

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1162
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN ABROAD
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) the details of NGOs and legal organizations engaged in providing legal aid and assistance to Indian women living abroad; and
- (b) the country-wise details of number of women provided with such legal aid and assistance by the Government during the last three years and the current year along with the kind of assistance provided to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) 26 Non-Government Organizations/legal organizations are empanelled with Indian Missions in 7 countries namely United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Bahrain and Qatar under Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs scheme for providing legal/financial assistance to the Indian women deserted/ divorced by their overseas spouses. The details of NGOs are enclosed as Annexure-A.

(b) The country-wise details of number of women provided with such legal aid and assistance by the Government during the last three years are at Annexure-B.

The women are provided counselling and legal services as initial legal aid for documentation and preparatory work for filing their cases through credible NGOs/Indian women's associations empanelled with Indian Missions/Posts abroad.