

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *154
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

National Digital Library

*154. SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any survey to check the infrastructural and functional status of national libraries across the country, specially in North East;
- (b) if so, the details of Eastern part of the country;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted an evaluation/study of the reach and awareness of the National Digital Library of India;
- (d) if so, the details of the findings thereof and if not, the plans of Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has standardized the data in all national libraries across the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the plans of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

Part (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *154 ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023 ASKED BY SHRI DILIP SAIKIA, SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR, HON'BLE MEMBER(S) OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING "NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY"

(a) & (b) Library is a State subject. To ensure sustained development of libraries, National Mission on Libraries (NML) was launched by Union Ministry of Culture.

NML has 4 major components:

1. Creation of National Virtual Library of India (NVLI)
2. Setting up of NML Model Library Scheme
3. Quantitative and Qualitative Survey
4. Capacity Building

Government of India also provides financial assistance to States / UTs for modernization and digitalization of libraries identified by States/UTs under NML. A survey was conducted to understand the scenario of public libraries with respect to infrastructure, services, usage, staff across the country including north east states. Detail report of the survey is available at https://www.rrrf.gov.in/Docs/pdf/Survey_Report.pdf.

(c) to (f) With an aim to make available to the learner's community learning resources through a single-window, National Digital Library of India (NDLI) was launched in 2018 under 'National Mission on Education through ICT' by Union Ministry of Education. NDLI is a key enabler by forming a centralized knowledge platform by collecting and indexing metadata from individual and institutional Digital Repositories.

A third-party evaluation was carried out by National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) in Oct 2020 for all projects under NMEICT including NDLI. Some of the key observations of the evaluation are:

- 37 million resources have been added against the target of 20 million resources, which is 85% greater than the target.
- More than 75% users are satisfied with the project.
- Most of the Users' have stated that books are available in various languages.
- The interface of NDL is simple and easy to use and is easily accessible and the servers of NDL are responsive enough

Detail report is available at <https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/static-content/report-tel.pdf>.

Under the NDLI component of NMEICT, Pan-India awareness programs are conducted through NDLI Clubs to disseminate their contents. Details of the club and workshops conducted by NDLI is mentioned below:

No of NDLI Clubs	No of Registered Members	No of Events/ Workshops
4851	1243223	10609

According to information provided by Ministry of Culture, 7 Libraries are functioning under Ministry of Culture, Government of India:

- i. National Library, Kolkata
- ii. Central Reference Library, Kolkata
- iii. Central Secretariat Library, New Delhi
- iv. Rampur Raza Library, Rampur, (U. P.)
- v. Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, Bihar
- vi. Delhi Public Library, Delhi
- vii. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata

Ministry of Culture has carried out digitization of the 7 Libraries and an Union Catalogue of all these Libraries under National Virtual Library of India (NVLI). National Digital Library of India (NDLI) hosts more than 9.8 Crore digital content in 39 Indian languages as on 26th July 2023. There are more than 82.5 lakhs registered users on the NDLI platform with average 3.5 lakhs content download per day.
