

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1293
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006
NATIONAL POLICY OF PUBLIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the D. P. Chattopadhyaya Committee had recommended for formulating a National Policy on Library and Information System (NAPLIS);
- (b) if so, whether the Government has implemented the recommendation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to formulate the NAPLIS?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No formal declaration of the National Policy on Library and Information System has been made so far. As a follow up measure, an Empowered Committee was set up to formulate an action plan on the National Policy on Library and Information System alongwith a working group to suggest actions on the decisions of the Empowered Committee. Some of the recommendations made by the Chattopadhyaya Committee have already been initiated under various schemes of the Ministry e.g. Modernization of Public Libraries, Development of Rural Libraries, Assistance for development of Children's Section and Children's Corners in public libraries and technological upgradation of Libraries under the Ministry of Culture.

(d) As the Chattopadhyaya Committee report was finalized more than twenty years ago, it may not be feasible to declare a national policy on Library & Information System based on these recommendations, considering the sweeping changes that have taken place in this sector in the last two decades.