

Title: Demanded to grant permission to open a television channel in Bengali by the State Government of West Bengal.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (TAMLUK): Sir, the Government of West Bengal intends to open a television channel for Bengali people. They have already applied to the Videsh Sanchar Nigam for uplinking. They have also sought approval from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This Bengali channel will be news oriented. It would also telecast news on sports, culture, etc. So, I request the hon. Prime Minister to give permission for opening up of this channel. It is a very important channel as it would highlight the cultural heritage of West Bengal. It would be a news oriented channel. I want to know whether the Government of India is giving approval to the proposal submitted by the West Bengal Government. I want to have a reaction from the Government of India on this.