

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House, showing the number of applications for passports received during the period July, 1977—November, 1977, the number of passports granted during the same period, the number of pending applications as on 1 December, 1977, as well as the number of complete applications pending over a month.

(b) Applications for passports are picked up for processing according to the dates on which they are received. Currently, in the case of complete applications supported by Verification Certificates signed by Members of Parliament, Government officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above and Stipendiary 1st Class Magistrates, there is a 2-month time-lag between the receipt of an application and the issue of a passport. In cases of applications not supported by Verification Certificates, the time-lag is 4 months. The pending complete applications in the former category will be disposed of within 2 months while these in the latter category will be disposed of within 4 months from the date of their receipt.

#### Statement

##### Regional Passport Office, Delhi

|                        | No. of Applications for passports (1977) | No. of Passports granted (1977) |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| July . . . . .         | 8356                                     | 7700                            |
| August . . . . .       | 10975                                    | 8015                            |
| September . . . . .    | 13348                                    | 9044                            |
| October . . . . .      | 13365                                    | 11009                           |
| November . . . . .     | 14411                                    | 11026                           |
| <b>TOTAL . . . . .</b> | <b>60455</b>                             | <b>46794</b>                    |

No. of pending applications as on 1-12-1977—42,558.

No. of applications pending for event of additional information/documentation—7,927.

No. of complete applications pending over a month—30,001.

#### Authorised Agents for Recruitment of Labour for Gulf countries

\*670. SHRI PATITPABAN PRA-

DHAN:

SHRI LOKNATH MISRA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state the number of authorised agents for recruiting skilled and unskilled labour for employment in the Gulf countries in each State as on the 31st October, 1977?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

*State-wise distribution of Recruiting Agents granted registration till 31st October, 1977*

| Name of the State/<br>Union Territory | No. of Recruiting Agents granted registration |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Maharashtra . . . . .              | 160   |
| 2. Delhi . . . . .                    | 45  |
| 3. Kerala . . . . .                   | 10  |
| 4. Punjab . . . . .                   | 4   |
| 5. Gujarat . . . . .                  | 7   |
| 6. West Bengal . . . . .              | 5   |
| 7. Tamil Nadu . . . . .               | 11  |
| 8. Rajasthan . . . . .                | 2   |
| 9. Andhra Pradesh . . . . .           | 4   |
| 10. Uttar Pradesh . . . . .           | 1   |
| 11. Chandigarh . . . . .              | 5   |
| <b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>                | <b>254</b>                                    |

#### Wrong Billing of Telephone Line in Hauz Khas Exchange

\*671. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the telephone bills in respect of line 678, Hauz Khas Exchange, New Delhi are either wrong or sent very late as a result of which subscribers are put to a lot of inconvenience;

(b) if so, what is the number of such cases brought to the notice of