

PRESS RELEASE

## **International Day of Yoga Celebrations in Jakarta**

The International Day of Yoga was celebrated with enthusiasm and fervour in Jakarta, Indonesia, early morning today. More than 2000 persons of different age and professions braved incessant rain and inclement weather to participate in the event. Despite Ramadan, yoga enthusiasts started queuing up at the venue early in the morning. The event started at 6:00 AM with H.E. Ms. Nengcha Lhouvum, Ambassador of India to Indonesia and Timor Leste, thanking participants for coming in large number. She spoke briefly about Yoga, its origin, and how it can help in creating harmony between man, society and his environment. It was followed by set of yoga protocol which was performed by all participants. The venue of the event, Plaza Selatan, Gelora Bung Karno, wore festive look as large number of people, donning white T-shirts with colourful logos of International Day of Yoga gathered to celebrate festival of health and well-being along with celebrities like Mr. Anjasmara Prasetya who led the Yoga participants from the main stage.

Several high ranking Indonesian dignitaries participated in the event. H.E. Drs. Mangara Pardede, Mayor of Central Jakarta; H.E. Ms. Esti Andayani, Director General for Information and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia; and Ambassador Dewa Made J. Sastrawan, Senior Advisor to Minister of Transport were prominent among those present. Ambassadors of Sri Lanka and Hungary, and members of diplomatic corps also participated in the event.

The Embassy was greatly helped by local yoga groups and celebrities in mobilizing participants and organizing this event. Prominent among them were Mr. Anjasmara Prasetya, Actor, Celebrity and Yoga instructor; The Art of Living Indonesia; Love Peace Yoga; Celebrity Fitness; Yoga Gembira; Yoga Mix; Purinawa Yoga; Iyengar Yoga Indonesia and Mr. Haryanto Tanudjaja, Yoga guru. Ambassador Lhouvum thanked all Yoga groups and their members for contributing to the success of this event. She also thanked Tata Group of Companies i.e. PT Tata Motors, Indonesia; PT Tata Consultancy Services, Indonesia; and PT Tata Power, Indonesia; who sponsored the event for their support.

The International Day of Yoga attracted large number of participants which proves the acceptability of Yoga across the globe and its ability to provide solutions to the modern life-style diseases and to create enabling environment for universal peace, harmony and well-being. At the end of event young participants did not miss taking selfies and photographs with Indian Ambassador, Indonesian dignitaries and Yoga gurus.

Jakarta: 18 June 2016



