



A Study of the Quandary of Abandoned Wives by Non-Resident Indian Husbands: Law and Remedial Procedures

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ABSTRACT

The study determines the socio economic status of the NRI women who are abandoned by NRI husbands in India. Thorough research has been made of the trends in marriage and dowry customs among NRIs. It determines the causes of married women in India who are deserted and divorced by NRIs. This paper tries to understand the different rehabilitation needs of women who absconded from the clutches of NRIs who indulged in domestic violence, including those for social support, legal assistance, financial help, and psychological counseling. Suggestion to make appropriate immigration laws, legislative recommendations to guarantee care and safety as well as the parental role for married women.

Cohabitation imparts traits such as supremacy, adaptability, security, and malleability. This is the rationale behind the significance positioned on marriage. Wedlock, matrimony, or marriage is the other names for the ritualized and socially accepted union of two individuals. It is a perpetual, everlasting, and holy relationship. There is a great deal of connotation associated with marriage as an institution, predominantly in India. Everyone must be part in in the ritual of marriage. It is a vital component of an individual's existence. A life without marriage is regarded as incomplete.

In India, there are no legal restrictions on marriage based on caste, state, or even nation. As a result, the proportion of women marrying NRI husbands has gone up. However, wives are duped, mistreated, and humiliated when marriage as an institution is taken for a ride, its essence is mocked, and its goal is solely to satisfy sexual cravings or make money. These wives are abandoned and left defenseless once their desires are fulfilled.

According to statistics, an NRI wife is typically left behind. They are treated as puppets by their husbands. In a society where women are viewed as social liabilities and of low status, a deserted woman is doubly burdensome for her family. The need has come for a greater attention for the predicament of the increasing number of women who are abandoned in this way. This essay focuses on the roots of the issue, the key complications in these situations, and potential remedies for this growing social ill.

When marriage is pushed to a new level and extends beyond national borders and the purview of the legal system, the subject becomes more complicated. Cross-border marriages are these kinds of unions. In India, it is common for Indian women to marry Indian men who live abroad—a practice known as non-resident Indian marriages, either as a national of another nation or as an Indian citizen. Then, these unions enter what is commonly referred to as the "maze" of private international law, which addresses the interactions and conflicts between the laws of different nations.

Keywords: NRI women, Abandoned, Immigration laws, Prosecute the violators. Legislative recommendations

Introduction

Living with another individual teaches you stability, control, flexibility, and adaptability. This explains why marriage is regarded significant. Marriage is not regulated in India by an individual's caste, state, or even nation by the judiciary. As a result, the proportion of women marrying NRI's has gone up. However, the wife is duped, mistreated, and humiliated when a marriage is taken for a ride, its essence is mocked. Its goal is solely to satisfy sexual cravings or make money. The wife is abandoned and left defenseless when their demands are materialized. According to statistics, an NRI husband typically deserts his wife. These women are treated as puppets by their husbands. The society in which women are viewed as societal liabilities if she is deserted by her husband, her family sees her as a burden. It is necessary to pay attention to the predicament of the increasing number of women who are abandoned. The causes of this issue, the key harms of these situations, and potential remedies are discussed in this paper. The social malaise that is developing is also highlighted. However, God created both men and women as equivalents. This equality does not exist in the patriarchal society. Women are seen as objects and inferior human beings.

Matrimony, sometimes referred to as wedlock, is the term for the socially accepted ritual of joining of two individuals in marriage. It is a holy, enduring, and long-lasting connection. There is a great significance connected to marriage as an institution, particularly in a nation like India. In the sense that participation in it is necessary for everyone, it is a fundamental component of an individual's life. In India if someone is not married then their life is seen as incomplete. Marriage grants the individuals involved in this bond, the status of "husband" and "wife". These roles are associated with certain rights and responsibilities. Children born into such matrimony are given the status of legitimacy. Marriage is regarded as timeless, eternal, and unending. This fundamental rationale explains why divorce is unacceptable in India. In our nation, divorce is a social taboo; nevertheless, people have now begun to accept the idea.

