

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1791  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2008  
THEFT FROM NATIONAL LIBRARY OF KOLKATA  
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) whether the National treasure, rare books, manuscripts and letters associated with freedom fighters and national leaders have been lost/stolen from National Library of Kolkata;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the losses incurred thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to retrieve the rare items;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE(SMT.AMBIKA SONI)

- (a) The national treasure, rare books, manuscripts and letters associated with freedom fighters and national leaders have not been lost/stolen from National Library of Kolkata. The stock of the above mentioned items has been verified with the catalogue maintained for this purpose and existing stock corroborates with the said catalogue.
- (b) to (e) Do not arise.