

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1384
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
SETTING UP OF NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up National Commission on Libraries;
- (b) if so, the details and the proposed functions thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the said Commission is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI. AJAY MAKEN)

(a)&(b) The National Knowledge Commission has recommended the formation of a National Commission on Libraries as an independent and financially autonomous body. Its functions are envisaged as follows: -

1. Develop Libraries and Information Services.
2. Advise the Government on Libraries and Information Sector.
3. Set standards for collection, services and technical processing.
4. Encourage public private participation.
5. Interact with State Governments.
6. Conserve cultural heritage.
- 7 Review and assess LIS education and in-service training needs.
8. Support R&D and technological development.
9. Ensure access to all publications including government and institutional public documents.
10. Set up a system for monitoring the working of public libraries.

(c) The National Knowledge Commission has also recommended that a National Mission on Libraries may be set up immediately, for a period of three years, which may lead to the formation of the Commission.