

the years 1977 and 1978, is furnished in the Statement placed on the Table of the House.

(f) 19 applicants were refused passports in 1977 and 2 in the year 1978.

(g) The Calcutta Office normally takes about five weeks for issue of passports in most cases. The Ministry have prescribed a time limit of five weeks for issuing passports on applications in which the Verification

Certificate is furnished by Members of Parliament, MLA's or MLC's, or others so authorised, as well as on applications supported by the Sworn Affidavit. On these applications, Passport Offices can issue passports without prior verification from district police authorities. On applications which are not so supported by Verification Certificate or the Sworn Affidavit, the Ministry have prescribed a time limit of three months for issue of passports.

Statement

Number of Applications received and Passports issued by passport office, Calcutta, during 1977 and 1978

Month	1977		1978	
	Number of passport applications received	Number of passports issued	Number of passport applications received	Number of passports issued
January	1,201	1,179	2,687	2,208
February	1,657	1,226	3,387	2,073
March	1,674	1,506	3,675	2,104
April	1,899	1,762	2,809	2,010
May	1,907	1,682	2,579	2,264
June	1,736	1,522	2,577	1,826
July	1,697	1,585	2,750	2,439
August	2,648	2,254	2,454	3,769
September	2,492	2,630	2,126	3,071
October	2,460	2,006	1,980	2,506
November	2,328	2,010	2,778	4,034
December	2,291	2,036	2,631	2,365
TOTAL	24,290	21,298	32,433	30,489

Accident in Prakasani Khani Company Limited

816. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a serious accident took place in December, 1978

in Prakasam Khani at Manuguru coal-mines in Andhra Pradesh of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited;

(b) if so, how many persons were killed and injured in the accident;

(c) whether any investigation was made by the Directorate General of Mines Safety in the matter;