

**Bill No. XXXVII of 2026**

THE INDIAN DIASPORA AND MIGRANT WORKERS (PROTECTION  
AND WELFARE) BILL, 2026

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**Bill No. XXXVII of 2026**

THE INDIAN DIASPORA AND MIGRANT WORKERS  
(PROTECTION AND WELFARE) BILL, 2026

A

BILL

*to provide for protection to Indian diaspora and migrant workers who are in distress in a foreign country from crimes including recruitment fraud, organ trade and trafficking; and to ensure legal aid and welfare services to them; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

- 5     **1.** (1) This Act may be called the Indian Diaspora and Migrant Workers (Protection and Welfare) Act, 2026.

Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint, and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “appropriate Government” means the Central Government, in respect of matters relating to foreign affairs, consular assistance, international cooperation and national policy; and the State Government, in respect of rehabilitation, reintegration and domestic assistance upon return; 5

(b) “consular assistance” means any form of facilitative, protective or supportive assistance provided through Indian diplomatic or consular missions, including but not limited to—

(i) access to consular officials and communication with family members; 10

(ii) assistance in understanding local laws and procedure;

(iii) facilitation of legal representation through permissible local mechanisms;

(iv) assistance in obtaining or renewing travel and identity documents; and 15

(v) coordination with local authorities for welfare, safety, or due process.

*Explanation.*— The consular assistance under this Act shall be non-adjudicatory and non-punitive and shall not amount to interference with the sovereignty or legal systems of foreign States. 20

(c) “Commission” means the National Commission for Welfare of Indian Diaspora and Migrant Workers established under section 6 of this Act;

(d) “cyber fraud” includes online fraud, identity misuse, digital impersonation or misuse of electronic platforms; 25

(e) “distressed ” under this Act shall mean a Non-Resident Indian or migrant worker who requires protection, assistance or intervention by the appropriate Government due to —

(i) arrest, detention, imprisonment, or legal proceedings in a foreign country; 30

(ii) any act of violence;

(iii) exploitation, abuse, abandonment or coercion, including labour or domestic exploitation;

(iv) cyber fraud or financial deception; 35

(v) medical emergency, disability, mental health crisis or lack of access to healthcare;

(vi) abandonment of women, children or elderly dependents abroad;

(vii) humanitarian emergencies including war, conflict, epidemic, natural disaster or forced displacement; or 40

(viii) any other circumstance resulting in a serious threat to life, liberty, dignity or livelihood.

(f) “family member” means the spouse, children, parents, grandparents, siblings or any dependent relative of a Non-Resident Indian or migrant worker; 45

(g) “Indian diaspora” means persons of Indian origin or affiliation residing outside India, and includes—

(i) Non-Resident Indians as defined under this Act;

(ii) Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), registered under the Citizenship Act, 1955; and

(iii) Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), being foreign citizens who trace their ancestry to India,

5 and shall include such other categories of persons of Indian heritage or long-term association with India as may be recognised by the Central Government for the purposes of welfare, engagement and assistance.

10 *Explanation.* — The term “Indian diaspora” is used in this Act in a welfare-oriented and inclusive sense, and does not create citizenship rights, political rights or obligations under any other law for the time being in force.

15 (h) “legal aid” means facilitative support provided to a Non-Resident Indian or a migrant worker for accessing legal remedies, including—

(i) identification and referral to qualified legal practitioners abroad;

(ii) assistance with translation, interpretation and documentation;

20 (iii) support in understanding charges, proceedings or contractual obligations; and

(iv) financial assistance for legal representation, where provided under schemes or funds established under this Act.

25 *Explanation.* — Legal aid under this Act does not create a right to representation under foreign law but ensures reasonable access and support, subject to the laws of the host country.

