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Title: Regarding need to declare Uttarpara Joykrishna Public Library in Hooghly district, West Bengal as an institute of national importance.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (SERAMPORE): Uttarpara Joykrishna Public Library situated in the district of Hooghly, West Bengal holds in its racks chunks of historical testimonials to secularise and modernise thought. Founded in the year 1859 by Baboo Joy Krishna Mukherjee, a benevolent Zamindar of Bengal, this library is unique in the annals library movement in our country with its rich and priceless collections of 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Considering its importance, the West Bengal Govt. have approached the Govt. of India to declare this age old institution as an Institute of National Importance. The decision is pending for a long time.

I would request the Hon'ble Minister of Culture to look into the matter and pave the way for declaration of this library as an Institute of National Importance in no time.