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**Press release**

**VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION OF YOGA PROFESSIONALS**

 At the initiative of the Hon’ble Prime Minister, a scheme for Voluntary Certification of Yoga Professionals has been launched by the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturuopathy, Unani, Sidha & Homeopathy) to spread the traditional knowledge of India by assuring quality of Yoga Practices across the world. The Ministry of AYUSH in the wake of declaration of International Day of Yoga has identified Quality Council of India (QCI) to develop a scheme for Voluntary Certification of Yoga Professionals since QCI has expertise in developing such quality based on the best international practices.

2. The objective of the scheme is to certify Yoga Professionals which will evaluate four levels of competence ie: Yoga Instructor, Yoga Teacher, Yoga Master and Yoga Acharya. The scheme is being launched by the Ministry of AYUSH and implemented by Quality Council of India. Yoga stands for harmony & peace. The aim of the scheme is to specify the competence requirements in terms of knowledge and skills to be complied by the Yoga professionals in the form of Competence Standard. It also aims to define the process of evaluation and certification in laying down requirements for competence and operation of assessment of bodies through Accredition after creating awareness about the launch of the scheme by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.

3. For further details about the scheme please log on to **yogacertification.qci.org.in**

**14 March 2016**