30 (i) “migrant worker” means a citizen of India who has migrated or intends to migrate to a foreign country for the purpose of employment, whether skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled, and includes any person:

(i) recruited through a recruiting agent, digital platform, or intermediary;

(ii) who has emigrated on a tourist or visit visa but has been engaged in employment abroad;

35 (iii) who has entered into a foreign country, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, and is subsequently entrapped in human trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, organ trade, drug trafficking syndicates, or other illicit activities resulting from coercion, deception, or exploitation by recruitment agents or intermediaries; and

40 (iv) who has been recruited for employment but has been denied such employment, wages, or contractual rights upon arrival in the host country;

45 (j) “Non-Resident Indian” means a person who is a citizen of India and who is ordinarily residing outside India for employment, business, education or any other lawful purpose;

(k) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

50 (l) “public authority” means the Central Government, any State Government, any local authority, statutory body, public sector undertaking or any authority or body established by or under any law for the time being in force; and

(m) “vulnerability” mean a condition or situation in which an Indian diaspora or migrant worker is exposed to an increased risk of harm, exploitation, abuse, neglect or violation of rights due to social, economic, legal, health-related or situational factors.

## CHAPTER II

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### RIGHTS AND DUTIES

Rights of Indian diaspora and migrant workers .

3. (1) Every Indian diaspora and migrant worker shall –
- (a) have the right to access the protection, facilitation and assistance mechanisms established under this Act;
  - (b) be entitled to receive accurate, timely and appropriate information, guidance and facilitative legal assistance from designated authorities in matters covered under this Act; 10
  - (c) have the right to fair and non-discriminatory treatment, and no public authority shall subject any Indian diaspora and migrant worker to arbitrary, discriminatory or unfair treatment in matters falling within the scope of this Act; 15
  - (d) be entitled to facilitation and assistance for the protection of their property, inheritance and other civil interests in India, in accordance with law;
  - (e) have the right to submit grievances and to receive facilitation and follow-up through institutional mechanisms established under this Act; and 20
  - (f) have any such other rights as may be prescribed.
- (2) Every migrant worker shall have the right to protection against the confiscation of travel documents by employers or agents, and the right to state-funded repatriation in the event of employer’s insolvency or workplace abuse. 25
4. The appropriate Government shall take such measures as may be necessary to ensure effective implementation of this Act, including policy coordination, oversight and resource allocation. 30
5. (1) The appropriate Government shall designate nodal officers for coordination, facilitation and grievance follow-up under this Act.
- (2) The nodal officers so designated under this section shall discharge such functions as may be prescribed, and shall act in coordination with the Commission established under section 6. 35

Duty of appropriate Government.

Duty to designate nodal officer.

## CHAPTER III

### NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WELFARE OF INDIAN DIASPORA AND MIGRANT WORKERS

Establishment of National Commission for Welfare of Indian Diaspora and Migrant Workers.

6. (1) **The Central Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, establish a body to be known as the National Commission for Welfare of Indian Diaspora and Migrant Workers to exercise the powers conferred on, and to perform the functions assigned to it under this Act.** 40
- (2) **The Commission shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.** 45

- (3) The Commission shall be an advisory and facilitative body, entrusted with the protection, welfare and assistance to Indian diaspora and migrant workers.
- (4) The head office of the Commission shall be at New Delhi and the Commission may, in consultation with the Central Government, establish office(s) at such other place(s) in the country, as it may deem fit, for carrying out the purposes of this Act.
- (5) The Commission shall have to power to regulate its own procedure.
7. (1) The Commission shall consist of the following Members to be appointed by the Central Government on full time basis, in such manner as may be prescribed, *namely*,—
- (a) a Chairperson, who shall be a person of eminence having not less than fifteen years' experience in the fields of international diplomacy, international law, migration governance, consular affairs, or public administration, and who possesses demonstratable expertise in policy formulation and institutional coordination;
- (b) four Members, to be appointed from amongst persons of ability, integrity and standing, having collective expertise in, one or more of following fields, such as—
- (i) labour welfare and migrant protection;
- (ii) cyber safety and financial fraud affecting NRIs;
- (iii) international cooperation and consular coordination;
- (iv) legal aid, rehabilitation and social reintegration; and
- (c) a Member-Secretary, who shall be an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India, possessing appropriate experience and knowledge in international affairs;
8. (1) The Chairperson and Members of the Commission shall hold office for such period as may be prescribed by the Central Government in this behalf.
- (2) The salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of, the Chairperson and Members shall be such as may be prescribed by rules made under this Act and shall not be varied to their disadvantage during their tenure.
- Provided that until such rules are made in this behalf, they shall be entitled to such remuneration and benefits as are admissible to persons holding equivalent post in the Central Government.
- (3) The Central Government may remove a person from the office of the Chairperson or a member, as the case may be, only on ground of proved misbehaviour and incapacity.
- (4) The Central Government may appoint such number of officers and staff including experts to the Commission as may be required for its efficient functioning.
- (5) The salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of the officers, staff and experts of the Commission shall be such as may be prescribed.
9. No act or proceeding of the Commission shall be invalid or be questioned merely on the ground of existence of any vacancy in or any defect in the constitution of the Commission or any defect in the nomination of a person as Chairperson or member of the Commission or any irregularity in the procedure of the Commission not affecting the merits of the case.

