

## In latest mission, SPG to wipe out paper trail

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By

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### Agencies

New Delhi: The Special Protection Group (SPG), which is responsible for the security of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several other VIPs, is going digital and paperless. It is setting up a Digital Office and even a mobile application for its personnel to meet its "futuristic needs".



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The administrative work in SPG, including seeking travel approvals for its men and seeking stores like vehicles, forms the backbone of its key job of securing VIPs including Congress leaders Rahul, Sonia and Priyanka Gandhi. All existing files of SPG will be digitised and handling of files and documents automated.

"The solution is expected to encompass all the facets of SPG functioning. It shall include all the functionalities of SPG including HR, finance, training, medical, tours, library, MT (motor transport), access control, big data analysis, policy and decision making," reads a proposal floated by the SPG, a copy of which has been seen by ET. The proposal also envisions a mobile app (Android and iOS) for facilitating SPG personnel for initiating various requests to administrative offices and for approvals. All files will be moved digitally as e-files from desk to desk in hierarchy, including letters and orders, as per the proposal. All security standards specified by the government will have to be adhered to, the SPG has specified in the proposal.

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has been pressing ministries and departments to go paperless and to adopt an e-office framework. While the Union home ministry has yet to come fully on board, along with various forces under it such as the BSF, CRPF, ITBP and NSG, digitisation work has progressed at good pace in the cabinet secretariat, under whose administrative control the SPG functions. The cabinet secretariat also runs the 'e-Samiksha' platform, on which all its communiqués are sent digitally to all ministries and compliance reports are sought online.