

PM Modi launches digital payment solution e-RUPI

It is a symbol of how India is progressing, he says

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched e-RUPI, a person and purpose-specific cashless digital payment solution, via videoconference on Monday.

Mr. Modi said the e-RUPI voucher was a symbol of how India was progressing by connecting people's lives with technology. He expressed happiness that this reform initiative had come at a time when the country was celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav on the 75th anniversary of Independence.

e-RUPI is a cashless and contactless instrument for digital payment, an official statement said, adding that it is a QR code or SMS string-based e-voucher, which is delivered to the mobile of the beneficiaries.

In addition to the government, if any organisation wanted to help someone for his or her treatment, educa-



PM Narendra Modi launching the digital platform. ■PTI

tion or for any other work, then they would be able to give an e-RUPI voucher instead of cash, he said. "This will ensure that the money is being used for the purpose for which any help or any benefit is being provided."

He said there was a time when technology was considered a domain of the rich and there was no scope for technology in a poor country like India. "Today we are seeing technology as a tool to help the poor, a tool for their progress," he said.

He asserted how technology was bringing in transparency in transactions and creating new opportunities and making them available to the poor. For reaching today's unique product, the foundation was prepared over the years by creating the JAM system, which connected mobile and Aadhaar. "Benefits of JAM took some time to be visible to people and we saw how we could help the needy during the lockdown period while other countries were struggling to help their people," he said.

More than ₹17.50 lakh crore had been transferred directly to the accounts of people via the Direct Benefit Transfer, he said. "More than 3,000 schemes are using DBT and 90 crore Indians are being benefited in some way or the other through in areas like LPG, ration, medical treatment, scholarship, pension and wage disbursement."