

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2154

ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012

PROMOTION OF LIBRARIES

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of public libraries in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of assistance given to these libraries during each of the last two years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has taken specific steps to promote libraries in rural areas of the country including Odisha;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance given for the same during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to improve and develop libraries in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) Recent data regarding the number of public libraries in the country is not available. However, the number of Public Libraries in the country, as per an evaluation study commissioned in 2003 by Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Culture, is at Annexure-I.
- (b) All these libraries do not receive financial assistance. The details of assistance given to libraries during the last two years and the current year is at Annexure-II.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation has schemes of matching and non-matching assistance for improvement of Public Libraries covering, inter-alia, aspects like increasing the stock of books, purchase of computers, assistance for organizing seminars, infrastructural improvements etc.