

Embassy of India

(Havana)

Sub: Summary RODs of Ambassador's meeting with Ms. Gladys Becquer, Vice-President, Cuban Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation (INDER) for building up of International Yoga Day celebrations in Havana on 20th - 21st June, 2015

Ambassador met Ms. Gladys Becquer, Vice-President (VP), INDER - in the presence of Ms. Ileana Alfonso, Specialist, International Relations Department, INDER and Ms. Indira Lopez Arguelles, India Desk, Foreign Office - on 26th May, 2015 at INDER Hqs. In Havana. A brief record of discussions is as follows:

2. At the outset, Ambassador thanked the VP for INDER's past cooperation with the Mission. He elaborated the importance of yoga in curing life-style related diseases, maintaining equilibrium of mind and body and its use as a preventive health measure. Then, he informed VP that with the support of an over-whelming majority in the UN, it has been decided to observe 21st June as International Day of Yoga (IDY) and added that this being the First IDY, India attaches it the highest importance.

➤ Ambassador referred to the recent visit of Cuban First Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel to India from 23rd - 25th March, 2015, in which PM himself made a reference to the celebrations of IDY and, in response, Cuban VP assured of all the support for the event in Cuba.

➤ Ambassador suggested that as the IDY will be on weekends holidays, mass organizations such as schools, universities and women's organizations should be mobilized to participate in the event. Some important dignitaries should also be requested to preside over the event.

3. In response, VP mentioned that First VP Miguel Díaz Canel has instructed the President of INDER, Dr. Becali, to complement Mission's efforts in organising the IDY in Havana.

