

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1851  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2022**

**REVAMPING OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES**

1851. SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take any steps for the revamping of national libraries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has noticed the issues like low literacy levels, limited access to technology, and the limited availability of linguistically relevant reading materials; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF  
NORTH EASTERN REGION**

**(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**ANSWER**

(a)&(b) Library is a State subject as per the Seventh Schedule under Article 246 of Constitution of India and public Libraries in States/Union Territories function under the administrative control of the respective State/Union Territory authority. The following five (5) Libraries only come under the control of this Ministry: -

- (i) National Library, Kolkata
- (ii) Delhi Public Library, Delhi
- (iii) Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, Bihar
- (iv) Rampur Raza Library, Rampur, U.P.
- (v) Central Secretariat Library, New Delhi

All these libraries are funded by this Ministry. Besides, Ministry of Culture through its National Mission on Libraries (NML), under Setting up of NML Model Library component, provides financial assistance to 1 State Central Library and 1 District Library in each State /UT, as per the recommendation of the State Authority concerned. Also, Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), an Autonomous Body under Ministry of Culture, through its matching and non-matching schemes provides financial assistance to public Libraries for various purpose e.g. construction/renovation of library buildings, up-gradation of infrastructure with furniture and equipment, modernization, procurement of books and reading resources, organization of seminar/training and capacity building of library professionals / workshop / outreach programmes, establishment of children corner, opening of various sections, creating facilities for specially-abled, brail corner etc.

(c)&(d) No such specific issue has been brought to the notice of the Government. However, Government has taken many steps to provide access to technology and linguistically relevant reading materials through National Mission on Libraries (NML), schemes of RRRLF and Indian Culture Portal.