

**Embassy of India
Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso)**

PRESS RELEASE

Celebration of the 12th International Day of Yoga in Burkina Faso

The Embassy of India in Burkina Faso, in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports, Youth and Employment of Burkina Faso and the Association Himalayan Yoga Meditation of Burkina Faso (AHYM-BF), successfully organized the 12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21 June 2026 at the Palais des Sports de Ouaga 2000, Ouagadougou, under the global theme "Yoga for Healthy Ageing."

2. The event witnessed the participation of over 1,000 people, including H.E. Mrs. Annick Lydie Djouma Pikbougoum/Zingué Ouattara, Minister of Sports, Youth and Employment, senior government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations, the Indian community, yoga practitioners, students, and media representatives.

3. The programme began with the national anthems of Burkina Faso and India, followed by welcome remarks by General Sidiki Daniel Traoré, President of AHYM-BF. H.E. Mr. Om Prakash Meena, Ambassador of India, highlighted yoga's universal appeal and the significance of this year's theme in promoting preventive healthcare and healthy lifestyles. The Hon'ble Minister, herself a certified yoga teacher, underscored yoga's role in enhancing physical and mental well-being and appreciated India's efforts in promoting yoga globally.

4. The Ambassador of India presented commemorative mementos to distinguished guests and partners in recognition of their support for promoting yoga and strengthening India-Burkina Faso cultural ties.

5. The highlight of the event was the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) session led by the Hon'ble Minister, in which more than 1,000 participants enthusiastically took part, reflecting the growing popularity of yoga in Burkina Faso.

6. Special attractions included an Ayurveda Pavilion showcasing India's traditional healthcare system and an “I ♥ Yoga” selfie point, both of which attracted significant public interest.

7. During the event, the Ambassador announced that Burkinabè yoga teachers are being considered for advanced training programmes in India under the ITEC Programme, a move warmly welcomed by the yoga community.

8. The successful celebration once again demonstrated the expanding reach of yoga in Burkina Faso and further strengthened the cultural and people-to-people ties between India and Burkina Faso.

Ouagadougou

Dated 22 June 2026