

High Commission of India
Port Louis

PRESS RELEASE



The High Commission of India, in collaboration with the Office of H E the President of the Republic of Mauritius, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, and the Ministry of Health and Quality and Life, Government of Mauritius, and the High Commission of India is organizing a two-day **International (Regional) Conference on AYUSH** from **13-14 April 2016** at the State House, Reduit.

The Conference will be inaugurated at **0900 hrs on Wednesday 13 April 2016** and will be co-Chaired by H E President Dr Ameenah Gurib Fakim and the Hon'ble Minister for AYUSH, Government of India, Shri S Yesso Naik, who is paying an official visit to Mauritius from 12-15 April 2016.

The Conference aims to bring together AYUSH experts, practitioners and healthcare policy makers to discuss and develop a holistic and scientific approach to integrating the traditional systems of medicine into modern lifestyle and healthcare.

AYUSH stands for Ayurveda and Naturopathy, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy, which are traditional non-allopathic health and well-being systems. AYUSH also means 'life' in Sanskrit. The Ministry of AYUSH,

Government of India, works to provide focused attention to development of education and research in Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy systems. For more information on these systems, see www.indianmedicine.nic.in

AYUSH systems are quite popular in Mauritius, with particularly many practitioners and followers of Ayurveda and Yoga as holistic and nature-friendly health and life-style systems. Mauritius also has great potential to emerge as a research and cultivation hub for medicinal plants. In March 2015, India and Mauritius signed an MoU to further develop research and education in traditional medicines. There is also an ongoing proposal to set up a Chair in AYUSH studies at one of the leading universities in Mauritius.

The two-day conference at the State House will bring together about 150 experts in each of the component fields of AYUSH, from both India and Mauritius. The conference will have dedicated plenary sessions and panel discussions on each of the AYUSH systems.

Coinciding with the Conference, an **Exhibition on AYUSH** will be organised at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, Phoenix from **14-15 April 2016**. The exhibition, which will be open to the public, will be inaugurated at **1900 hrs on Wednesday 13 April 2016** by H E President Dr Ameenah Gurib-Fakim in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister of AYUSH, Government of India and the Hon'ble Minister of Health and Quality of Life of Mauritius. The inauguration will be followed by a brief cultural presentation and dinner.

The Exhibition will provide visitors an opportunity to sample AYUSH products and medicines, and meet AYUSH experts. The exhibitors will include AYUSH product manufacturers and promoters from India and Mauritius.

You are cordially invited to cover both events, including their inauguration (Conference Inauguration at ***0900 hrs on 13.4.2016*** at State House, and Exhibition inauguration at ***1900 hrs on 13.4.2016*** at IGIC, Phoenix.) Please do not hesitate to contact us for more information.
