

Press Releases: Department Press Briefing – June 21, 2018

Heather Nauert
Spokesperson

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TRANSCRIPT:

3:18 p.m. EDT

MS NAUERT: Hi, everybody. Hi. Hi. Good to see you. A couple announcements to start out with – actually, several announcements. So get comfortable, as I say when we have a lot to go over.

First off, I'd like to wish all of you a Happy International Yoga Day. Last year I recall we had forgotten it, and so where are our friends here who practice yoga?

QUESTION: Goyal is the one who does yoga.

MS NAUERT: Goyal, yeah. Okay, there we've got one person in the back. (Laughter.)

Okay. Well, Happy International Yoga Day, everyone. It is celebrated around the world to recognize yoga's many benefits to the mind and the body. The observance was launched by the United Nations in 2015 with U.S. support thanks to the initiative of Indian Prime Minister Modi.

Today we're also celebrating another significant achievement with our Indian friends. I'm pleased to announce today that the United States will hold its India 2+2 Dialogue with the United States. It will be held here at the State Department on July the 6th. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis will host the Indian external affairs minister along with the minister of defense for meetings that will focus on strengthening the strategic and defense cooperation as the United States and India jointly address challenges in the Indo-Pacific region and also beyond.