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## New TV channel for education planned

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said in Dhaka Saturday the government was contemplating introduction of an independent channel in television for the spread of education, reports BSS.

In a speech delivered on the occasion of Open University programme in Bangladesh Television Saturday she said radio and television were very important and effective media for the purpose. The government wants to utilise the media for the promotion of education, she said.

Congratulating the people on the occasion of National Revolution and Solidarity Day, she said the telecast of Open University programme from today would make the event all the more memorable.

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## TV channel

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Describing the Open University as a new addition to the academic field she said the entire country would be covered by it. The Jatiya Sangsad has recently passed the Open University Bill. She said students would get lessons through radio, television and printed syllabus with necessary cooperation from the postal department.

Dwelling at length on the objectives of the Open University, she said it would offer development and production-oriented education. She said there would be provisions for higher education with special emphasis on female education. She further said special care would be taken for the education of the working class and backward people. Begum Zia expressed the hope that with the Open University, the rate of illiteracy would go down and non-formal education would get due importance. She said the Open University had been set up with the objective of reaching equal educational facilities to all.

She said the government wanted the spread of the light of education throughout the country in the interest of democracy and development. She expressed the hope that the university would succeed in achieving its objective with the cooperation of all.