

generated from various systems can be utilised by the rural folk.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House on its receipt.

**Waiting list for telephone connections in Ahmednagar (Maharashtra)**

1519. SHRI CHANDRABHAN ATHARE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for the grant of telephone connections pending as on 1-2-1982 at Ahmednagar, for Rural and Urban areas of Ahmednagar (Maharashtra);

(b) how many telephone connections were provided in 1981 in each of the above areas; and

(c) by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Waiting list pending on 1-2-1982 in Ahmednagar is as below:

Rural area—500  
and Urban area—1079

(b) Telephone connections provided in 1981 in

Rural area—496  
Urban area—226

(c) The waiting list will be progressively cleared, depending on the availability of equipment and other stores.

**British Financial and Technical Assistance for Coal Sector**

1520. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Government has offered financial as well a technical assis-

tance in the high technology area for the development of the coal sector.

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been arrived in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL AND IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and UK during the visit of the Prime Minister of UK during April, 1981, which, *inter alia*, provides for cooperation in the development of Indian coal industry mainly in the following fields:—

1. Preparation of feasibility reports for integrated development of Ghusick and Asnapani coal mines;

2. Introduction of mechanised longwall mining programme in coal mines;

3. UK and India based training programme for technical personnel;

4. Supply of sophisticated coal mining equipment not available in India under the coal sector Grant of UK.

**Payment of royalty to oil Producing States**

1521. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the States which are producing oil;

(b) what is the rate of royalty being paid to these States;