

1	2	3
11.	Loan to NEDFi	30.00
12.	Loan to NEHHDC	2.00
13.	Loan to NERAMAC	2.00
14.	M Doner Estt.	14.73
TOTAL M DoNER		3000.00

Desertion of wives by NRI grooms

2406. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:

SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA:

SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been rise in incidents of NRI grooms deserting their Indian wives in the recent years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to give respite to such aggrieved wives of NRI grooms;

(c) whether Government proposes to make significant changes in the law pertaining to NRI marriages;

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

(e) the details of such incidents of NRI grooms deserting their Indian wives including Gujarat, Punjab and Kerala, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) Between January 2016 and November 2018, this Ministry (including the Indian Missions abroad) has addressed 4189 complaints of distressed Indian women deserted by their NRI spouses. The year-wise data of the complaints addressed are as below:

Year	Number of Complaints addressed
2016	1510
2017	1498
2018 (Till 30th November 2018)	1181
TOTAL	4,189

(b) The Government has adopted multipronged approach to give respite to the wives deserted by their NRI husbands. Ministry of External Affairs provides counseling, guidance and information about legal procedures, mechanisms for serving judicial summons on the Overseas Indian husband; filing a judicial case in India, issuing Look Out Circulars; impounding and revocation of Indian passport of the husband to such aggrieved women.

The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) Guidelines were revised in September, 2017 with an aim to provide financial and legal assistance to distressed women married to NRI spouses by all Indian Missions and Posts abroad. The amount of legal and financial assistance to distressed Indian women has also been increased to US\$ 4000 per case. The assistance is released to the empanelled legal counsel of the applicant or Indian Community Association/Women's Organisation/NGO concerned to enable them to take necessary and appropriate steps to assist the woman in documentation and preparatory work for filing the case.

(c) and (d) An Expert Committee was set up to identify legal and regulatory challenges faced by Indian nationals married to overseas Indian nationals and to suggest amendments in existing Acts/legislations or new policies/laws/regulations. Some of the recommendations of the Expert Committee have been accepted including the constitution of an Integrated Nodal Agency.

The INA is headed by Secretary, Women and Child Development. The other members of the INA are (a) Joint Secretary (Judicial) and Joint Secretary (Foreigners), Ministry of Home Affairs, (b) Joint Secretary (OIA-II), Ministry of External Affairs, and (c) Joint Secretary (Legal), Ministry of Law and Justice. The INA is functioning effectively and providing a single window timely solution to the problems of Indian women married to Overseas Indian spouses. So far, the INA has had twelve sittings and has issued eight Look Out Circulars against the erring spouses.

(e) This Ministry does not maintain State-wise data. It has been receiving and redressing grievances from women deserted by their NRI spouses from all over India which pertains to abandonment, harassment, cheating, domestic violence by their spouses residing abroad, to ascertain whereabouts of NRI husbands, request for extradition, deportation of spouse to India, request for maintenance, support, divorce or child custody and request for legal and financial assistance to file a case against the NRI spouse.