

NATIONAL

Sign language interpreters at Modi's swearing-in

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Aurally challenged Indian citizens will be able to follow Narendra Modi's swearing-in on Monday with three sign-language interpreters on duty at the function, the Disabled Rights Group (DRG) said in a statement on Saturday.

Long-standing demand

"This is a historic first. It has been a long-standing demand on the part of the Indian disability movement that at all important public events, sign language interpretation should be made available so that 'deaf people' are not left out and that the event is made accessible for them as well," DRG convenor Javed Abidi said.

Anuj Jain of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) said a delegation called upon Bharatiya Janata Party chief Rajnath Singh on Saturday and expressed the wish to have the interpreters, which was immediately acceded.

"Doordarshan confirmed to us that the sign language interpreters would be available not only at the ceremony but also that the telecast would feature the facility for deaf viewers across the country and even across the world," Mr. Jain said.

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