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Colour-coded cards to be launched for 2.7 crore disabled

By [Nidhi Sharma](#), ET Bureau | Updated: Dec 11, 2016, 11:25 PM IST

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NEW DELHI: India will initiate the first-ever exercise to map over 2.7 crore differently-abled people and provide them with colour-coded universal disability cards.

Prime Minister [Narendra Modi](#) will launch a mega programme in January in six states, which would first identify differently-abled across India, issue them a unique identity card and help the government in planning dedicated area-based and requirement-based programmes.

Modi is likely to launch the programme remotely through video-conferencing in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Kerala, Tripura and Odisha. Three types of cards would be issued to the differently-abled according to the percentage of disability.

A person with less than 40% disability would have a card with a white stripe, 40 to 80% would have a card with yellow stripe and above 80% card with a blue stripe. A unique 18-digit number would be given on the card, which would have state identification digits, district code, disability code, year of birth and another sequence.



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The universal programme would require the state governments to upload their disability certificates online on an Aadhar-based system. Department of empowerment of persons with disabilities (DePwD) joint secretary Awanish Kumar Awasthi told ET, "At present the disability certificates of one state are not recognised in the other."

The universal cards would help the differently-abled tide over these problems that they face at railway counters or even to avail any benefit at educational institutions. The card would have a unique number which if fed on the website would help an authority access all details."

The states would organise camps for the differentlyabled to register themselves for the card, which would also help those who have been left out or not enumerated properly in 2011 Census. Awasthi said, "The idea is to have a national database which would also help the government later to plan schemes for target groups with specific disabilities." The department would rollout the programme in 14 states in the first phase and later in 22 states in the secondphase.

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