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Govt plans new universal identity card for disabled

► From P 1

The birth of a new, more politically sensitive issue similar to the one witnessed in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday when the upper House passed it.

Replying to the debate, an aide of social justice department minister Thiruvengadam Chandrababu Naidu announced that a scheme of 'universal identity card for the disabled' is on the cards and an agency has already been finalised for it. The proposed card would also be linked to Aadhaar to help the disabled all over the country in a seamless fashion, he said. He also said the government would also ensure the provision of getting disability certificate. He said the government had joined hands with German and British firms for making available state-of-the-art limbs to the disabled, wherever possible.

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Parl passes disabilities bill with 14 new categories, 4% job quota

Times News Network

New Delhi: The treasury and opposition benches came together briefly in the Lok Sabha on the last day of the winter session on Friday to clear the disabilities bill that increases the number of officially recognised categories to 21 from seven, besides hiking job quota for the disabled from 3% to 4%.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2016, now also includes acid attack and Parkinson's disease in the list of recognised disabilities.

► New law to help LB students get admission, P 5

Though members from the entire opposition supported the bill, Congress and TDP opposed the provision on an amendment on the issue of quota. They wanted an amendment to hike

the reservation to 5%, arguing that the original bill, which was introduced by the UPA II government in 2014, had provided for 3%. The amendment was defeated by 121 to 41 votes.

PM Narendra Modi was present during the discussion which spanned the House for two hours, leading to the passage of the bill.

► ID card for disabled, P 25