

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1198**

**ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2026**

**EMIGRANT WORKERS WELFARE AND DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT**

**1198. THIRU ARUN NEHRU**

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-**

**(a) the number of grievances received from Tamil workers in Malaysia and Singapore regarding wage theft and poor working conditions in FY 2025-26;**

**(b) whether the Indian High Commissions in these countries have a dedicated 24x7 helpline in the Tamil language, if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) the status of the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana claims settled for families in Perambalur;**

**(d) whether the Government is negotiating a Social Security Agreement with Gulf countries to protect blue-collar workers, if so, the details thereof; and**

**(e) the details of the 'Know India Programme' participants from the Tamil diaspora?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)**

**(a) As per available information, the number of grievances received from Tamil workers regarding wage theft and poor working conditions:**

<b>• Singapore</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>• Malaysia (01.04.25 to 21.01.2026)</b>	<b>559</b>

**(b) The Indian High Commissions in Malaysia and Singapore have dedicated 24X7 helplines as per the following details:**

**Singapore helpline - +65-91729803**

**Malaysia helpline - +60 12 602 0360**

**(c) The Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) is a mandatory insurance scheme for Emigration Check Required (ECR) category workers going to ECR countries for overseas employment. The Scheme was comprehensively revamped and has become effective from August 1, 2017. The scheme now provides for global coverage irrespective of employer and location and has**

**facility for online renewal. The revised scheme is simpler and more beneficial for emigrant workers, provides an insurance cover of 10 lakhs in case of accidental death or permanent disability and some other benefits at a nominal insurance premium of Rs. 275/ Rs. 375 for a period of two/three years. The scheme is aimed at ensuring an expeditious settlement of claims. District level records for status of PBBY claims are not available.**

**(d) There are no ongoing Social Security Agreement negotiations with Gulf Countries.**

**(e) As per available records, so far 141 participants from Tamil Diaspora have participated in the Know India Programme.**

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