Not all relationships can work perfectly; in fact, there are times when couples find it difficult to coexist and marriages end up as being a complicated deal for them. In such situations, ending the relationship is in the best interests of the individuals involved, but let us look into an example where one spouse leaves the other without the permission of the other individual or a valid reason. Here, the holy unity of marriage is ridiculed and taken for granted. The deserted spouse feels abandoned, hopeless, and upset. This displays that one partner is showing complete disregard for the other partner as well as the institution of marriage as a whole when engaging in such behavior. This means that the problem is not within the four walls of the family; rather, it transcends involves the family as well as the forsaken spouse, raising serious concerns.

Matrimonial disputes are among the most complex area of legal system. This is because of the sensitive nature of marriage relationships in general. The fact that each community has its own unique personal laws in contrast to a uniform civil law makes matters much more challenging, especially in the context of India. Because these personal laws differ from one another, handling marital conflicts—particularly in interfaith marriages—become much more challenging.

When marriage is taken too far and transcends national boundaries and the purview of the legal system, the issue is exacerbated. They are known as cross-border weddings. As far as trends go, in India, the majority of marriages are between Indian women and Indian men who live abroad as NRIs (Non-Resident Indians), either as citizens of India (then officially as NRIs) or as citizens of another nation (Person of Indian Origin). The private international law addresses the interactions and conflicts between the laws of different nations. These marriages appear to be better lives for the whole family, not just women. NRI grooms are the symbol of social status.

Connotation

Despite the term being gender neutral, "NRI Marriages" usually refer to the union of an Indian woman from India and an Indian man who is a resident of another country (i.e., an NRI, or non-resident Indian), either as an Indian citizen (in the case that he would legally be considered an "NRI") or as a citizen of that other country (i.e., a Person of Indian Origin, or PIO).

Abandonment

According to family law, marital desertion consists of five elements: (1) ending cohabitation; (2) passing the required amount of time; (3) intending to abandon; (4) the abandoned spouse's consent not being obtained; and (5) the absence of any spousal wrongdoing that could have justified the abandoning. The act of one spouse permanently leaving the other without the agreement of the other or a good reason is known as divorce.

Contemporary Scenario

There has always been an issue with women being dumped by NRI husbands. In the past, men were primarily forced to marry outside of their communities through bigamous marriages. When the Indian wife was left behind, the husband tended to conceal their foreign spouse. Now the issue has become multifaceted due to the growing number of Indian NRIs who are dispersed throughout the world and come from a variety of economic and social backgrounds. The number of women being cruelly subjected to dowry extortion, fake marriage, infidelity, and mental harassment has surged recently. As the number of non-resident Indian marriages increase by thousands annually, there is mounting evidence that the frequency of matrimonial

problems in these marriages has also increased proportionally. In most cases, the outcomes show that almost two out of every ten NRI marriages are fictitious or terminate in divorce or desertion.

