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Title : Need to upgrade LPT into HPT at Basanti in South 24 Parganas district for the benefit for viewers of Sunderbans region.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the difficulties being faced by the people of Sunderbans (West Bengal) in receiving the programmes being aired by the Kolkata and Delhi Doordarshan.

An LPT has been installed and is functioning at Basanti, South 24 Parganas District to cater to the needs of the people of Sunderbans. However, it could relay Metro Programmes only and hence Doordarshan Programmes are not available to people of Sunderbans. As Sunderbans borders the Bangladesh and as their transmission is better than the local transmission, the people are forced to watch Bangladeshi programmes. In the long run, it may cause unawareness amongst the local people about the happenings in our own country.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to take suitable steps to upgrade the LPT into HPT and make it fully functional and enable it to transmit the Kolkata and Delhi Doordarshan programmes in Sunderbans also.