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## Q NO.509 CORRUPTIONS IN HOUSES BUILT BY INDIA IN SRI LANKA

December 03, 2015

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.509
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2015

## CORRUPTIONS IN HOUSES BUILT BY INDIA IN SRI LANKA

509. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry has come across allegations of sexual favours sought for giving houses built by India in Sri Lanka for Sri Lankan Tamils, if so, the details thereon; and
- (b) what action the Ministry has taken on the same?

## **ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) On 03 October 2015, a local Tamil newspaper 'Sudaroli' in Jaffna reported that a Sri Lankan Red Cross official had allegedly demanded sexual favours from a woman beneficiary of the Indian Housing Project for release of funds for construction of house. Sri Lankan Red Cross (SLRC) is one of the implementing agencies for the Indian Housing Project and it works in partnership with International Federation Red Cross (IFRC) in Sri Lanka.

The High Commission of India in Colombo took up the matter strongly with IFRC and asked for an immediate enquiry into the allegation. A joint investigation was carried out by the Consulate General of India in Jaffna, IFRC and SLRC. The report concluded that the allegation of sexual harassment made by the complainant was false and baseless. The report concluded that a few disgruntled employees of SLRC had fabricated the allegations to malign the reputation of SLRC. The joint investigation report was handed over to the Ministry of Law and Order and Prison Reforms of Sri Lanka by IFRC/SLRC.

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Working hours at Headquarters 9:00 A.M. To 5:30 P.M.