

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.510
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2025

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DIGITAL LIBRARY

510. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- a) the steps taken by Government to improve the infrastructure for digital library under National Mission on Libraries from the year 2020 till date;
- b) whether Government will take any steps to oversee the development of digital library infrastructure in India; and
- c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c) The National Mission on Libraries (NML) has 4 components with following objectives: -

- i. National Virtual Library of India Project (ICP) with an objective to give an open access user-friendly federated search mechanism (Interface) to users for easy access to knowledge and information as well as to the diverse culture of India.
- ii. Setting up of NML Model Library with the objective to provide financial assistance for Up-gradation of Infrastructure, Modernization of Technology, Creation of Facilities for Specially abled users and advocacy and Outreach programs, to one State Central Library & one District Library selected by the State Government of each State / UT and 6 libraries under the Ministry of Culture.
- iii. Quantitative and Qualitative Survey with the objective to obtain descriptive statistics of libraries in the Country, to study the existing infrastructure and services of the public libraries and the level of satisfaction and perception of the citizens.
- iv. Capacity Building for providing training to the Library Personnel, students of library science in order to sensitize the library service providers with professional skills as well as to apprise them with the latest technology.

The following steps have been taken for digitization effort in libraries under NML:-

- i. The Indian Culture Portal (ICP), launched 10.12.2019 under NVLI component, currently hosts approximately 3.42 lakh digitized records with metadata, along with over 34.91 lakh bibliographic records.
- ii. Under the Model Libraries component, financial assistance is being provided to one State Central Library and one District Library for modernisation, technological upgradation and infrastructure development.
- iii. Under the Capacity Building component, structure training programmes are being conducted to equipped library professionals with advanced technical skills and to facilitate the adoption of modern technologies.