

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 198
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

Online Accessibility Of Library Books

198. SHRI YOGENDER CHANDOLIA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any measures are being undertaken to build libraries in each district of country for the Aspirants of UPSC, SSC and State level Competitive Exams;
- (b) whether any measures are being undertaken to online accessibility of library books and further broad-basing of digital libraries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of languages which have been included in these libraries and the measures being taken to include books of more languages; and
- (e) the number of libraries opened during the last 5 years and to be opened in near future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(Dr. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (e) Library is a state subject as per the Seventh Schedule under article 246 of the Constitution of India, and public libraries function under the administrative control of the respective State/Union Territory Authorities.

With an aim to improve access of children and adolescents to the latest books; connect the children and adolescents countrywide with the National Digital Library Resources and promote reading habit among children and adolescents, Government of India has made a provision of Rs. 5,000 Crore under scheme of special assistance for the year 2023-2024 for State Governments. It was made available to the States for the construction/renovation of the building; purchase of computer, UPS, Printer, networking hardware; and purchase of books.

Further, Ministry of Education, Government of India has launched Rashtriya E- Pustaklaya to ensure access of books to every student/learner. It is a Digital Library for Children and Adolescents, which contains 1000 books in digital format in 23 Indian languages. Digital Library can be accessed by anyone across the country.

As per information provided by Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Culture has also created National Virtual Library of India which is available in public domain by the name of Indian Culture Portal in which digital data from Ministry of Culture's organization is hosted.
