



**VISVA-BHARATI  
SANTINIKETAN**

**Government of India Selects Visva-Bharati for Yoga Education**

Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan has been selected to start Yoga Education by MHRD, Government of India with effect from July semester, 2016. In first phase, six central universities have been selected from all over the India. Visva-Bharati is the only university from Eastern part of India to receive a fund of around Rs. 11 crore for implementing the directive of University Grants Commission for teaching and training of Yoga along with research. Initially, a post-graduate diploma in Yoga Education will be started by the Department of Physical Education, Vinaya-Bhavana from this session.

As per MHRD and UGC, a Department of Yogic Art and Science will be established later to conduct Yoga certificate course, UG (Yoga Science), PG Dip in Yoga Therapy, M.Sc. (Yoga), Ph.D. and Integrated Ph.D. programmes. Over a period of five years, MHRD will provide Rs. 5.70 crores for salaries and Rs. 5.15 crores for infrastructure for the proposed department, informed Prof. Sabujkali Sen, Director, SEIRR, Visva-Bharati.

“It would be worthy of mention that Maharshi Debendranath Tagore started Santiniketan Ashrama around 150 years ago as a meditation retreat. Rabindranath himself practiced yoga and introduced that in his integral and holistic system of education. Govt. of India by selecting Visva-Bharati as one of the pioneering universities for spread of classical Indian Yoga has recognized this tradition”, commented Prof. Swapan Kumar Datta, Vice-Chancellor of Visva-Bharati.