

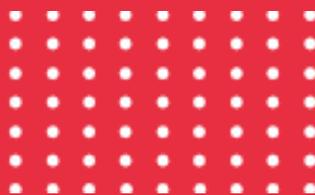


KEMENTERIAN SUMBER MANUSIA

“

# KERATAN AKHBAR KESUMA”

KHAMIS  
5 Februari 2026



## Ramanan vows good governance at HRD Corp

**PETALING JAYA:** Datuk Seri R. Ramanan has pledged good governance at the Human Resources Development Corporation (HRD Corp) through a major restructuring exercise, including a refresh of its board and a review of training providers.

The Human Resources Minister said he was committed to ensuring that HRD Corp aligns with the Malaysia Madani framework, with an emphasis on responsible business practices and transparency following previous controversies.

"Certain steps have been taken, including a restructuring that is currently ongoing.

"It is public knowledge that we have brought in a new chief executive officer, Datuk Mohamed Shamir Abdul Aziz, for HRD Corp," he said.

Ramanan pointed to Shamir's eight-year tenure at Amanah

Ikhtiar Malaysia (AIM) which recorded a 99.98% repayment rate from 2019 to 2024 and achieved a full 100% repayment rate in 2025.

"He is a guy who makes sure things are delivered and everything is run properly.

"When you are dealing with hundreds of thousands of borrowers and can achieve a 100% repayment rate, this shows not only administration skills, but how he manages the AIM members and creates family values there," he said.

Ramanan also revealed new appointments to the HRD Corp board.

Among them are International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance University (INCEIF) president and CEO Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Mohd Azmi Omar, former Cooperatives Commission of Malaysia CEO Datuk Rusli Jaafar

and Mydin managing director Datuk Ameer Ali Mydin Mohamed.

"We are bringing in people who are very strict in ensuring that all guidelines are followed.

"These are the kind of personalities that we will be putting in the board to ensure good governance and ensure that the Prime Minister's vision for the Madani government is moving in that direction," he said.

Ramanan said his ministry plans to check whether the training providers under HRD Corp are properly certified and trained to be educators.

"I will leave this to the HRD Corp CEO, but one of the things that is briefed is that these 7,000 trainers, if they are not properly trained, will be re-certified.

"We don't want to have uncertified or unregistered trainers. So,

we will ensure all these gaps are plugged," he added.

HRD Corp has been involved in several controversies over the years, including suspicious real estate deals and high-risk investments that were highlighted by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in its 2024 report.

The Auditor-General's Report 2024 also flagged the suspicious disbursement of training grants totalling RM51.69mil by HRD Corp, with more than 200 participants having identical names or ID numbers.

The report also said that HRD Corp had outstanding levies totalling RM205.42mil as of Dec 31, 2023. In May last year, the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) presented findings of its probe into HRD Corp over its management of levy collections and investments.

## Priority on safety and care

### New insurance scheme to cover M'sians working in Singapore

By **TARRENCE TAN**  
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

**The Star**  
**EXCLUSIVE**

**PETALING JAYA:** A new insurance scheme will be created for Malaysians working in Singapore to ensure they remain covered even during their daily cross-border commute, says Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri R. Ramanan.

The new scheme will ensure that the nearly 400,000 Malaysians who cross the border daily from Johor are not left out of social security protection after working hours.

"What happens when you are travelling from your workplace back to your home?

"Where is the coverage during this period?"

"That coverage is not provided, so we are coming up with a new scheme for workers going back and forth between Malaysia and Singapore," Ramanan told *The Star* in an exclusive interview.

Ramanan said a feasibility study will be conducted on the initiative, known as the Traveller Scheme or Skim Pengembara, beginning this year.

He added that the new insurance scheme was one of his main priorities since being appointed as minister in December.

"Workers should not be victimised simply because they are working in Singapore.

"As long as you are from Malaysia, I believe that the same standards of safety and care



**Site visit:** (From left) Suria FM general manager Roslinda Abdul Majid, Star Media Group managing editor Brian Martin, chief operating officer Lydia Wang, group chief executive officer Chan Seng Fatt, Ramanan, Suria FM radio announcer Nor Shafiza Iskandar Azizan, Star Media Group digital content officer Datin Paduka Esther Ng, Radio Business senior general manager Woo Bee Ay and Rimakmur Chief senior executive Mohammad Azfar Safarizul during the minister's visit to Menara Star in Petaling Jaya. — **LOW LAY PHON/The Star**

**"As long as you are from Malaysia, I believe that the same standards of safety and care should be given to you."**

Datuk Seri R. Ramanan

should be given to you," he added.

It is estimated that more than 1.18 million Malaysians work in Singapore, with between 300,000 and 400,000 commuting across the Causeway every day.

Ramanan said his ministry is in the process of reviewing 26 related laws to ensure that they are relevant and in line with Interna-

tional Labour Organisation (ILO) standards.

Among the outcomes of the review so far was the amendment on the Employment Insurance System (SIP) Act, which was passed at the Dewan Rakyat at the end of last year.

He explained that a moratorium of up to two years is being implemented despite the passage of the law so that stakeholder engagement sessions can be held to gather input from industry players.

"They (industry players) will discuss and come up with a formula that best serves the nation.

"When you are implementing something new, of course you have a segment of the community that is happy and unhappy, so we must find a balance.

"Of course, our ministry must be for the workers, but we must also look after the employers because if they are squeezed too much, workers may be out of a job," he added.

One of the perks of the SIP, said Ramanan, is that employers pay

only a small amount into the scheme, determined by a council of stakeholders.

"Assuming it (SIP) is 40 or 50 sen a day, isn't this something that you should pay for the safety of yourself and your family who are dependent on you bringing home the bread?"

"When they don't contribute and have met with an unfortunate accident, families suddenly end up in a situation where they have no money.

"This is the same reason why we buy life insurance – it is a very small cost to pay for our safety," added Ramanan.

As of Nov 30 last year, a total of 57,094 workers, or 85.3% out of 69,923 job-loss cases, had received various SIP benefits amounting to RM437.19mil over the past five years.

**WATCH THE VIDEO**  
TheStarTV.com

