

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4176  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012  
ARREST OF INDIAN COUPLE IN NORWAY  
Abdulrahman Shri ;Jeyadural Shri S. R.

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether an Indian couple was arrested by the Norwegian authorities for alleged maltreatment of their child;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the matter has been taken up with the Norwegian authorities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the efforts made by the Government to get the couple released?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) An Indian couple, Mr. Chandrashekhar Vallabhaneni and Ms. Anupa Lingamneni was taken into custody by the Norwegian authorities for alleged maltreatment of their 7-year old son. In the judgment given by the Oslo District Court on December 4, 2012, the Indian couple was sentenced to undergo imprisonment of 18 months and 15 months, respectively.

(c) to (e) The matter is sub-judice in Norway. The couple has appealed against the verdict in the higher Court. Government has approached the Norwegian authorities to provide the Indian couple availability of recourse under the law of their land. Consular access has been extended to the couple by the Indian Embassy in Oslo. The Embassy is in constant touch with the couple and their lawyers. Earlier the Indian Mission had acted proactively and helped the couple get their children back from the Norwegian Child Welfare authorities.