

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:396
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
THEFT AT NATIONAL LIBRARY
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any rare book(s) has gone missing from the National Library at Kolkata during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to digitise books at the said library;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the progress made, the budget and the time frame set for the digitisation project;
- (e) whether the Government has taken note of the C&AG's report on the performance audit of the National Library for the year 2010-11; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND POVERTY ALLIVATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) The Library has already digitized 32 lakhs pages in two phases earlier. In the current phase, digitization of 20 lakh pages has been planned. Accordingly, technical bids, price bids of the qualified vendors were opened. The selection of vendor has been done. The budget of the current phase is `34,38,800. Since it is an ongoing project, no time frame has been fixed.
- (e) and (f) Yes, The attention of the Government has been drawn to the recommendations of the C&AGs report on the performance audit. Necessary steps have been taken by the Central Government for better functioning of the Library.