

Lucknow likely to host Yoga Day event this year

LUCKNOW

Lucknow is likely to host the main event of the International Day of Yoga (IDY) celebrations in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi may also participate, a senior State BJP leader said. He said that the Ayush Ministry has proposed Lucknow as the venue for the main function for IDY celebrations this year and is waiting for final nod from the Prime Minister's Office. Earlier, the government was considering Bhopal, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Ranchi and Bengaluru as possible venues of the function. PTI

Lucknow to hold Int'l Yoga Day! Speculations rife

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With possibility of Prime Minister Narendra Modi visiting Lucknow for a day on June 21 there is speculation that main function of the International Yoga Day will be held in the State capital

A senior BJP leader told *The Pioneer* that it is expected that main focus on International Yoga Day will be in Lucknow probably because

Prime Minister would be coming here for day. "Though, PMO has not cleared the trip, BJP leaders want PM Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to jointly take part in the mega event," the leader said on condition of anonymity.

The rumors have started gaining grounds after Joint Secretary in AYUSH Ministry Anurag Srivastava held a meeting with Chief Secretary Rahul

Bhatnagar about holding the event jointly by Central and State Governments.

The meeting that took place on Wednesday issued directives to Health Department to work in tandem with the AYUSH Department to hold this mega event. Bhatnagar had issued a statement claiming that 50,000 children would be taking part in this International Yoga event. Officials were asked to look for

a ground where 50,000 students can do yoga.

"This yoga camp could be led by Prime Minister. BJP has sent the request to PMO through proper channel but we are yet to hear from them," the leader said.

The directives issued by the Government said that children would be given small water bottles, T shirts and yoga mat. These children will also be imparted training.

During Akhilesh Yadav regime, International Yoga Day was celebrated as a low key affair. Central Government organisations including CRPF held yoga camp at KD Singh Babu stadium last year which was led by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh. This camp was primarily attended by BJP leaders and officials of the Central Government. With the change of Government the situation has taken a turn.

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PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LUCKNOW, 16 APRIL

The City of Nawabs is likely to host the main event of the International Day of Yoga (IDY) celebrations in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi may also participate.

"Lucknow is likely to hold the main event of the International Day of Yoga, which falls on June 21. However, a final decision in this regard is yet to be taken," a senior state BJP leader said.

He said that the Ayush Ministry has proposed Lucknow as the venue for the main function for IDY celebrations this year and is waiting for final nod from the Prime Minister's Office.

Earlier, the government was considering Bhopal, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Ranchi and Bengaluru as possible venues for the event.

The Union Ayush Ministry is also planning to organise a major yoga event in at least one city in each district across the country.

The ministry zeroed in on Lucknow as the possible venue at a review meeting on the preparations for the IDY which is observed on June 21.

The official website of the Ayush ministry on its webpage pertaining to International Day of Yoga also requests the people visiting the page to make the following pledge -- "I pledge to make Yoga an integral part of my daily life." So far, 2.6 lakh visitors have pledged to make Yoga an integral part

of their daily life.

The first IDY celebration was organised at Rajpath in New Delhi on June 21, 2015 in which representatives of 191 countries had participated. Last year, the main function took place in Chandigarh.

The United Nations General Assembly, heeding to a call by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, had made a declaration in December 2014 to observe June 21 as IDY every year.

On March 29, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath,

while addressing the three-day UP Yoga Mahotsava in Lucknow, had said that 'Surya Namaskar' was similar to 'Namaz' (prayers) offered by Muslims and those opposing the yogic exercise wanted to divide the society on religious lines.

Adityanath, who had in the past lashed out at a section of Muslims for terming the practice of 'Surya Namaskar' as "un-Islamic", said the Sun salutation was a beautiful example of religious harmony.

अधूरा योगाभ्यास स्वास्थ्य के लिए नुकसानदेह

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली और आसपास कई योग संस्थाएं चलाने वाले योगेश्वर देवीदयाल महामंदिर के योगाचार्य अमित देव का कहना है कि योग जीवन की प्रणाली को चलाने के लिए जितना अच्छा है, उसे ठीक से न करने पर नुकसान भी उतने ही हैं। आधे-अधूरे योगाभ्यास से स्वास्थ्य पर हानिकारक प्रभाव पड़ता है। योग के शिक्षकों को भी क्रियाओं का ज्ञान समुचित रूप से न होना इसकी बड़ी वजह है। ■ एसएनबी

लखनऊ में विश्व योग दिवस कार्यक्रम में शामिल हो सकते हैं नरेंद्र मोदी



लखनऊ, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी यहां 21 जून को आयोजित होने वाले विश्व योग दिवस कार्यक्रम में शामिल हो सकते हैं। एक अधिकारी ने शनिवार को इस बारे में बताया। एक बैठक में मुख्य सचिव राहुल भटनागर ने कहा कि इस कार्यक्रम में 50,000 लोगों के हिस्सा लेने की संभावना है। उन्होंने संबंधित विभागों से इसके मद्देनजर उचित व्यवस्था करने के लिए कहा है। एक अधिकारी ने आईएनएस को बताया, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ऐसी जगह की तलाश कर रही है, जहां इतनी बड़ी भीड़ को जगह मिल सके और वीवीआईपी लोगों की सुरक्षा के भी पुख्ता इंतजाम व प्रबंध किया जा सकें। माध्यमिक शिक्षा विभाग को कम से कम 100 छात्रों की भागीदारी सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कहा गया है। वरिष्ठ नागरिकों की भागीदारी और 400-500 दिव्यांग बच्चों की भागीदारी भी सुनिश्चित करने की तैयारी की जा रही है। पानी की बोतल, जूते के बैग, टी-शर्ट और योग करने के लिए चटाई का प्रबंध करने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं। इस संबंध में एक पूर्वाभ्यास भी 18-19 जून को होगा।