

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Demands of students and unemployed youths

*666. SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN:

SHRI DEORAO PATIL:

SHRI BAPURAOJI MAROT-
RAOJI DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stu-
dents and unemployed youths belong-
ing to the Youth Federation and Stu-
dents' Federation recently held a con-
ference in Delhi at which they urged
the Government to provide employ-
ment guarantee and un-employment
allowance; and

(b) if so, what are the details in
this regard and what action Govern-
ment have taken on their demand?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)
and (b) A statement is laid on the
Table of the House.

Statement

The All India Youth Federation
and the All India Students' Federation
held a meeting on 29th November,
1977 in New Delhi. A copy of the
Memorandum of the two Federations
addressed to the Prime Minister
inter-alia contained suggestions for a
job guarantee scheme for immediate
implementation and payment of un-
employment allowance to the unem-
ployed.

Government have already stated
that in order to remove unemploy-
ment within a definite time frame,
it is proposed to adopt an employ-
ment-oriented strategy for develop-
ment and the next Five Year Plan is
expected to have a high employment
content. Government are of the view

that payment of unemployment allow-
ance is not feasible and it would be
more expedient to utilise the avail-
able resources for the generation of
productive employment opportunities
to provide satisfactory work to all
concerned.

U.S.A. Military Base in Diego Garcia

*667. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

SHRI DHARAMCHAND

JAIN:

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN
SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the
Government of USA have decided to
expand their air and naval bases in
Diego Garcia; and

(b) if so, what is the Government
of India's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a)
The Government do not have any in-
formation to this effect.

(b) Does not arise.

*668. [Transferred to the 20th De-
cember, 1977.]

**Pending applications for Passports in
Delhi Regional Passport Office**

*669. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHAN-

KAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA

SINGH:

SHRIMATI MARGARET

ALVA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applica-
tions received in the Regional Pass-
port Office, New Delhi for the issue
of passports since July, 1977, month-
wise and how many of them are
pending at present; and

(b) by when the pending applica-
tions are likely to be disposed of?

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
TOTAL . . .	60455	46794

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/ 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
TOTAL . . .	254

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