Composition of Commission.

Term of office and conditions of service of the Members and staff of the Commission.

Vacancies etc. not to invalidate the proceedings of the Commission.

Functions of  
the  
Commission.

10. (1) The Commission shall perform all or any of the following functions, namely—
- (a) advise the Central and State Governments on policies and measures relating to the protection and engagement of Indian diaspora and migrant workers; 5
  - (b) coordinate with Indian embassies, high commissions and consulates to ensure timely assistance to Indian diaspora and migrant workers;
  - (c) examine systemic issues affecting the Indian diaspora and migrant workers and submit recommendations to the appropriate Government; 10
  - (d) call for information or reports from public authorities for the purposes of this Act;
  - (e) engage experts, academic institutions, civil society organisations and recognized diaspora bodies for carrying out its functions; 15
  - (f) undertake emergency coordination in cases of sudden vulnerability, medical emergencies, abandonment or humanitarian crises involving Indian diaspora and migrant workers;
  - (g) monitor the activities of recruitment agents and agencies, maintain a blacklist of foreign employers and agents involved in fraud against migrant workers and recommend prosecution of such agents to the Central Government; 20
  - (h) provide advisory support to Indian diaspora and migrant workers regarding local legal procedures, consular processes, and available consular assistance mechanisms; 25
  - (i) collect, maintain and analyze anonymized data relating to grievances, vulnerabilities and assistance provided to Indian diaspora and migrant workers which shall be strictly used for research, policy formulation, and systemic improvement; 30
  - (j) **conduct training and capacity-building programs for officials dealing with Indian diaspora and migrant workers, including cultural sensitivity, crisis response, and coordination with foreign authorities;**
  - (k) **co-ordinate with the appropriate Government for state-funded repatriation of distressed migrant worker, in the event of employer's insolvency or workplace abuse;** 35
  - (l) **assist the State Government to rehabilitate and reintegrate the aggrieved persons upon their return; and**
  - (m) perform any such other function as may be prescribed. 40

(2) The Commission shall function without prejudice to the sovereignty of foreign States, and shall not exercise criminal, prosecutorial or punitive jurisdiction.

Powers of the  
Commission.

11. (1) For the purposes of this Act, the Commission may—
- (a) call for information from Ministries, Departments of the Central Government or any State Government or Indian missions abroad; 45
  - (b) seek explanations or status reports from concerned authorities;

(c) upon *prima facie* evidence of financial fraud, recommend to the Competent Authority, issuance of a Look Out Circular or impounding of passports;

5 (d) conduct hearings, inquiries or consultations, in person or through electronic means;

(e) exercise any other powers as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Act.

5 of 1908.

10 (2) The Commission shall, while inquiring into any matter referred to it under this Act, have the powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, for the limited purpose of inquiry, including summoning information and examining records and any other matter which may be prescribed.

(3) All powers conferred on Commission under this section shall be recommendatory and facilitative in nature.

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#### CHAPTER IV

##### GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL AND FACILITATION MECHANISM

12. (1) Any distressed Non-Resident Indian, migrant worker or an authorised family member or representative, may file a grievance before the Commission.

Filing of grievances.

20 (2) A grievance under sub-section (1) may be filed—

(a) in physical form; or

(b) electronically through a designated portal or helpline; or

(c) through an Indian diplomatic or consular mission abroad.

