

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY,
UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(AYUSH)**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1783
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY, 2018**

PATENT FOR YOGA MUDRAS

**1783. SHRI P. KUMAR:
DR. KRISHAN PRATAP:**

Will the Minister of **AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the origin of Yoga as a practice;
- (b) whether patent on yoga is not easy for the country since more than 30 types of yoga are being practiced worldwide and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has made efforts to obtain patent of 1500 yoga mudras;
- (d) if so, the reasons for delay in obtaining patent; and
- (e) the further steps taken by the Government to acquire patent for yoga mudras?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)**

(a): The practice of Yoga is believed to have started with the very dawn of civilization. The science of yoga had its origin thousands of years ago. In the yogic lore, Shiva is seen as the first yogi or Adiyogi, and the first Guru or Adi Guru.

The number of seals and fossil remains of Indus Saraswati valley civilization with Yogic motives and figures performing Yoga-like activity suggest the presence of Yoga in ancient India. Yoga is discussed in folk traditions, Vedic and Upanishadic heritage, Buddhist and Jain traditions, Darshanas, epics of Mahabharat and Ramayana, theistic traditions of Shaivas and Vaishnavas, and Tantric traditions.

(b): Yoga is rooted in traditional knowledge, which cannot be patented. Further, patent can be claimed only by the first inventor or an assignee of the first inventor, and the Government does not have any such right over Yoga.

Contd.....

Classical tradition Yoga is based on the ancient texts of Yoga. However, with the passage of time, different traditions of Yoga have evolved, mostly conforming to the practices of different regions of the country, and championed by different schools of Yoga.

Government's efforts to promote and popularise Yoga focusses on the traditional classical forms of Yoga which are enumerated in the original texts of Yoga. However, the Government is not against research, study and innovations in Yoga.

(c) to (e): The Government is keen to preserve and propagate the ancient knowledge and practice of Yoga in its true form. However, it is not considering seeking patent for Yoga Mudras since Yoga is essentially traditional knowledge, and is beyond the purview of patents under The Patents Act, 1970.

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