

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM AND CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:144  
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002  
CONVERSION OF NATIONAL LIBRARY  
BIKASH CHOWDHURY;HANNAN MOLLAH;S.P. LEPCHA

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to convert the National Library, Kolkata into an Autonomous institution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Library worked without a Librarian from 1995-2001
- (d) whether the Director of the library was appointed either on part-time basis or adhoc basis during the last few years; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a)&(b) The National Library Act, 1976 provides for giving autonomous status to the National Library, Kolkata. No decision has been taken so far regarding enforcement of the Act.
- (c) Yes Sir. A regular Principal Library and Information Officer is in place since July, 2001.
- (d) Yes Sir.
- (e) The person appointed as Director National Library in 1998 left the organization abruptly within 6 months of his joining. The post has since been filled on ad hoc basis. Efforts made to fill the vacancy on regular basis through UPSC have not been successful so far.