

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:218
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004
PROTECTION OF NRI BRIDES
Mollah Shri Hannan

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission for women has submitted to the Government a draft convention regarding safeguarding the Indian girls married to NRIs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations of the said commission;
- (c) whether the Government has examined the recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the extent to which the recommendations are likely to help the girls married to NRIs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER)

a) Yes, Sir.

b) The Report on NRI Marriage Problems has been prepared by the National Commission for Women. The main recommendations of the Commission are compulsory registration of marriages which involve NRI grooms, bilateral agreements between India and the other countries with large Indian Diaspora, Government monitored conciliation process for settlement of matrimonial disputes, mediation/conciliation centres, proper distribution of property under the law in case of divorce, treating suppression of marital status by NRI grooms under criminal law, amendment of Foreign Marriage Act 1969 and easy access to the embassies/ consulates for the aggrieved wives of the NRI husbands.

c) & d) The matter is under examination in consultation with the Ministries and agencies concerned.

(e) A separate session on Private International Law with a focus on a separate Law/Convention to tackle the problem of NRI marriages is being organized at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Mumbai on 8 January 2005.