

Dear Shri Kumar,

I am attaching the letter I had sent to you and other officials of MOIA on 12th November'2005. I have not received any response from the ministry on this regard.

As a person of Indian origin, working in the US, I am very much concerned about the approach Ministry is taking in creating the awareness about the "Failed and Fraudulent Marriages" among prospective brides in India. The booklet prepared by the joint effort of ministry, NCW and NHRC (<http://moia.gov.in/shared/linkimages/46.%2003-251005>) suggests that the NRI men are responsible for the breakdown of marriages. The booklet fails to mention anything about how many thousands of innocent men and their families are duped by greedy and motivated women and their families. There have been a lot of incidents in the recent times where NRI husbands and their families were harassed by the wife and her family. Media everywhere (India and around the world) has highlighted the issues in various forms (articles, documentary and letters, internet) but Ministry has not taken the cognizance of any of that.

If you do not have data about problems faced by NRI men and their families, I can provide you with the same (the data is readily available on the internet).

Following are few of the links which may be eye opener for you.

- **India West Article (Leading Newspaper in USA)**
http://www.498a.org/contents/Publicity/IndiaWestArticle_498aMisuse.pdf
http://news.ncmonline.com/news/view_article.html?article_id=768649893bc5975ce97b6bff5354c210
http://expo.ncmonline.com/news/view_article.html?article_id=4341a52dbd42b1562e77d1b7f499890f (Lisa Tsering got the Best in-depth Investigative Journalist award for exposing this widespread problem):
- **India Abroad (Leading Newspaper in USA)**
http://www.498a.org/contents/Publicity/IndiaAbroad_MinistryBiasedAgainstNRIHusbands.pdf
http://www.498a.org/contents/Publicity/IndiaAbroad_NotAllHusbandsAreGuilty.pdf
- **Channel 7: Documentary about gross misuse of Dowry laws and NRIs**(aired in Feb'2006)
- **Governments in USA and Canada have issued travel warning** (against the misuse of dowry laws) for the people traveling to India. Please see the contents at:
http://communitydispatch.com/artman/publish/article_1754.shtm

Men also suffer a lot in any broken relationship and it is not easy for men to find sympathetic shoulder. I am not saying that the kind of issues ministry is trying to highlight and warn the people against do not happen. Following are few of my questions to the ministry:

- Can ministry provide the data for each of the atrocities (booklet lists 10 of those) that is included in the list?
- Has the ministry done some statistical analysis about what is the kind/class of people responsible for the atrocities on women (like taxi driver, janitors, daily wages people, gas station workers, low income group people)?
- In how many cases the husband and/or his family were doctors, engineers, researchers, diplomats, businessman and highly educated person?

- Does the ministry find the fraudulent cases much more in PIO/Overseas India marriages (in percentage) than what is prevalent in rest of the Indian marriages?
- Has ministry tried to find the other face of the coin? How many husband and their family members suffering?
- Has the ministry invited any organization like {Asha Kiran (Bangalore), SangaBalya (Bangalore), PSS (Delhi), Piritto Purush Pati Parishad (Kolkata)} to present the other side of the picture?
- Everywhere in Media and Pravasi Bhartiya Divas'2006 MOIA has talked about the complaints it received from women PIO (Person of Indian Origin), but MOIA conveniently failed to mention the problems reported by PIO male members.

I wrote comments to your website, but nothing happened. I suggest you at least look at the various comments listed on your website and consider acting on them before finalizing the contents of the booklet on 18th Feb.

A half baked solution is worse than a no solution at all. I would urge you to look into all aspects of failed and fraudulent marriages and then suggest a solution or warning.

I am copying Ambassador of India to the US, Counselor General of India at Chicago/Houston/San Francisco/New York on this mail. They may have something to add to the "Immigration fraud" by the wife and her family?

I hope you are able to take a balanced and "gender-neutral" approach while discussing not only the contents of the booklet but while approaching this complex issue.

Thanking you and with regards,

- Satya
(San Jose, California, USA)

Cc: Indian Ambassador to USA
Minister, MOIA
Secretary, MOIA
Officials at MOIA
Consul General of India, San Francisco
Consul General of India, Houston
Consul General of India, Chicago
Consul General of India, New York
President of India