

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No-2097
ANSWERED ON- 15/12/2023

COMPLAINTS AGAINST OVERSEAS INDIANS ON MARITAL ISSUES

2097. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE

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

- (a) whether the Government has received large number of complaints pertaining to marital issues from Indian women married to overseas Indians;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years:
- (c) whether there are large number of cases pending since long for resolution because of lacunae in existing law which is delaying the legal process thereby leaving behind struggling life on either sides for women, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the marriages of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and strengthening the framework in regard to International law and personal law?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a & b) As per the information available with the Ministry, 5339 complaints of Indian women married to overseas Indians were received by the Ministry (including its Missions abroad) from 01st January 2020 to 31st October 2023:

Year	Number of Complaints received
2020	1165
2021	1318
2022	1669
2023 (From January to October)	1187

(c & d) The Government has taken a number of steps to address the issues of abandonment, domestic violence, harassment and other matrimonial disputes faced by Indian women married to overseas Indians. The Ministry and the Missions/Posts provide appropriate counselling, guidance and information to the aggrieved Indian women about legal procedures & mechanisms in such cases. The Indian Missions and Posts conduct Walk-in sessions and Open House meetings for the distressed Indians including women to address their grievances. Online consular assistance is provided to distressed Indian women through MADAD, CPGRAMS and social media. Further, Missions and Posts also maintain a 24x7 Helpline for emergency situations. Financial and legal assistance is provided under the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to distressed women. Assistance through other mechanisms where applicable such as women's organisations, NGOs, Indian Associations are also in place.
