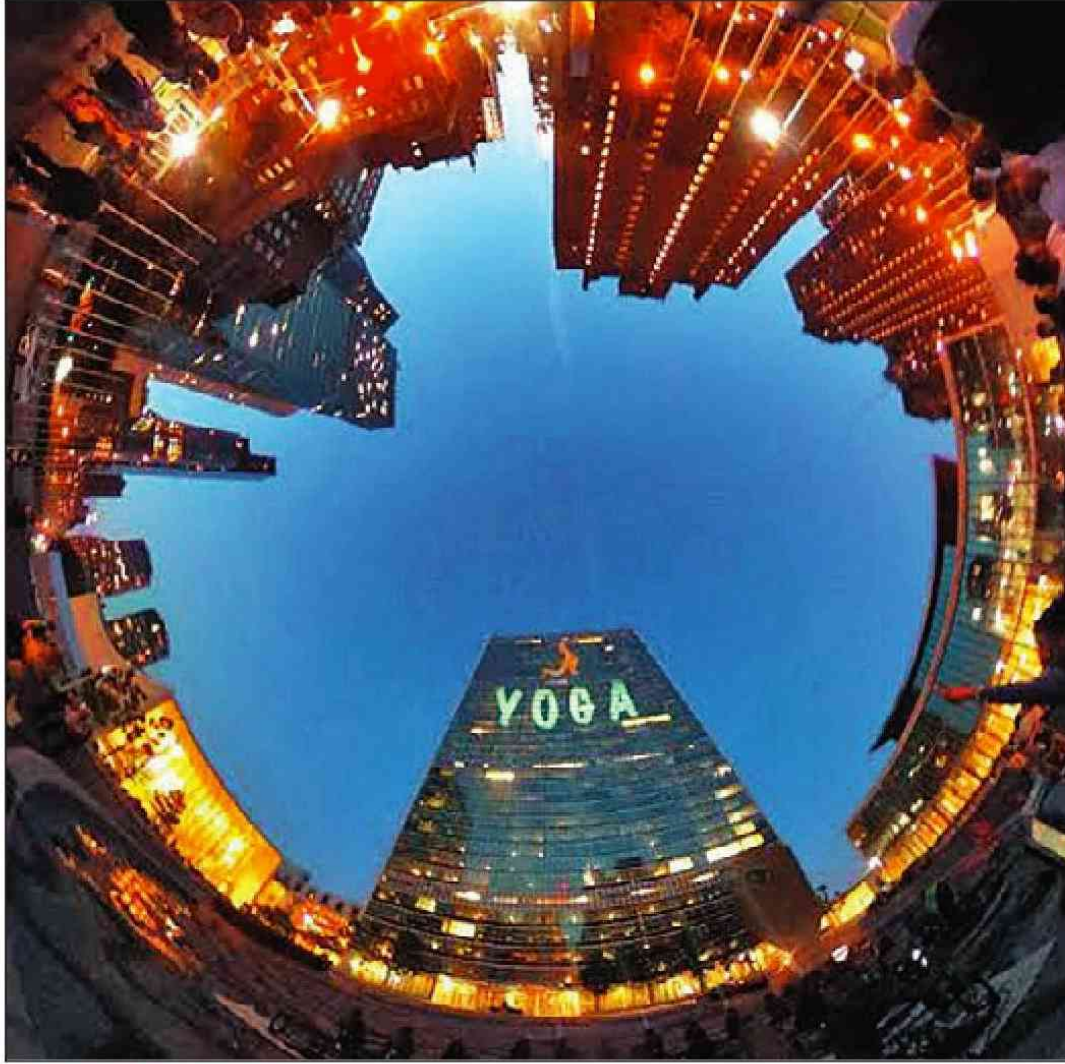


# Ahead of D-day, UN HQ adopts yoga posture



**COMING TO LIGHT:** The UN will issue stamps commemorating Yoga Day

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**A**head of International Yoga Day, the government is again using yoga to project India's soft power abroad. The UN building in New York has been lit up with the word yoga projected on it.

Actor Anupam Kher inaugurated the lighting. Kher on Twitter thanked Syed Akbaruddin, India's ambassador and permanent representative to the UN, for the opportunity.

"Great honour to illuminate the United Nations building, New York in preparation of International Day of Yoga. Thank you Akbaruddin sir," Kher tweeted.

The 61-year-old actor later shared a string of photographs in front of the building along with Akbaruddin.

Officials said that a number of events are being organised to commemorate Yoga Day which falls on June 21. These include a yoga session at the UN which will be led by Swami Chidananda Saraswati and Sadhvi Bhagwati of

Rishikesh.

Chef de cabinet to UN secretary general Maria Luiza Ribeiro and president of the general assembly ambassador Peter Thomson are special guests on the occasion.

WHO will also sponsor a Conversation on Yoga for Health which is being organised by India's permanent mission.

Speakers at the event will include Kher, World Health Organisation executive director Nata Menabde, Swami Chidananda Saraswati and Sadhvi Bhagwati Saraswati, former NFL athlete turned yogi Keith Mitchell, Bluechip Marketing Worldwide CEO Stanton Kawer and Swami Sivadasananda. This year, the UN will also issue special stamps commemorating Yoga Day. The UN postal agency, UN Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue the new special event sheet to commemorate the day that has been marked annually since 2015. The special sheet consists of stamps with images of the sacred Indian sound 'Om' and various 'yogic asanas'.