25 (3) No grievance shall be rejected on the ground of technical deficiency, limitation, language or format;

(4) The Commission shall provide necessary assistance for translation, documentation and clarification to the aggrieved, wherever required.

13. Every grievance received under section 12, shall be subject to a preliminary examination for the limited purposes of—

Preliminary examination.

30 (a) identifying the nature of assistance required;

(b) determining the appropriate authority or forum; and

(c) assessing urgency.

35 Provided that preliminary examination shall not involve adjudication of rights or liabilities, and where immediate assistance is required, interim facilitative measures may be initiated without awaiting completion of preliminary examination.

14. (1) The Commission shall monitor the progress of grievances referred to it under this Act in such manner as may be prescribed.

Follow-up monitoring mechanism.

40 (2) The periodic status updates of the grievance shall be communicated to the complainant through electronic or other appropriate means:

Provided that monitoring shall be facilitative in nature and shall not interfere with the autonomy of the authority or forum concerned.

Time-bound facilitation.

- 15.** Every grievance shall be processed and followed up within reasonable time limits, which shall be prescribed having regard to—
- (a) the nature of the grievance;
  - (b) urgency; and
  - (c) vulnerability of the complainant: 5
- Provided that failure to adhere to prescribed timelines shall be recorded by the Commission and reported for administrative review.

## CHAPTER V

### PROCEDURAL FACILITATION AND SAFEGUARDS

Video conferencing and digital participation.

- 16.** The Commission shall, for the purposes of this Act, wherever feasible, facilitate participation of Indian diaspora and migrant workers or their family member or a representative either through physical presence or through video conferencing, secure digital platforms or hybrid modes of participation: 10

Provided that absence of physical presence shall not be treated as non-cooperation or default. 15

Assistance in service of notices.

- 17.** The Commission may, wherever necessary, provide assistance in effecting service of notices, summons or documents in matters involving Indian diaspora and migrant workers:

Provided that such assistance shall be facilitative and shall not substitute the procedures prescribed under applicable law. 20

Coordination in civil disputes.

- 18.** The Commission may, if required, coordinate with courts, tribunals or any other forums to facilitate participation of Indian diaspora and migrant workers in disputes:

Provided that such coordination shall be limited to procedural facilitation and shall not extend to, or interfere with, the adjudication of rights or liabilities of the concerned forum. 25

Safeguards against unnecessary coercive action.

- 19.** (1) No facilitative action under this Act shall result in arrest, detention, attachment of property, or any other coercive measure, except in accordance with existing law. 30
- (2) The Commission shall ensure that all actions taken under this Act adhere to the principles of proportionality, necessity and fairness.

## CHAPTER VI

### WELFARE AND AWARENESS MEASURES FOR THE INDIAN DIASPORA

Diaspora engagement measures.

- 20.** (1) The Commission, may undertake confidence-building, outreach and engagement measures with the Indian diaspora and migrant workers, with a view to— 35

(a) enhancing awareness of assistance, grievance-redressal and welfare mechanisms available under this Act and other prevailing laws or policies for the time being in force; 40

(b) promoting cooperation, trust and communication between the Indian diaspora and Indian institutions; and

(c) strengthening community-based support networks, including associations, welfare bodies and cultural organisations abroad.

- (2) The measures under this section may include— 45

(a) dissemination of information through digital platforms, Missions and community outreach;

- (b) facilitation of dialogue with diaspora organisations;
- (c) organisation of awareness programmes, workshops or helplines;
- (d) collaboration with recognised diaspora groups for welfare and emergency support; and
- (e) any other activity as may be prescribed.

21. (1) Every Indian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate shall designate a nodal officer for the purpose of this Act, who shall be responsible for—

Nodal officer in Indian Embassies, High Commissions or Consulates.

- (a) acting as a single-point contact for welfare-related queries and assistance;
- (b) coordinating with concerned authorities or forums regarding diaspora-related grievances and facilitation requests;
- (c) disseminating information regarding available assistance mechanisms;
- (d) any other function as may be prescribed.

