## **Embassy of India**

## The Hague

## Press Release

## September 1, 2018

Ayurveda, a holistic system of healthcare with great potential for treatment of lifestyle related chronic diseases, geriatric health problems and promoting global healthcare says Minister AYUSH Shripad Yesso Naik at the Fourth International Ayurveda Congress (IAvC)

Indian Minister for AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy), Mr. Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated the Fourth International Ayurveda Congress (IAvC) at Leiden, Netherlands today.

Speaking at the IAvC, the AYUSH Minister said integration of Ayurveda, Yoga and other AYUSH systems in the delivery of health services is one of the thrust areas of the Government of India. It is also pursuing functional involvement of AYUSH practitioners and interventions in public healthcare. Insurance coverage has been extended to AYUSH treatments. Today more than 27 insurance companies are offering 140 health insurance policies for AYUSH beneficiaries. The intention of the Government of India is to bring convergence and synergy between traditional medicine, modern medicine and modern sciences for scientific validation of Ayurveda concepts and development of R&D based drugs. Many of the Ayurveda drug manufacturing companies have also acquired WHO-GMP certification and certificate of pharmaceutical products for exporting their products to various countries, he said.

The Minister said he and his delegation are keenly looking forward to interacting with policy makers, researchers and entrepreneurs for developing bilateral ties and institutional linkages to advance the holistic healthcare potential of Ayurveda and its beneficial role in integrative medicine. The Minister invited all delegates to attend the

International Yoga Conference in Goa and the World Ayurveda Congress in Ahmedabad being organized later this year in India.

The Minister of AYUSH and Ambassador of India Venu Rajamony presented the Maharishi Dhanvantari award to Padmabhushan Vaidya Devendra Triguna, President of the All India Ayurveda Congress and Mr Tony Nader, Head of the Maharishi International Transcendental Meditation movement.

Ambassador of India Venu Rajamony addressed the delegates and stated that united action to address challenges of mainstreaming Ayurveda need to be made by all stakeholders in the field of Ayurveda and alternative medicine. The inaugural meeting was also addressed by Mr Tony Nader, Padmabhushan Vaidya Devendra Triguna and Dr Rainer Paicha from Australia.

The Congress is being organized by International Maharishi AyurVeda Foundation, Netherlands; All India Ayurvedic Congress, New Delhi and the International Academy of Ayurveda, Pune in association with the Indian Embassy in the Netherlands. The Minister is on a visit to the Netherlands from September 1-4, 2018 leading a delegation comprising senior officials from Ministry of AYUSH including the Pharmacopoeia Commission of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy.

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