

Open House 31.10.2025

At 11:00 hrs

Meeting number: 23760470584

Meeting link:

<https://eoimct.webex.com/eoimct/j.php?MTID=m5b80663da2840bf084e585f74d0ba10a>

Meeting password: 9m83TmXjfn5

Join from a video system or application:

23760470584@eoimct.webex.com

You can also dial 62.109.219.4 and enter your meeting number.

Meeting password for video system: 96838695



Embassy of India, Muscat

Open House: CPVWECC (Consular, Passport, Visa, Welfare, Education, Commercial, Cultural)

All are welcome to join in the captioned Open House as per the following details:

FROM	Embassy of India, Muscat
DVC DATE & TIME	31 October 2025 11:00 AM Oman Time (hybrid meeting)

Venue	<p>Hybrid:</p> <p>-Online (link to be sent on 30 October)</p> <p>-Onsite (SGIVS, Al Raid Business Centre, Building No. 4819, Office No. 27, 1st Floor, Al Qurum, Muscat)</p>
Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Issues faced by / suggestions from the CPVWECC (Consular, Passport, Visa, Welfare, Education, Commercial and Cultural) stakeholders / applicants; Kindly use the link here to post your issue right away and get the attention of the Embassy. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SGIVS related challenges, of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. appointments ii. information authenticity / transparency b. Transparency in the fee structure (single bundled application processing fee by SGIVS of OMR 6 including the postal charges; and, that by the Government of India for various services) 2. Building new Indian Social Club in Al Amerat, Muscat, a newly gifted land by the Government of the Sultanate of Oman; details here. 3. Any other agenda of interest to the Indian Diaspora & friends of India (to seek their inclusion, kindly email with full details to amb.muscat@mea.gov.in) a. Indian Schools <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. demand for more schools ii. promoter schools versus community schools iii. fee rationalization across nationalities iv. priority to Indian nationals in admissions v. transparency in support to children in financial distress vi. transparency in awarding of projects b. Indian Social club's regional / linguistic wings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. demand for more such clubs/ wings c. Cultural / informative events <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. need projected by organizers for sponsorships d. Community welfare <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. pre-departure orientation manual for blue collar workers (various language versions here ; English version here) ii. shelter for maids and for male workers in distress iii. utilization of ICWF funds for Indians in distress on "means tested basis in deserving cases". <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Empanelment of hospitals in Oman towards emergency medical attention 2. Empanelment of lawyers to assist workers in distress to hire their services directly (Details here) 4. Misc <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use of online channels / ICTs to unburden volunteers and office bearers in various elected bodies.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Viability of online voting for various elections / decisions {considering Oman has a very robust system for such use, including for their highest elections to the Parliament} b. Rationalization of various events to avoid sponsorship fatigue c. Deployment of the principles of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) in various activities (official, personal, community) to reduce carbon footprint.
PARTICIPANTS / INVITEES:	<p>-Indian community members and friends of India -All CPVWECC(Consular, Passport, Visa, Welfare, Education, Commercial, Cultural) stakeholders</p>
RSVP LINK	RSVP link here
ACCESS	<p>Kindly note that RSVP at the above link is mandatory to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -gain access to the venue (by those who want to join the Open House in person) -receive the link to join virtually / online (by those who so prefer)
DVC LINK	(Link would be shared on 30 October 2025 with all those who RSVP)
OPEN INPUTS	<p>Inputs Link (kindly add your inputs / feedback here)</p> <p>(Inputs posted by all, but without names / contacts, may be seen here)</p>
RESTRICTED INPUTS	<p>Such inputs, if any, may kindly be emailed to amb.muscat@mea.gov.in ensuring the subject header has the word 'Sensitive/ For MEA GOI Eyes only/ for: Open House: cpvweccr'</p> <p>These inputs would be kept for internal reference and not circulated.</p>
TIMELINE	<p>1100 Hrs: Welcome remarks and response to all the queries / comments from the CPVWECC (Consular Passport Visa Welfare, Education, Commercial and Cultural) stakeholders, by Amb G V Srinivas</p> <p>1115 Hrs: Response to comments and observations (received both at the Embassy and online)</p> <p>1200 Hrs: End</p> <p>Note: Queries regarding Consular, Passport and Visa must be immediately flagged. These would be processed promptly and guidance provided.</p>
LANGUAGE	English, Hindi, regional languages (like Malayalam, Telugu, Tamil).

