

**Embassy of India
Djibouti**

Press Release

12th International Day of Yoga 2026 (IDY- 2026)

The Mission organized a series of events in run-up to celebrate 12th International Day of Yoga in Djibouti. Djibouti is extremely hot and humid in summers, which does not allow outdoor activities and hence indoor sessions were organized at different locations with the participation of Djiboutians at large, the Diplomatic community, Indian Diaspora members, and officers of the Indian Embassy including their family members etc. As a run-up to the celebration of the IDY-2026, Mission organized its curtain raiser “First Yoga Session” from 0700-0800 hours on 16 May 2026 specifically for Diplomatic community, at the Multi-Purpose Hall of the Embassy. Indian Ambassador to Djibouti spearheaded the program involving participation of the Diplomatic community, Embassy staff members, which was a full house successful event. The session was conducted by Mr. Devesh, TIC-Yoga.



2. The Mission organized second run-up event for celebration of IDY-2026 at Académie de Police Idriss Farah Abaneh (APIFA) from 17:00 Hrs to 18:00 Hrs on 20 May 2026, Djibouti for promoting better health and holistic well-being. The event witnessed participation of senior Police officials from APIFA, Shri Prakash Singh SS (Culture) and ASO (Culture) from Indian Embassy. Around 50 Police personnels participated in the event.



3. The third event in run-up to the celebration of IDY-2026 was organised at the Headquarter of Djiboutian Coast Guard at 0700 hours on 23 May 2025. The event witnessed the participation of Shri Prakash Singh, SS (Culture), Shri Mihir Kumar Thakur, SS (Com, Pol, Press & Info), Shri R P Meena, SS (HOC) apart from Djibouti Coast Guard personnel and other staff of Indian Embassy. Around 100 people participated in the event. The Yoga session was based on the Common Yoga Protocol prescribed by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, promoting better health and well-being.



4. The fourth and the main event of the 12th International Day of Yoga -2026 was organised by the Mission in Djibouti on 20th June 2026 at Ayla Grand Hotel, Djibouti City with diversified participation of 150 people including Djiboutian Yoga enthusiasts and students, local government officials, Ambassadors of Japan and Algeria, members of diplomatic corps, Defence Attaches, representatives of international organizations including from UNDP and IOM, members of Indian diaspora and friends of India in Djibouti. H.E. Ms Fardoussa Moussa Egueh, Minister of Youth and Culture of Djibouti graced the occasion as Guest of Honour, accompanied by H.E. Mrs. Fatouma Ali Abdallah, Secretary of State for Sports. Mrs. Hasna Barkat Daoud, former Cabinet Minister of Djibouti also graced the event.

5. The event started with the welcome address by Ambassador of India to Djibouti, H.E. Mr. M. Keivom followed by remarks of Hon'ble Minister of Youth and Culture, Djibouti. In his address, Ambassador M. Keivom expressed happiness on the large attendance of the Yoga enthusiasts and highlighted Yoga as ancient Indian heritage and its growing relevance now due to stressful lifestyles of current times. He also emphasized on the theme of this year 'Yoga for Healthy Ageing'. Ambassador thanked Government of Djibouti, especially Ministry of Youth and Culture, for their continued support towards promoting Yoga in Djibouti. He also congratulated one seasoned Djiboutian Yoga practitioner Mr. Almis Said who recently secured 5th position in Individual Back Bend, Male Senior Category at the 1st International World Yogasana Championship held from 4-8 June 2026 in Ahmedabad, India.

6. H.E. Ms Fardoussa Moussa Egueh, Minister of Youth and Culture of Djibouti in her remarks emphasized the close cultural relation between India and Djibouti and underscored 'Yoga' as a bridge to bring people and culture closer. She appreciated Embassy of India for celebrating International Day of Yoga in Djibouti every year on a large scale with diversified participation. Speaking on the theme of this year, "Yoga for Healthy Ageing," she stated that ageing is a reality that concerns each and every one of us and termed 'Yoga' as a powerful means to enable every citizen to navigate the different stages of their life in the best possible conditions. While acknowledging the importance and need of Yoga for the people of Djibouti, the Minister lauded the efforts being made by Embassy of India to promote Yoga among Djiboutians for their well-being.

7. Secretary of State for Sports also expressed her appreciation for organization of the event and highlighted importance of Yoga for both physical and mental health and expressed to coordinate with Embassy of India to work more closely to promote Yoga in Djibouti. Both the dignitaries also congratulated Mr. Almis on his participation in the championship organized in India and commended his efforts in representing Djibouti.

8. Mr. Devesh, Teacher of Indian Culture at Embassy of India, demonstrated standard Yoga protocol exercises and delivered a short talk dwelling on the significance of Yoga for good health during the event. An Indian Tourism and an Ayurvedic products stall by the Embassy of India and an Ayurvedic products counter by Djibouti Wellness Initiative were also set up at the event. The event culminated with display of a short film on celebration of International Day of Yoga from 2014 onwards.

9. The event was greatly appreciated by the large participants, reinforcing Yoga's role for holistic well-being. The event was broadcasted in national TV channel 'Radio

Television of Djibouti' (RTD) and also published in prominent French media newspaper 'La Nation' on 22 June 2026. Some participants posted their post event testimonial video over social media like X, Facebook, Linkedin and thanked Government of India as well Indian Embassy in Djibouti for organizing the event.





10. The 5th event of IDY-2026 was organized by the Mission on board the visiting ship INS TRIKAND at 0700 hours on 21 June 2026. The Yoga session was participated by 50 personnel including officers from the ship, officials of Indian Embassy and their family members.



11. The IDY-2026 celebration by the Embassy of India, Djibouti, was thus a resounding success, bringing together distinguished guests including Djibouti Minister of Youth and Culture, Djibouti Secretary of State for Sports, Djiboutian Yoga enthusiasts, foreign diplomats from Japan, Algeria etc, representatives of international organizations including from UNDP, IOM and Djiboutian friends in order to promote Yoga for holistic well-being and strengthening ties between India and Djibouti.
