

PM launches health ID for every citizen

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission will bring revolutionary change in health facilities, says Modi

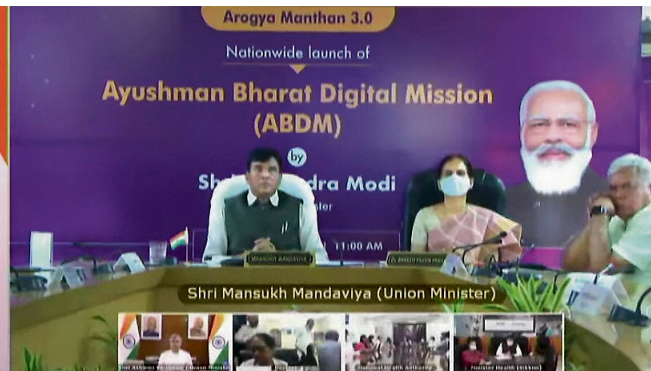
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The campaign for strengthening health facilities that had been going on for the past seven years is entering a new phase today, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi while launching the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission via videoconferencing on Monday.

“Today, we are launching a mission that has the potential of bringing a revolutionary change in India’s health facilities,” he stated.

The Arogya Setu app helped in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 infection, he noted, and lauded CoWIN for its role in making India achieve a record administration of about 90 crore vaccine doses under the free vaccine campaign.

Referring to the use of technology in health, Mr. Modi pointed out that there had been an unprecedented expansion of telemedicine



Virtual reality: Prime Minister Narendra Modi launching the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission in New Delhi on Monday. ■PTI

during the pandemic period. So far, about 125 crore remote consultations had been completed through e-Sanjeevani. “This facility is connecting thousands of countrymen living in far-flung parts of the country every day with doctors of big hospitals of cities while sitting at home,” he said.

The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission would now connect the digital health solutions of hospitals across

the country with each other.

A release issued by the Union government stressed that the mission would not only make the processes of hospitals simplified but also increase ease of living. Under this, every citizen would now get a digital health ID and their health records would be digitally protected.

Holistic health model

The Prime Minister highlighted that India was work-

ing on a health model that was holistic and inclusive. It also stressed on preventive healthcare and, in case of disease, easy, affordable and accessible treatment. Unprecedented reforms in health education was on. A much larger number of doctors and paramedical manpower was being created now.

“A comprehensive network of All India Institutes of Medical Science [AIIMS] and other modern health institu-

tions is being established in the country and work on establishing one medical college in every three Lok Sabha constituencies is going on,” he said.

Mr. Modi emphasised strengthening the health facilities in villages. He pointed to the strengthening of primary health centre networks and wellness centres. More than 80,000 such centres had already been operationalised, he added.