

Cabinet approves MoU between India and South Africa for cooperation in assistive devices

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To help ageing population in both countries with cost effective aids



The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of India and the Government of South Africa for cooperation in disability sector.

The bilateral MoU will encourage cooperation between the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India and Government of South Africa through joint initiatives in the disability sector. It will strengthen bilateral ties between India and South Africa. Specific proposals for cooperation between the two countries, as mutually agreed upon, will be taken up for implementation during the period of validity of the MoU.

It envisages that Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) at large and ageing population in both countries who especially require modern, scientific, durable, cost effective aids and assistive devices will be benefitted from this MoU.

A number of bilateral agreements have been concluded between the two countries in diverse areas ranging from economic and commercial cooperation, defense, culture, health, human settlements, public administration and science and technology. India's Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) has been a useful medium of promoting cooperation in development of human resources.

Bilateral cooperation between India and South Africa in combating COVID-19 pandemic and addressing other global challenges have been notable. Various other Ministries/ Departments have also signed MoUs / Agreement for cooperation in their relevant sectors, which further illustrate deeper relationships with Government of South Africa.