

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.213#
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2026

NATIONAL MISSION ON LIBRARIES

*213# DR. DINESH SHARMA:

Will the **Minister of CULTURE** be pleased to state:

- a) the status of implementation of National Mission on Libraries, including the number of libraries upgraded and digitized during the last three years, State-wise;
- b) the status of modernization of public library infrastructure, along with the details of major reforms undertaken to expand digital access through national platforms and for capacity building of library professionals;
- c) the details of improvements made in public accessibility, utilization and preservation of knowledge resources, State-wise; and
- d) whether the impact of reforms under the Mission has been assessed in terms of accessibility, utility and long-term sustainability and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.213# FOR REPLY 12.03.2026 REGARDING
“NATIONAL MISSION ON LIBRARIES” ASKED BY DR. DINESH SHARMA,
HON’BLE MP.**

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Culture through National Mission on Libraries (NML) Scheme, under its ‘Setting up of NML Model Library’ component, provides financial assistance to one State Central Library and one District Library in each State /UT on the recommendation of the State Authorities concerned and 6 Libraries identified by Ministry of Culture. The financial assistance is provided for i) Up-gradation of Infrastructure, ii) Modernization of Technology & Modernization of Services, iii) Creation of Facilities for Specially abled users and iv) Subscription of E-journals/E-books for selected Libraries under NML, v) Network Connectivity for District Libraries, vi) Procurement of Reading resources and Advocacy & Outreach programs etc. The details of financial assistance provided to State /UT under NML during the last three years are given at **Annexure-A**.

The Indian Culture Portal (ICP) provides a unified digital platform offering access to diverse cultural and knowledge resources from across the country by enabling online access to curated and original content. It promotes and showcases both the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of India through various categories which include manuscripts, museum artifacts, paintings, archival photographs, food and culture, musical instruments of India, archival documents, social practices, rituals, and festivals, Oral traditions and expressions and rare books, etc. These details are provided for every region of India and from Indus Valley Civilization to the present.

The Capacity Building Programmes (CBP) are also organized under the NML across the Country to provide training to library professionals of all States/UTs. Till date 54 number of CBP have been organized and 2465 library professional have been trained.

An evaluation of NML has been carried out by Quality Council of India and the Report was submitted in November, 2025. As per QCI Report, the National Mission on Libraries remains a significant intervention for India’s transition into a knowledge-based society. It has contributed to digital access, infrastructure upgrades, and staff capacity building.

Annexure-A

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No.*213# for reply on 12th March, 2026 regarding “National Mission on Libraries”.

State wise details of funds released under NML Model Library Scheme

| Sl. No. | State | No. of the Library | Total Released (from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2025) (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|-------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 18.58 |
| 2 | Andaman & Nicobar | 2 | 310.00 |
| 3 | Bihar | 2 | 67.71 |
| 4 | Chandigarh | 2 | 247.22 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 1 | 51.05 |
| 6 | Goa | 1 | 8.05 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 1 | 87.00 |
| 8 | Haryana | 2 | 168.85 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 2 | 154.67 |
| 10 | Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 132.50 |
| 11 | Karnataka | 2 | 40.71 |
| 13 | Kerala | 2 | 64.26 |
| 14 | Lakshadweep | 2 | 115.64 |
| 15 | Madhya Pradesh | 1 | 9.69 |
| 16 | Manipur | 2 | 46.25 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 2 | 100.00 |
| 18 | Pondicherry | 1 | 10.05 |
| 19 | Sikkim | 2 | 303.78 |
| 20 | Telangana | 1 | 17.82 |
| 21 | Tripura | 2 | 40.97 |
| 22 | Uttarakhand | 1 | 50.00 |