DVC FORMAT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Those wanting to speak, to wait for the ongoing intervention to end. -Keep your microphone muted when others speak -Unmute when invited to speak and keep your intervention succinct.
FORWARD:	This DVC info/invite may be forwarded to all concerned.
EMBASSY GENERAL INFORMATION CHANNELS	<p> Home Page Political Economic & Comml Queries / CPV (Consular, Passport, Visa) Cultural </p> <p> Events FAQs WhatsNew : X Insta f Sign-in/ Sign-up : +Profile</p> <p>ChangePassword Links </p>

Indian Social Club at Al Amerat

President Indian Social Club (ISC) informs ISC has recently received a communication from the Board of Directors (BOD) Indian Schools in Oman that ISC must vacate the premises that it has shared with the adjoining Indian school since its inception, given a relevant Order to that effect that BOD received from Ministry of School Education of the Sultanate of Oman.

It is understood that Oman's Government, under its extant norms, does not want the same premises be used, as is being done now, by both School and Social Club, and needs one of them to shift out. To facilitate the shifting, Oman's Government has allocated 10000 sqm land.

Neither School nor ISC have funds to build property at the newly allocated land, to then relocate there.

Given the Indian Social Club works for the benefit of the entire Indian Community in Oman, the requisite infrastructure at the land in Al Amerat would have to be funded by the Indian Community.

All are requested to give their inputs on this subject using the google form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1nBxMZhOTXSLSn9GsUcwDs2DByod1oftobAooXU8Ab6_5Dg/viewform?usp=preview

Posting your Consular, Passport, Visa and Welfare related queries

To get your issue addressed during the Open House, please mandatorily follow the steps below:

Step	URL, if any
1. Add your query.	Your queries
2. Embassy response: Monitor response / action taken by the Embassy or advice given to you or additional information sought, if any. Take prompt action on them. Kindly note that information, details from your side must be complete	Your eFiles

<p>without any gaps and you must study the response / advice that comes from the Embassy at the portal (at the case-file included at link in the next column).</p>	
<p>3. TOLL FREE: If you are unable to follow any of the steps above, you may seek help over whatsapp, by text / voice note; the whatsapp number for this is +968-98282270:- -Please send at the above number the following by Whatsapp:</p> <p>a) as WhatsApp Text: -Your name as in your photoid/ passport -Your preferred contact (this can be either your email ID or your whatsapp number) -language of preference</p> <p>b) as WhatsApp text / voice note: detailed description of your query / issue</p> <p>Based on the above, Embassy would: -sign you up -add your comment or query -send you link to your query and your login credentials for accessing Embassy's portal {so that you access this link using your login credentials and follow the advice given there}</p>	<p><u>Queries by WhatsApp and Emails</u></p>
<p>4. Walk In: If you wish to arrive at the Open House without following the above steps, you are welcome to do that, but bear in mind that any on the spot solution may not be possible for want of background information / advance processing.</p>	<p>...</p>
<p><u>RESOURCES:</u></p>	
<p>5. Briefing session on 15 July 2025</p>	<p><u>Video Recording</u> <u>Transcript</u></p>

Important information for working class:

PBBY (Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana)

All the workers in Oman are advised to take out an appropriate insurance policy to take care of their needs.

Insurance Companies Offering PBBY in Oman: Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) is a Government of India initiative that provides insurance coverage to Indian emigrant workers holding ECR (Emigration Check Required) passports travelling to ECR countries.

Currently, only Indian public sector insurance companies—including The New India Assurance Co. Ltd.—are authorized to issue PBBY policies, and these are issued only

from India, prior to departure. The policy must be arranged through designated online platforms such as Protean eGov Technologies Ltd., licensed agents, or registered recruitment agencies

<https://www.emigrate.gov.in/#/emigrate/emigrant/office-orders/pbby-policy-authorized-agencies>).