Family Laws in India

Laws passed by the Indian Parliament in 1955 and 1956 retained the traditional position of Indians. NRI weddings have led to an increase in family law issues, for which there is no workable answer in the current legislative enactments. Indian marriage and divorce rules apply to NRIs, or Indian citizens living abroad. However, the Indian legal system has not yet been modified or created to address these modern problems. The antiquated legislation is useless given the rise in these kinds of NRI weddings. It is time to update the laws in order to reflect the times we live in. Particularly in the field of family law, failing NRI unions, divorcing partners, abducted kids, and overseas adoption, need statutory solutions. It is quite difficult to resolve marriage conflicts in India because there are many distinct religious sects' personal laws and there are no unified civil laws in the country. NRI bridegrooms abandon marriages without fear of legal repercussions, and India lacks the appropriate legislation to safeguard the rights of Indian women who are married abroad. When two Indian nationals get married in accordance with Indian law, but are not subject to Indian court jurisdiction, there is a dearth of genuine, practical, and efficient family laws to handle the ensuing matrimonial problems. Legal action is challenging, costly, time-consuming, and intricate. Indian lawmakers passed laws pertaining to family law. Most state governments have not bothered to establish family courts or formulate regulations in spite of the 1984 Family Court Act. Though the marriage is solemnized in India in accordance with Indian law, the most obvious and unsettling tendency seems to be the ease with which foreign courts are able to dissolve NRI marriages. By presenting fraudulent information and forged documents, the NRI spouse typically succeeds in getting a divorce from foreign courts without the defenseless spouse's knowledge or permission. Wives lose out on their husbands' maintenance payments altogether. The dilemma of these abandoned women is worsened by the fact that marriages are now governed by significantly more intricate private international laws that also take into account the laws and legal systems of the other nation. There are issues like international child adoption, kidnapping by one set of parents, and so forth. Unfortunately, there is almost no legislation on the matter that alleviates the suffering of women whose spouses keep their children in precarious conditions. On these grounds that the marriage has previously been dissolved by a court in another nation, women have occasionally even been refused maintenance in India (which may apply in the case of deserted daughter-in-laws if Section 19 of the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 is examined). To address the issues facing deserted NRI married women, it is necessary to overcome legal deficiencies.

Statistics of NRI desertions

The National Commission for Women received far more complaints than the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. They are as of May 2023:

S.NO.	Total Number of Complaints	State
1	135	Delhi
2	68	Uttar Pradesh
3	56	Haryana
4	53	Punjab
5	46	Maharashtra
6	39	Gujarat
7	51	Andhra Pradesh
8	69	Telangana
9	30	Karnataka
10	30	West Bengal
11	25	Tamil Nadu
12	18	Rajasthan
13	11	Madhya Pradesh
14	10	Uttrakhand
15	04	Bihar
16	03	Himachal Pradesh
17	04	Assam
18	02	Jharkhand
19	19	Chhatisgharh
20	09	Orissa
21	20	Kerala
22	07	Goa
23	02	Tripura
24	04	Jammu and Kashmir
25	126	Others

Total number of cases in India by May 2023: 788

It is evident from the statistics above that Delhi has received more number of complaints. In terms of the quantity of complaints received.

Effectiveness of the Ministry

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) provides legal and financial support to Indian women who have been abandoned by their Indian spouses living abroad through affiliated non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

- Total number of beneficiaries= 24
- Total amount of assistance rendered= Rs. 46,96,373/- (2012-2023)

The parents and relatives of the forsaken wife, who has fallen victim to the allure of living and working abroad, are equally as culpable as the opportunistic NRIs.

Marrying a non-resident Indian (NRI) is perceived as only an opportunity to relocate overseas. Such a life appears to have a high level of living and be highly glamorous.

One way for the parents and other siblings to travel overseas is to get a daughter married to an NRI.

Sometimes a fast engagement and a large-scale wedding leave little time to verify the bridegroom's identity. Additionally, the social standing associated with visiting the foreign country and the desire to do so cause this issue to be disregarded, and as a result, the NRI husband leaves India while the wife awaits her visa.

Another cause of a hasty marriage is dowry avarice. The girl's family might not wish to wait a fair amount of time for the husband's family to confirm his potential.

The husband's family tricks these women into marrying him by painting an image of a perfect marriage that is full of false information about his income, property, and work.

Just as the institution of marriage carries a social prestige, its breakup also carries a social stigma. Additionally, Indian women are raised to revere this institution, so they go to great lengths to keep it that way.

Principal Concerns about Indian Wives' Abandonment by NRI Husbands Divorce Process in India

Due to an unsuccessful NRI marriage, women are frequently compelled to return home or left behind and abandoned in India. While she is away, her spouse files a divorce suit abroad. Excessive financial resources prevent the wife from traveling to the other nation to challenge the proceedings and present her case, so the husband can easily obtain an ex parte order. Indian courts have declared such divorces to be void and against Indian law. The courts have even concluded that if a decree was acquired outside of their legitimate consent, it would be null and void. When a foreign judgment is not decisive is defined in Section 13 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. Wives in India encounter extra challenges when they file legal cases. Courts are unable to promptly and effectively issue summons since the husband is in overseas. The proceedings take longer as a result.

