



## NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

### Efforts of the National Commission for Women's NRI Cell yield results

#### PRESS NOTE

After the recently concluded one-day national seminar on “NRI Marriage Related Issues in Punjab” organized by the NCW on 30.07.2018 in Jalandhar, Punjab, various organisations in the State have stepped forward to contribute to the social rehabilitation of aggrieved women of NRI marriages.

Two major organizations in Punjab have expressed their commitment to the cause and have assured the NCW of assistance in creating employment opportunities for the women affected on account of various issues involved in NRI marriages.

S.S. Memorial Educational Society, based in Sri Chamkor Sahib of Ropar district has offered to provide jobs, along with safe accommodation, to aggrieved women in the three units of Vardhman Group at Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana and Baddi in Punjab.

Sri Muktsar Sahib-based St. Sahara Group of Institutes has stepped forward with a similar offer. The Chairperson of the lead professional educational institute in Punjab has assured the Chairperson, Smt. Rekha Sharma of necessary support in terms of providing employment for the aggrieved women. The institute has also expressed their willingness to support aggrieved women through free or subsidized education for their children in their schools.

Smt. Sharma has welcomed the commendable efforts of these organisations. Smt. Sharma said, “I expect the industrial groups in Punjab to also come forward to contribute to this cause and recognise this as their social responsibility. Social rehabilitation of the women aggrieved of NRI Marriages is as important as the legal interventions.”

Smt. Sharma added, “I applaud the relentless efforts made by Hon’ble Minister Smt. Maneka Gandhi to find solutions to the legal complexities involved in this issue. The Ministry by constituting an Integrated Nodal Agency (INA), with representatives from the ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs and Law and Justice to look into matrimonial disputes involving NRIs, has recognised the actual magnitude of the problem. Smt. Gandhi has also expressed the commitment of the Commission to handle this issue with an integrated approach, focusing on all its important aspects.”

The major objectives of the national seminar, held last month in Punjab, was to discuss the factors that play a crucial role in NRI marriage alliances in the backdrop of socio-economic and cultural context of Punjabi society and to deliberate on possible solutions. The seminar was graced by Sh. Gobind Singh Longowal, President of Shriomani Gurdwara Pharbandhak Committee (SGPC). Over 20 women deserted by their NRI husbands participated in the seminar and presented recommendations to stakeholders. Officials from the SGPC, Punjab NRI Commission, Police, District and State administration, local body representatives, civil society organisations, and over 1200 students also participated in seminar.

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