

**QUESTION DETAILS**

MINISTRY OF : CULTURE

**RAJYA SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2549  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.07.2019  
Neglect of Public Libraries in the country

2549. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government is aware about the pathetic condition of historic libraries including Delhi Public Library (DPL) which have suffered Government"s neglect for many years;

(b) if so, details thereof, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to recruit trained library professionals for public libraries in India including Delhi;

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether DPL have closed a number of branches during last three years and there has been no recruitment since 1996, and it is operating without Director and Director General for last three years; and

(f) if so, reasons therefor and Government"s reaction thereto?

**Answer**

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Culture & Tourism

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) & (b) No Sir, this Ministry has not come across any such instance.

(c) & (d) Library is State subject and public libraries under the administrative control of the respective State/UT. So recruitment of library professionals in public libraries comes under the purview of the State/UT library authorities.

(e) & (f) Yes Sir, the DPL has closed three libraries in Delhi, but subsequently three more libraries have been opened. There had been no recruitment / promotions from 1996. However, the recruitment has been made since 2017 in various posts. The post of Director General has been filled up since 16.10.2017 and the post of Director has been abolished.

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