

Modi rues neglect of India's ancient medicine systems



Prime Minister Narendra Modi after paying obeisance at Kedarnath temple on Wednesday.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DEHRADUN, MAY 3

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today expressed concern over the continuous neglect of India's ancient medicine systems over the years. Modi was addressing a gathering after inaugurating Patanjali Research Institute in Haridwar today.

He said in the past the country was at its zenith in all spheres, including the traditional systems of medicine, and the world understanding well that it could not compete with India adopted a negative approach trying to finish knowledge here.

"While in the pre-Independence era, those ruling us deliberately neglected our traditional systems of medicine and other knowledge so that these get lost with times. Similarly, in the post-Independence times parties in power preferred ignoring Indian systems of medicine rather than promoting them," the Prime Minister said.

He said the entire world today looked at India when it came to holistic healthcare. The country was witnessing speedy progress in all

“After Independence parties in power preferred ignoring Indian systems of medicine rather than promoting them”

Narendra Modi, PM

spheres. The IT revolution had ensured that a computer mouse was within the reach of every child in the country.

The Prime Minister lauded Baba Ramdev for making yoga popular in the country. He said yoga had a cure for both ailing mind and body and can be performed at any place. The popularity of yoga could be gauged from the fact that the world today observed June 21 as International Yoga Day.

The Prime Minister also referred to the importance of cleanliness in the day-to-day

life. He said after successive campaigns, people had started understanding the importance of cleanliness.

On the occasion, Modi released World Herbal Encyclopedia, authored by Acharya Balkrishna, a close aide of Baba Ramdev. The book mentions about as many as 70,000 key herbal species found in the country that are vital to the well being of humans. He also visited each and every section of the newly set-up Patanjali Research Institute.

Earlier, Baba Ramdev, who conferred the title of Rastra Rishi on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, lauded the latter's efforts to take India to new heights of development. He said the nation was set to prosper and progress under the able leadership of the Prime Minister.