

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1128
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013
ABUSE OF NRI BRIDES
Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Ministry to safeguard the interests of women getting married to overseas Indians;
- (b) wheater cases of abuse of the brides are being reported from several countries;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last four year, country-wise: and
- (d) the steps taken to help such women and ensure justice to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): The Ministry has taken several steps to safeguard the interest of Indian women from fraudulent marriages with overseas Indians. The steps taken in this direction, inter-alia, include providing legal/financial assistance to the Indian women who are deserted/divorced by their overseas spouses.

The Ministry has also launched an educational-cum-awareness campaign for the Indian brides getting married to overseas Indians and also published a Guidance Pamphlets on "Marriages to Overseas Indians" in English,Hindi,Telugu,Malayalam and Punjabi. A booklet in English containing information on safeguards available to women deserted by their NRI spouses, legal remedies available, authorities that can be approached for redressal of grievances and NGOs which can provide assistance. This is also posted on Ministry's website. The Ministry promotes publicity-cum-awareness campaign through audio visual advertisement on regional TV network and print media from time to time.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. Number of such cases received from Indian Missions/Posts during the last four years is at Annexure.

(d) The Ministry implements a Scheme for legal assistance to Indian women deserted by their overseas husbands. Under the Scheme, assistance of US\$3000 in developed countries and US\$2000 in developing countries is given through Indian Missions for filing cases in the local Courts or for legal counselling through the NGOs empanelled with Indian Missions/Posts.