

Minutes of the Meeting

(NRI Cell, NCW)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Expert Committee on the subject "Need to review the existing legislatures or to enact special Indian enactments to address the various issues that arise in NRI/ Overseas marriages" held on 27.07.2012 at 02.30 pm in NCW.

1. The list of participants is enclosed. Other co-opted members had not been able to attend.
2. Members of the Commission and the members of the Committee were welcomed. It was pointed out that recommendations of the Committee as presented in the meeting of the Expert Committee held on 27th March 2012 had been circulated to all members of NCW. The Hon'ble Member (CWK) had given point wise comments on the same vide OM dated 09.04.12 which along with the recommendations of the Committee was placed before the Commission.
3. It was explained that the Committee was constituted to examine relevant laws from two aspects: firstly whether there is need for amendments in the existing laws which can address the various issues that arise in NRI/ Overseas marriages; and secondly whether there is a need for fresh legislation to address the issues of NRI/ Overseas marriages. The Meeting of the 27th July 2012 attempted to provide point wise answers/clarifications to the doubts raised. It was discussed that the issue needs in depth research and consultations with the different Stake holders to come out with a well reasoned document covering identification, assessment and management of the problem and suggesting specific amendments to the various provisions of different laws of the country in order to benefit the affected women. The Committee members further emphasised that they need specific assistance to accomplish the work as this needs in depth research work and also various consultations as the different laws that require amendments.
4. Consensus emerged that Expert Committee members be given financial assistance to do research based work culminating in a focussed National level Seminar to finalize specific amendments to laws required. They will then present their comprehensive findings to NCW within four months i.e by end of November 2012. It was also proposed that since matter may not be delayed further ex post facto approval of the Commission be sought, after approval to this proposal is sought from Hon'ble CP on file.
5. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

1. Hon'ble Member, Wansuk Syeim
2. Hon'ble Member, Dr. Charuwali Khanna
3. Hon'ble Member, Shamina Shafiq
4. Joint Secretary, NCW, Ms.Minakshi Ghose
5. Ms. Pam Rajput
6. Ms. Kirti Singh(Adv)
7. Prof.V.C.Govindraj, Indian Society of International Law
8. Ms. Kanchan Khattar CO(NRI)