(2) The nodal officer, designated under sub-section (1), shall function under the overall supervision of the Head of Mission and in coordination with authorities designated under this Act.

(3) The designation of a nodal officer under this section shall be administrative in nature and shall not confer upon him any adjudicatory or enforcement powers.

## CHAPTER VII

### REPORTING AND PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT

22. (1) The Commission shall prepare, in such form and at such time, for each financial year, as may be prescribed, its annual report, giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year and forward a copy thereof to the Central Government.

Annual Report.

(2) The annual report, such prepared, shall provide a comprehensive account of its activities including but not limited to the following—

- (a) the number and nature of grievances received;
- (b) the categories of assistance and facilitation provided;
- (c) timelines for disposal and follow-up;
- (d) coordination undertaken with State Governments, Indian missions and other authorities;
- (e) systemic issues, recurring patterns and structural gaps identified;
- (f) outcomes of policy advisories and recommendations issued under this Act;
- (g) data on the number of unregistered recruitment agents identified, blacklisted, or prosecuted; — statistics on migrant workers repatriated from distress situations, including victims of trafficking and employment fraud;
- (h) challenges faced in implementation and capacity constraints; and
- (i) recommendations, suggestions and advise as rendered to the Central Government or any State Government.

	(3) The annual report shall include disaggregated and anonymised data, to the extent feasible, to assist evidence-based policy formulation.	
Accounts and audit.	23. (1) The Commission shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form as may be prescribed by the Central Government in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.	5
	(2) The accounts of the Commission shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General at such intervals as may be specified by him and any expenditure incurred in connection with such audit shall be payable by the Commission to the Comptroller and Auditor-General.	10
	(3) The Comptroller and Auditor-General and any person appointed by him in connection with the audit of the accounts of the Commission under this Act shall have the same rights and privileges and the authority in connection with such audit as the Comptroller and Auditor-General generally has in connection with the audit of Government accounts and, in particular, shall have the right to demand the production of books, accounts, connected vouchers and other documents and papers and to inspect any of the offices of the Commission.	15
	(4) The accounts of the Commission, as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General or any other person appointed by him in this behalf, together with the audit report thereon shall be forwarded annually to the Central Government by the Commission.	20
Annual Report and audit report to be laid before Parliament.	24. The Central Government shall cause the annual report prepared under section 22 of this Act, together with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations contained therein, in so far as they related to the Central Government, and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any, of any such recommendations and the audit report to be laid as soon as may be after the reports are received, before each House of Parliament.	25
Transparency and public access.	25. (1) The annual report prepared under section 22, and such other summaries as may be prescribed, shall be made publicly accessible, including through digital platforms.	30
	(2) The information to be made publicly accessible under sub-section (1), shall be withheld or redacted only where disclosure—	
	(a) compromises the privacy or safety of individuals;	
	(b) affects diplomatic or consular relations; or	35
	(c) is otherwise restricted under applicable law.	

## CHAPTER VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS

Central Government to provide funds.	26. <b>The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, provide adequate funds to the Commission for carrying out the purposes of this Act.</b>	40
Act not in derogation of any other law.	27. (1) The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law for the time being in force and, in case of any inconsistency, the provisions of this Act shall have over riding effect on the provisions of any such law to the extent of inconsistency.	45
	(2) Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed as limiting the jurisdiction of any court or authority under existing law, or restricting the right of any person to seek remedies under any other statute or constitutional provision.	
Protection of action taken in good faith.	28. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Central Government, the Commission or any officer or employee of the	50

Commission, for anything which is done or intended to be done in good faith in pursuance of provisions of this Act.

29. (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Power to make rules.

5 (2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely—

(a) procedures for filing of grievances, their examination and referral to the authority concerned;

(b) timelines and monitoring mechanisms for grievances;

10 (c) coordination protocols with State Governments and Indian missions abroad;

(d) management of data, maintenance of its confidentiality and reporting standards;

(e) qualifications, training and capacity-building of officials; and

15 (f) any other matter required to be prescribed under this Act.

30. Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

Rules to be laid before Parliament.

31. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as appear to it to be necessary or expedient, for removing the difficulty.

Power to remove difficulties.

