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'Number of yoga practitioners increased in USA, UK, India'

New Delhi: As the country gears up for mega Yoga Day celebrations on June 21 in Lucknow, the Government on Thursday claimed that number of yoga practitioners are on the rise in the developed nations like USA

and the UK as in India.

"Last two years, the IDY was celebrated across the globe with

active participation of more than 190 countries," Ayush Minister Shripad Yesso Naik told reporters here adding the event to be held at Ramabhai Ambedkar Sabha Sthal in Lucknow in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and a galaxy of yoga gurus, will see 51,000 people demonstrate common yoga protocol.

"Yoga events will be held in different parts of the country as well as main cities like Paris, London and New York," the

Minister said.

Dr Ishwara N Acharya, Director of Central Council for Research in Yoga and

Naturopathy (CCRYN), which is conducting one month free yoga camp across States, cited last year's ASSOCHAM study conducted in ten metro cities which said there has been a spurt in the number of people that have taken up yoga. *PNS*