Alimony for Maintenance

According to studies, the victims' husbands do not provide them with alimony. Even if some do, it is not consistently given to them. Therefore, the wife must bear the dual responsibility of trying to obtain a sufficient maintenance order from the court and enforcing it sometimes before a foreign court. This is challenging unless that nation cooperates to uphold directives. The enforcement of court orders in reciprocating territories is covered by Section 44A of the CPC, and the execution of orders outside of India is covered by Section 45 of the CPC. Section 44A restricts its scope of operation to Reciprocating Territories alone, meaning those territories with which India has bilateral agreements to implement its orders.

Custody of Children

Fathers sometimes abduct their children, while mothers sometimes bring their children back to India after they realize how hard it is to live in a hostile foreign land. In foreign countries, fathers often obtain custody orders ex parte for themselves if they have not been granted previously. Even when it has come to custody disputes involving children who have been brought to India, the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts have maintained that the child's best interests and welfare should always come first. Thus, if one of the parents applies for these proceedings in India, Indian courts may reconsider the custody dispute from the perspective of the child's best interests, even if the matter has already been resolved by a foreign court. The decision is largely in favor of mother.

V. Ravichandran vs. Union of India

The mother has always been to avoid the legal actions that her spouse has started. Consequently, the child is unable to establish a stable life in India and is required to change schools on a regular basis. This information strongly influenced the court, and the Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court of India ruled that the child, a US national for seven years, had to be returned to the United States. When the mother first landed in

India, the Supreme Court held her responsible for not requesting custody. The honorable court specifically stated:

“ In case such as the present one, we are satisfied that return of minor Adithya to United States of America, for the time being, from where he has been removed and brought here would be in the best interest of the child...”

Since the child's interest and welfare are of utmost importance, the courts base their decisions on this concept.

Dowry

Dowry is given in India both before and after marriage. When someone refuses to contribute, the wife is harassed. In the event that she is compelled to flee the married residence, her husband does not restore her dowry-legal entitlement. It is the wife's responsibility to assert her dowry, which becomes challenging when the NRI spouse fails to appear at the court hearing. In the unlikely event that the wife wins the case, she may find it difficult to get it overturned.

Consequences

- i. Married women are abandoned before they are even transported by their spouse to the other nation where they live.
- ii. When a woman travels to her husband's home country and waits at the international airport there, she later learns that her spouse is not expected to arrive.
- iii. The spouse of the NRI has already married to another woman in other nation.
- iv. Women endure physical and psychological violence, vicious beatings, starvation, mistreatment, confinement, and being compelled to escape or come back to India.
- v. These wives have no way to support themselves, obtain resources, or even obtain legal authorization to remain in the foreign nation where their husbands have abandoned them.
- vi. There is a significant issue with the threat of "honeymoon brides," as more than 20,000 brides report not having seen their husbands after their honeymoon.
- vii. In certain instances, children are abducted from mother and are taken away by force or, on occasion, ingenuity.
- viii. Upon finally approaching the court, in India or abroad, for matrimonial reliefs like maintenance, divorce, or the restoration of conjugal rights, a woman must repeatedly overcome legal and technical barriers pertaining to court jurisdiction, notice service, order enforcement, and learning that her husband has already started a parallel retaliatory lawsuit in the foreign nation.
- ix. By making false claims, husband typically succeeds in obtaining an ex-parte divorce decision in a foreign nation.
- x. When women try to utilize the criminal code or any other law to punish their husbands and in-laws for any marital offense, they discover that the trial cannot go forward because her husband is unwilling to travel to India to appear in court or provide any kind of response to the numerous summons.

