

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 179
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026**

Preservation of Manuscript Books and Records Papers

179. Dr. Thirumaavalavan Tholkappiyan:

The text of the question is as follows:-

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of preserved manuscript books / records / papers in Palm leaves, Birch Bark, Parchment, Papyrus etc., along with their time period; and
- (b) the details of such manuscripts preserved by the Central Government and each of the State Governments and Union Territories?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Gyan Bharatam, Ministry of Culture, at present, maintains the records of the manuscripts available in its own portal. Accordingly, the material-wise details of the manuscripts available in the Gyan Bharatam Portal is mentioned below:

Sl. No	Material	No of manuscripts
i.	Paper	83045
ii.	Palm leaf	5772
iii.	Birch Bark	3
iv.	Parchment	0

However, each manuscript belongs to a different historical period and ascertainment of its time period is, in general, subject to the research and de-codification of manuscript which is a continuous process.
