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Merger of RS and LS channels in final stages

Panels studying pooling of resources

SOBHANA K. NAIR 9

The process of the merger of Rajya Sabha TV and Lok Sabha TV into Sansad TV is in the final stages. Live proceedings of Parliament sessions will continue to be telecast but the manpower and technical resources will be integrated.

Sources said the launch could be by the end of the year, though the deadline has not been finalised.

LS Television was launched in 2006 and RS TV in 2011. They have been Ozfunctioning independently Ocince then.

In November last, after discussions between Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Rajya Sabha Chairman Venkaiah Naidu, a committee neaded by former Prasar Sharati Chairman Surya

Prakash was set up, and it submitted its report in February.

Three different sub-committees are examining the report to finalise the integration of technical and manpower resources.

The Surya Prakash committee also met with MPs from various political parties, who strongly recommended that the live telecast should be continued.

Under the banner of the Sansad TV, sources said, the two will continue to telecast live proceedings.

The attempt is to go beyond House proceedings and show the functioning of Parliament and parliamentarians when the Houses are not in session.

Sources said the new channel would work under an integrated management.

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