Judgments

Y. Narsimha Rao Vs. Y. Venkata Lakshmi

The Hindu Marriage Act was used in India to formally sanctify the union. The husband then left for the United States and returned to acquire a divorce decree from the State of Missouri. Before the petition was instituted, the husband claimed to have lived in the state of Missouri for ninety days. The divorce decree was granted to the husband on the grounds of "irretrievable break down of marriage." The Indian Supreme Court ruled that the foreign decree was unenforceable in India since the Hindu Marriage Act, which permitted the marriage, did not align with either the jurisdiction or the grounds upon which the decree was made.

In this case the court laid down a golden rule:

“... The jurisdiction assumed by the foreign court as well as the ground on which the relief is granted must be in accordance with the matrimonial law under which the parties are married. The only three exceptions to this rule were also laid down by the court: where the matrimonial action is filed in the forum where the respondent is domiciled or habitually and permanently resides and the relief is granted on a ground available in the matrimonial law under which parties are married; where the respondent voluntarily and effectively submits to the jurisdiction of the forum as discussed above and contests the claim which is based on the ground available under the matrimonial law under which the parties are married; where the respondent consents to the grant of the relief although the jurisdiction of the forum is not in accordance with the provisions of the matrimonial law of the parties”

Smt. Neerja Saraph Vs. Shri Jayant V. Saraph

According to the Supreme Court, the Union of India may think about passing legislation similar to the Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act, 1933, which was passed by the British Parliament and gave rise to the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments (India) Order, 1958, which was issued by the UK

government in response to the growing number of marriages with non-resident Indians and the shift in social structure.

The court suggested that the viability of a law protecting women's interests be assessed by include clauses such as:

It is not possible for a foreign court to annul a marriage that occurred in India between an Indian woman and an NRI. It may be provided that the woman receives sufficient maintenance from her husband's assets, both domestically and overseas. By signing a reciprocal agreement, an Indian court's decree may be enforced in a foreign court. A foreign decree, for example, becomes executable as if it had been issued by that court under section 44A of the C.P.C. Giving women the ability to request an injunction or temporary order from the court to prevent their husband from traveling overseas or bringing their children with them (including having their passports impounded).

Harmeeta Singh vs Rajat Taneja

The wife was forced to leave the marital house after three months of joining her husband in the United States. She was abandoned by her spouse within six months of their marriage. In India, she filed a maintenance claim in accordance with the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act 1956. The husband filed a divorce petition in the local US court, and the High Court resolved his interim application by issuing an order of restriction prohibiting him from pursuing the case further. Additionally, the High Court requested that he serve a copy of its order on the US court.

The court's primary conclusions were that even if the husband is successful in getting a divorce judgment in the US, it will not be recognized in India since the Indian court has jurisdiction over the case and Section 13 of the CPC would need to be used to prove the US court's jurisdiction. The Court further clarified that the husband would be considered guilty of bigamy in India and may face criminal charges until the US judgment was recognized in that country. The court further declared that the Delhi court would be the venue of the litigation because the wife's stay in the US was only brief and transitory and she might not have the funds to pursue the case in a US court. The convenient forum for this case would be the courts in Delhi.

New Development

It is determined by the government to form a high-level joint committee consisting of representatives from the Ministries of Women & Child Development and Law, External Affairs. In order to handle situations where NRI spouses desert their Indian wives, this group will create standard operating procedures (SOPs) Law Ministry representatives brought a 47-year-old law to the attention of a parliamentary committee, emphasizing that there is still hope for the wives in distress. They emphasized that measures to address "such situations" were included in the Foreign Marriage Act of 1969. One of the panelists stated, "The Law Ministry has informed us that the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969 contains provisions to assist women who are married to non-resident Indian husbands and are experiencing difficulties overseas. Such a law is unknown to the majority of people. 22 Section 14 of this Act was one of its most important provisions. It says that whenever a marriage is solemnized under the Foreign Marriage Act, "the marriage officer shall certify it in the Marriage Certificate Book".

