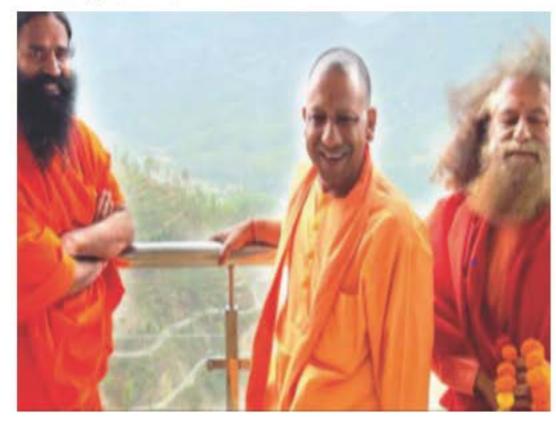
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Yoga & Ayurveda will spur health tourism, growth: Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath

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LUCKNOW: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath pushed for further promotion and development of yoga, Ayurveda, and natural remedies saying that they have been responsible for the start of health tourism in India.

Speaking at the inauguration of Patanjali Wellness' integrated health centre for yoga, natural and ayurvedic medicine at Jamli village in Pauri Garhwal on Wednesday, the CM, who is on a three-day tour of Uttarakhand, said that medicinal plants, herbal plants, and wellness centres will help in boosting health tourism as well as in setting up food producer organisations, self-help groups etc.

"Exceptional work has been done in Uttarakhand on health and wellness centres and in the implementation of Har Ghar Nal scheme. It is a huge

task to supply water on high altitudes. Fields should not be left empty in the hills but by irrigating them, water will seep into the ground and help in the growth of plant biodiversity and creating an ecosystem," Yogi said.

The CM also thanked Baba Ramdev and Acharya Balakrishnan, chairperson of Patanjali Ayurveda, for the development of Pokhri and said that one is finally able to see development in backward area "Earlier Pokhri was barren but now sandalwood trees are growing here. The products being grown here, at this height, are both herbal and organic," he said.