

'Even Their 'Baap' Can't Arrest Me': Ramdev On Feud With Doctors

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Ramdev's remarks about allopathy had triggered an outcry from doctors across the country and he was forced to "withdraw" them this week.

Ramdev's Patanjali group said he did not mean to disrespect doctors.

Uttarakhand (India): Roasted for his disparaging remarks against allopathy and modern medicine, yoga guru Ramdev on Thursday was seen in another controversial video on social media, challenging calls for his arrest, saying "even their baap (father) cannot arrest Swami Ramdev".

"They are just making a noise. They keep creating trends like Thug Ramdev, Mahathug Ramdev, Giraftar Ramdev and so on," he said responding to #Arrest Ramdev trends on social media.

"Arrest to khair unka baap bhi nahin kar sakta Swami Ramdev ko (even their father cannot arrest Swami Ramdev)," he was heard saying in the video.

Ramdev, the face of one of India's biggest consumer goods and alternative medicine empires, has faced widespread criticism for saying in a video that surfaced over the weekend that more people died of modern medical treatments during the COVID-19 crisis than the coronavirus itself.

"Lakhs of people have died because of allopathic medicines, far more than those who died because they did not get treatment or oxygen," Ramdev said in the video from an event. He also purportedly called allopathy a "stupid and bankrupt" science.

The remarks triggered an outcry from doctors across the country and Ramdev was forced to "withdraw" them via a Tweet following a letter from Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan. However, Ramdev has shown little remorse for the statements since and has found ways to repeat them on TV debates and public platforms.

The Indian Medical Association (IMA), which represents 3.5 lakh doctors, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi demanding that Ramdev be charged immediately for sedition for a misinformation campaign on coronavirus vaccination and challenging government protocols for its treatment.

The top medical body of doctors has also served a defamation notice on Ramdev for his remarks against allopathy and allopathic practitioners, demanding an apology from him within 15 days, failing which it said it will demand a compensation of ₹1,000 crore from the yoga guru.

- NDTV