



Kerala Needs to be Accorded Status of World Centre of Ayurveda: Vayalar Ravi

Global Ayurveda Festival Kerala Starts off on a Colorful Note

Trivandrum: The curtains went up on the Global Ayurveda Festival, Kerala - the first of its kind in God's Own Country in Trivandrum today with the Union Minister for Overseas Affairs, Sri Vayalar Ravi, inaugurating the 6-day long festival at an event well represented by experts and stakeholders from the traditional healthcare segment.

The Union Minister insisted on the need for both national and state ministries to promote Ayurveda and traditional systems of medicine on a global scale.

Pointing out that today's society is showing a reluctance to accept our traditional methods of medicine and are running behind modern medicines that give fast relief, he said that they seldom realise such treatment would have their own biological impacts later.

He said: "It is good to see that at least the Keralites are coming up with new projects that would help give a face lift to Ayurveda. It is indeed nice to know that Kerala is giving more importance to research in the Ayurveda stream of healthcare. Ayurveda treatment focuses not just on curing one particular disease, but improves the whole life style of the person."

The Minister outlined the need for giving Ayurveda a global face through festivals and exhibitions, like the Global Ayurveda Festival, Kerala. He said conferences that take place as part of the GAF will help open an international horizon for traditional medicines. The minister also utilized the opportunity to make a request to the central government to make Kerala the World Centre of Ayurveda.

Kerala Agriculture Minister K.P. Mohanan, who has a personal attachment to Ayurveda, opined that Ayurveda is the science and existence of life, and unlike other medicinal practices, does not expire over time. The existence of fake doctors and treatments have had a negative impact on Ayurveda's reputation, causing the society to run behind allopathy for instant relief.

Sri Vayalar Ravi honored Ashta Vaidhya Brahma Sree Cheriya Narayana Namboothiri, a reknowned

expert and a pioneer of Ayurveda with a ponnada. Worshipful Mayor Smt K Chandrika, welcomed the national and international delegates to the 6-day long festival .

Sri Lankan Minister Mr Amarathunga and Health Secretary Bandhula Gunanayage, ISM Director Anita Jacob were among the many eminent personalities present at the function .

Sri Madan Thangvelu from UK kicked off the maiden plenary session of the festival with a paper on “Ancient Genomes , Wise Bodies , Unhealthy People ”. He stated that existing biology is limited by many factors, which are not a matter of concern in Ayurvedic terms. Ayurveda can answer many concepts and conditions left unanswered by modern biology. The current medicine in practice has been termed as “reductive approach” which will take us nowhere. The technological mind seeks instant tablet methods, which keep people away from adopting the right methods.

The festival running from 9th to 14th of February was witness to huge delegate turn outs for the seminar and plenary sessions on Day One.

An Ayush clinic, which offers free consultation for various diseases and services of expert doctors, will be open for the general public. The mega Ayurveda medical exhibition, which comprises more than 350 stalls on various branches of Ayurveda on natural herbs, medicine production, endangered plants and animals, ancient surgical tools and techniques, is yet another attraction of the festival.

The Global Ayurveda Festival, which began on a high note, is expected to gain more popularity with the stalls starting to function from 9th February.

For more info:

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Organisers



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