Proposals and Recommendations

Governmental interventions: The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs issued an order on April 28, 2008, designating the National Commission for Women as the national coordinating organization for handling matters pertaining to NRI marriages. This is established on the recommendations of the 14th Lok Sabha Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women, which examined and discussed on the topic of "Plight of Indian Women Deserted by NRI Husbands" during the Inter Ministerial Committee meeting on July 7, 2008. The National Commission for Women is the main organizing body for complaints regarding Indian husbands who do not dwell in the country and their wives who have been left behind. These figures about the number of conflicts in NRI marriages only represent the tip of the iceberg. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and the National Commission for Women's NRI unit received over 1300 instances between 2005 and 2012. These are the sole complaints that have made their way to the relevant state agencies assigned to handle this case. Real cases are far more common than reported. Given its large position, the National Commission for Women must begin acting more aggressively in order to paint a clearer picture of this societal ill.

As a result, it is advised that the National Commission for Women be acknowledged as an authorized organization that can directly file applications on behalf of abandoned and wronged women in foreign courts. The government ought to implement bilateral or multilateral treaties that prohibit foreign courts from awarding an ex parte divorce decision in situations when marriages are being solemnized in accordance with Indian law. Domestic conflict situations should be included by the extradition accords that India has with foreign nations. In their 219th Report from 2009, the Law Commission of India has already made this recommendation. Treaties pertaining to the implementation of maintenance orders and summons service should be signed with nations that have a substantial Indian population.

Preemptive Measures

Not to rush into the marriage: It is not necessary to get married right away. The bride and groom must engage in extensive conversation and communication. Prior to marriage, the couple should have open and honest communication with one another. This will provide the girl's family enough time to collect the necessary data. The pair can also choose at this point whether or not they even want to get married to one another.

Consent: It is imperative to confirm that both parties have freely and voluntarily agreed to get married. Make sure there is not any parental or social pressure of any type. The groom's parents are pressuring him to marry the Indian girl, even if it is possible that he already has a girlfriend or wife in the other nation.

Confirmation of the groom's family history: It is important to confirm the potential groom's and his family's background. It contains information about his age, citizenship status, employment history, marital status, and property claims. An affidavit attesting to the groom's employment and residency status may be requested. The information below needs to be double-checked and confirmed. The proof of citizenship and immigrant status must be provided by the sworn statement of an affidavit, backed up by certified copies of the voter card, passport, and social security document. Checking if he is single, divorced, or separated to find out his marital status. The category of visa and the ability to bring a spouse abroad are included in immigration status. Information about employment, such as pay and position, backed up by an employer certificate. Verification of the financial claims, together with the accompanying documentation supporting his holdings in India, is being done. An affirmation declaring that there is no active criminal or civil case against him in his own country.

Not depending on matchmakers: The data provided by matchmaking websites, middlemen, and marriage bureaus should not be taken at face value. It is possible that they are only hiding the important facts in an attempt to profit. It is necessary to obtain an affidavit from the groom specifying his current marital status.

Independent in both finances and society: Being independent in terms of finances and social standing is always a good idea. In order for the woman to withdraw money in an emergency, she needs to have a separate account in the foreign country in question. In order to avoid continuing to be dependent on her spouse, she should also possess the necessary education or professional training. She will benefit from social interaction since she will constantly have support from others. The woman assistance line number, police friend, and Indian Embassy contact data must also be in her possession.

Condemn acts of violence: It is imperative that women speak out against any form of injustice or violence directed at them. She would become more and more stifled the longer she remains silent and accepts injustice. She must thus tell others if her spouse or her in-laws are abusing or torturing her.

Being aware of her rights: Both at home country and the foreign one, the bride need to be fully informed on her legal rights and entitlements. By doing this, she will be able to take legal action on time and avoid becoming a victim of the groom's strategies.

Copies of Significant Records: All critical paperwork, including passports, marriage certificates, visas, and bank account details, should be kept in duplicate by the woman, her family in India, or a close friend. These copies will be extremely helpful and enable the woman to pursue legal action and defend her rights in the event that the husband or his relatives forcibly removes or destroys these documents.