It cannot be availed after arrival in Oman, as it is a precondition for emigration clearance.

Voluntary Coverage for ECNR Passport Holders and in ECNR Countries:

While PBBY is mandatory for ECR passport holders, ECNR passport holders may voluntarily opt for the policy. There is no restriction on such subscription, even if employment is in an ECNR country.

Proposal to Develop a Similar Product in Oman: Should the Embassy be able to identify a minimum number of interested Indian workers or employers, we would be pleased to explore the development of a locally underwritten group product in Oman, designed to mirror the key protections offered under PBBY—including accidental death, disability, repatriation, and emergency medical coverage. The tentative annual premium for such a policy would be approximately OMR 20 per person, subject to final actuarial review and regulatory approvals (New India Assurance requires minimum 1000 expressions of interest, for the policy to be viable, to in turn enable them to float the policy and collect premiums). The product would aim to provide affordable and meaningful protection tailored to the Indian expatriate workforce in Oman.

Unfortunately, those Indians already working in Oman without PBBY coverage, would have no other insurance option. Premium for a similar policy here in Oman is way high but unavoidable. Whereas Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) offered in India is a heavily subsidized welfare scheme administered by the Government of India through public sector insurance companies, in contrast, the proposed Oman-specific product:

- Will be offered under local regulatory and pricing conditions.
- Needs to factor in higher medical and repatriation costs in Oman (which are substantially more expensive than in India).
- Is not government-subsidized and will rely purely on commercial underwriting.
- Is designed for a much smaller group, which increases the cost per insured due to limited risk pooling.

Draft proposal from New India Assurance may be seen at

<https://insurance-indian-workers-jxvfru8.gamma.site/>

Details of the PBBY

(Source: <https://www.mea.gov.in/pbby.htm>)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) is a mandatory insurance scheme aimed at safeguarding the interests of Indian emigrant workers falling under Emigration Check Required (ECR) category going for overseas employment to ECR countries. The Scheme, initially launched in 2003, has been amended in 2006, 2008 and 2017 with the overarching objective of strengthening the coverage of emigrant workers .

The last comprehensive review of the Scheme has been undertaken during 2017 in consultation with all stake holders. The revised scheme PBBY, 2017 has become

operational w.e.f. August 1,2017. Presently, the scheme provides an insurance cover of Rs. 10 lakhs in case of accidental death/permanent disability at an insurance premium of Rs. 275 and Rs. 375 for a period of two and three years respectively. The revised scheme has also been made compulsory for various professions falling under work categories under Section 2(o) of Emigration Act, 1983 irrespective of the passport categories. PBBY, 2017 also includes global insurance coverage irrespective of employer and location, has facility for online renewal and a simplified process for certification of accidental death/permanent disability. The scheme is now more beneficial for emigrant workers and is aimed at ensuring an expeditious settlement of claims.

Salient features of PBBY, 2017 are as follows :

- The Insured person shall be covered for a sum of Rs.10.00 lakhs in the event of accidental death or permanent disability leading to loss of employment while in employment abroad, irrespective of change of employer/location of insured person.
- Certification of accidental death or permanent disability by Indian Missions and Posts abroad shall be accepted by the insurance companies.
- Medical insurance cover including injuries / sickness / ailment / diseases available upto Rs.1,00,000/- (up to Rs. 50,000 per hospitalization).
- Repatriation cover for medically unfit/premature termination of employment: Actual one-way economy class air fare to the nearest international airport in India.
- Family Hospitalization in India available upto Rs. 50,000/- for Spouse and first two children upto 21 years of age.
- Maternity expenses benefit to women emigrants available upto Rs. 50,000/-.
- Reimbursement of return economy class air fare to the nearest international airport to one attendant in case of emigrant's accidental death or permanent disability.
- Legal expenses on litigation related to emigrant's overseas employment admissible upto Rs. 45,000/-.
- Provision for on-line renewal of PBBY policy.