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Title : Need to formulate a mechanism for preventing the incidents of fraudulent NRI marriages in Punjab and other parts of the country.

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA (SANGRUR): The incidents of fraudulent NRI marriages are on the rise, but the crime goes largely unpunished. Many desperate women abroad are duped or dumped by their NRI's husbands and thousands of other languishing in their village homes waiting for the call from abroad that never comes. Lying, cheating, false promises, unreasonable dowry demands are just some of the reason behind these unhappy marriages. There are nearly 15000 women deserted by NRI's in Punjab alone. Stranded in a foreign country, often without any financial support, they have no one to turn to except the Indian Government. There is an urgent need for some institutional mechanism of getting authentic information before these long-distance marriages are finalized. India Mission abroad could help in this regard. Government should also consider bringing in a comprehensive regulation/legislation to ensure that all protection be accorded by law to Indian women, with regard to marriage, divorce, maintenance, inheritance and custody of children etc.