Function of an Embassy: In situations where an Indian wife is being mistreated abroad, the Indian Embassy situated overseas can play a significant and proactive role in supporting NRI marriages. To offer support services and aid, welfare officers must be hired in nations with sizable Indian populations. When NRI wives find themselves in a difficult situation, these welfare officers can assist them in obtaining residency and expedited visas so they can defend themselves in court cases that their NRI spouses have started in another nation.

Solutions Based on Law: A new legislation, which will address this issue must be promulgated immediately, and contemporary laws must also be amended. India urgently needs a new, comprehensive legislature, or else many lives will be lost. Victims will be able to obtain justice more quickly and, as a result, be able to move on with their lives and likely get married again if a special law is passed that provides for prompt hearings and remedies. It should be mandatory to register marriages involving non-resident Indians (NRIs) under the Hindu Marriage Act and any other applicable marriage act. This will enable the parties to have legal remedies and assist prevent bigamy. A distinct government institution should be established to handle the registration of international marriages.

Divorce decisions granted ex parte by foreign courts to nonresident Indians (NRIs) need not to be acknowledged or regarded as legally enforceable in India. The matter should be tried in an Indian court that has the appropriate jurisdiction. In this manner, everyone will have an equal opportunity to support their claims—especially the woman, who will have an advantage over her husband. It will be very effective to enact appropriate NRI legislation, create the necessary procedural rules for their implementation, and set up the appropriate departments and organizations to carry them out. Given the expanding breadth of this issue, it is

imperative to establish additional NRI Commissions and NRI cells. Strict legal measures must be implemented against the perpetrator—either the husband or the wife—in cases of abuse in these international marriages, as well as against the party who deserts.

The Indian government ought to sign bilateral treaties with other nations, particularly those where there is a significant Indian diaspora, and agree on the methods to be used in handling the legal processes associated with international marriages, such as child custody, maintenance, divorce, and other matters. By doing this, it will be easier to prosecute the criminals using the reciprocity principle. It is necessary to assess the viability of section 20 of the Extradition Act, 1962, which allows for the extradition of any individual found guilty or found not guilty of a crime from a foreign nation to India.

Alternative remedies: The girl needs to understand the laws of the other country as well as her rights as a married woman, particularly those regarding abuse, neglect, domestic violence, and desertion. People who deal with this issue should be properly trained and able to empathize with the victim. Consistent and intermittent awareness Campaigns should be carried out with an emphasis on villages in particular to inform and caution people against this way of life, which is really a terrible trap. The media may be very helpful in this area by drawing attention to the negative effects of quickly marrying an NRI and the precautions that should be taken to avoid social and economic destitution and the stigma that goes along with it.

There is an increasing need to raise awareness among the police and judges about matrimonial offenses committed by NRI husbands. This aids in offering the victims of such offenses support, aid, and humanitarian care. Consequently, this will facilitate the prompt resolution of these incidents of violence against women. Divorce should be granted on the grounds of "irretrievable breakdown of marriage," subject to its safeguard.

Conclusion

After examining the situation and state of these deserted wives, the above-mentioned measures must be put into practice right away. On the surface, the issue might appear trivial as it is widely believed that there may not be as many victims as there are, but both the problem and the number of victims connected to it are growing rapidly. The respect that marriage has as an institution will be damaged if this issue is not handled quickly and sensitively, which will undoubtedly slow down society's usual flow and raise doubts about the institution itself.

In India, social standing and marriages are intimately related. As such, Indian families are more inclined to marry off their daughters to foreign men. A situation where the wife is reliant on her husband for her well-being and sustenance arises from adjusting to a new environment away from home. When things go south in the marriage, the wife is left devastated and unable to get justice. A solid legal framework that aids in resolving these problems and empowering women should be put in place in light of the steadily rising rate of female helplessness. In the current scenario, she is either provided with a remedy when none exists or, in the event that she is granted proper access, there is none. Redressing a wife's grievances is not common. She loses her legal rights and benefits if she returns to India in addition to being excluded from domestic abuse. Therefore, we suggest changing the laws governing NRI weddings in order to get out of this hopeless scenario.

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