

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.338
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF LIBRARIES AND MODERN
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRES IN TAMIL NADU**

**338 SHRI SELVAM G:
SHRI NAVASKANI K:
SHRI C N ANNADURAI:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- a) the details of the number of new public libraries, community libraries and knowledge resource centres set up across the country especially in Tamil Nadu during the last five years and the current year;
- b) whether the Government has received any proposal from Tamil Nadu for setting up of new libraries or modern learning resource centres under Central assistance;
- c) if so, the present status thereof;
- d) the details of the number of libraries have been upgraded with digital infrastructure such as high-speed internet, e-learning modules, digital cataloguing systems and online resource access in Tamil Nadu during 2019 to 2024;
- e) whether the Government is implementing any initiatives through libraries to promote digital literacy, e-governance awareness and access to online educational resources in Tamil Nadu; and
- f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

(a) to (c) As per Article 246 of the Constitution of India, libraries fall under the State subject in the Seventh Schedule, with public libraries functioning under the administrative control of the respective State or Union Territory authorities. Opening of new libraries comes under the purview of the respective State Government/UT Administration.

(d) Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), an autonomous organization fully financed by the Ministry of Culture, provided financial assistance for development of existing public libraries in Tamil Nadu through its various approved schemes on the basis of the recommended application received from Tamil Nadu State Library Authority.

Details of the financial assistance released and number of libraries assisted under various RRRLF schemes during 2019-20 to 2023-24 in Tamil Nadu are provided at **Annexure I**.

Additionally, the Ministry of Culture implements the National Mission on Libraries (NML) Scheme, under which financial assistance is provided for the “Up-gradation of existing libraries under the NML Model Library” component. Assistance is extended to one State Central Library and one District Library in each State/UT, based on recommendations from the respective State authorities and subject to availability of State funds, in addition to six libraries identified by the Ministry. This component focuses on four key areas: improvement of infrastructure, up-gradation of technology and modernization of services, creation of facilities for specially-abled groups, and procurement of reading resources to meet local needs along with advocacy and outreach programmes.

The Government of Tamil Nadu was sanctioned financial assistance for upgradation of District Library, Vellore and District Library, Tiruchirappalli as per following details:

(Rupees in lakhs)		
Library Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
District Library, Vellore	87.00	79.27
District Library, Tiruchirappalli	70.00	68.16

(e)&(f) RRRLF under its Matching and Non-Matching Grant Schemes, provides financial assistance to public libraries for the procurement of computers and related accessories, library automation software, scanners, networking facilities, Wi-Fi and other Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure. These initiatives facilitate the transition of public libraries towards digital services and enable them to provide access to online information resources, thereby contributing to the promotion of digital literacy among the public.

In addition, RRRLF provides financial assistance under its Seminar Scheme for organizing training programmes, refresher courses, workshops and seminars for library professionals across the States/UTs. These capacity-building programmes aim to enhance the skills of library staff in the use of modern library technologies, information systems and digital tools, enabling them to assist users in accessing e-resources and online services.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.338 for reply on 2nd February, 2026 regarding “Establishment of Libraries and Modern Learning Resource Centres in Tamil Nadu”.

(Amt. in Rs.)

Year	Scheme	Amount of Assistance	No of Beneficiary Libraries
2019-20	Organization of National level Seminar, Workshop, Training and Awareness Programme	4,00,000/-	5
	Establishment of RRRLF Knowledge Corner	9,36,022/-	9
	Children Library and Establishment of RRRLF Children Corner	2,00,000/-	2
	Establishment of RRRLF Differently -abled corner	1,75,000/-	1
2020-21	Organization of National level Seminar, Workshop, Training and Awareness Programme	49,970/-	2
	Establishment of RRRLF Knowledge Corner	2,99,999/-	8
	Procurement of Library furniture and storage of books	1,34,45,588/-	2586
	Establishment of RRRLF Differently -abled corner	7,00,000/-	2
2021-22	Development of Public Library run by Voluntary Organisation	66,323/-	1
	Establishment of RRRLF Knowledge Corner	7,01,591/-	7
	Procurement of Library furniture and storage of books	2,92,62,152/-	2898
	Children Library and Establishment of RRRLF Children Corner	5,33,728/-	3
	Establishment of RRRLF Differently -abled corner	8,69,311/-	5
2022-23	Organization of National level Seminar, Workshop, Training and Awareness Programme-NM	13,17,500/-	12
	Establishment of RRRLF Knowledge Corner	2,45,175/-	3
2023-24	Organization of National level Seminar, Workshop, Training and Awareness Programme-NM	6,22,500	7
	Establishment of RRRLF Knowledge Corner	48,812/-	1
	Modernization of Library Services	1,68,94,334/-	401

	Procurement of Library furniture and storage of books	1,02,96,132	668
	Children Library and Establishment of RRRLF Children Corner	1,44,576/-	1