30 Provided that no such order under this section, shall be issued after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall, as soon as may be made after it is made, be laid before Parliament.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Indian Diaspora, comprises of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs), and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs). NRIs are defined as Indian citizens ordinarily residing abroad for employment, business, education, or other purposes; OCIs as foreign citizens of Indian origin registered under the Citizenship Act, 1955; and PIOs as foreign citizens tracing ancestry to India. These groups, numbering over 30 million globally, contribute immensely to India's economy *via* remittances exceeding \$100 billion annually but face severe vulnerabilities abroad and domestically.

They encounter distress including arrest/detention/legal proceedings abroad, violence, exploitation/abuse/abandonment *e.g.*, labour/domestic coercion, abandonment of women/children/elderly; cyber fraud/financial deception/identity misuse, medical emergencies/disability and humanitarian emergencies *viz.*, war, conflict, epidemics, disasters; economic/contractual disputes, property or succession issues in India, and harassment in physical, verbal, psychological, economic or digital forms. Their family members in India often suffer unattended grievances, lacking coordinated governmental support, leading to threats to life, liberty, dignity, and livelihood. A large section of migrant workers, particularly low skilled, face severed vulnerabilities.

Recent years have witnessed a disturbing rise in cases of recruitment fraud, where Indian citizens are lured abroad by illegal agents with false promises of employment or education, only to be trapped in debt bondage, illegal residency, or the flesh trade. Existing legal frameworks often focus on the emigration clearance process but lack a comprehensive mechanism to protect citizens after they have left Indian shores, especially those who fall out of the legal status net due to fraud or coercion.

Article 21 of the Constitution guarantees the right to life and dignity, a protection that extends to Indian citizens even when they are abroad. There is an urgent need to transition from a purely "welfare-based" approach to a "rights-based" framework that holds the State accountable for the protection of its nationals.

This Bill seeks to address these challenges by: (a) Extending statutory protection not just to NRIs, but explicitly to migrant workers and those rendered irregular due to agent fraud; (b) Establishing a statutory National Commission with powers to monitor grievances, blacklist fraudulent agents, and coordinate rescues; and (c) Ensuring that victims of trafficking and fraud are treated with dignity and provided state-funded repatriation rather than being penalized.

This Bill brings a robust framework - statutory rights/entitlements for NRIs/Indian Diaspora; duties on Central/State Governments, districts/police, missions abroad, and NRI nodal officers; establishment of National Commission for Welfare of NRIs with composition, functions (grievance oversight/monitoring), and powers; time-bound grievance redressal with procedural safeguards (video conferencing, notice service, civil/family coordination, anti-coercion); welfare/awareness/engagement measures; emergency/property/family assistance; annual Parliamentary reporting/transparency; rule-making with oversight; and complementarity to existing laws. It ensures consular assistance (non-interfering), legal aid facilitation, and protection in good faith, fostering trust and engagement.

Hence, this Bill.

ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL.

## FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 6 of the Bill provides for the establishment of the National Commission for Welfare of Indian Diaspora and Migrant Workers. Clause 7 provides for appointment of Chairperson and Members of the Commission and Clause 8 provides for term of office and conditions of service of Chairperson, Members, officers and staff of the Commission including salaries and allowances or remuneration payable to them. Clause 10 provides for conduct of training and capacity-building programs for officials dealing with Indian diaspora and migrant workers along with state-funded repatriation. Clause 26 provides for Central Government to provide funds to the Commission for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

It is estimated that the Bill, if enacted, will involve a non-recurring expenditure of approximately rupees ten crore for the establishment of the Commission's infrastructure. The recurring expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India is estimated to be approximately rupees fifty crore per annum.

## MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 29 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act. Clause 31 empowers the Central Government to make provisions through an order to remove any difficulties likely to arise in giving effect to the provisions of the Bill, after its enactment.

As the rules and order(s) will relate to matters of procedure and administrative detail only, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.



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to provide for protection to Indian diaspora and migrant workers who are in distress in a foreign country from crimes including recruitment fraud, organ trade and trafficking; and to ensure legal aid and welfare services to them; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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*(Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal, M.P.)*