

(Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, for maintaining the production and supply of sugar; and

(b) if so, how many sugar factories have so far been taken over by Government?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) One.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PARENTHOOD

\*1311. **Shri Doraswamy:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Third International Conference on planned parenthood, recently held at Bombay, made any recommendations to the Government of India; and

(b) if so, what are they?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### PRIVATE PRACTICE BY GOVERNMENT DOCTORS

\*1312. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the answer given to starred question No. 982 asked on the 6th December, 1952, and state:

(a) the names of the States where the private practice has been totally stopped;

(b) whether any of the States have refused to stop private practice; and

(c) whether the 25% of the salary as compensation is paid to the doctors concerned uniformly in all the States or in certain States less compensation or no compensation is paid?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) None.

(b) They are mostly in favour of such a step but they have pointed out certain practical difficulties in the way of immediate application of the policy.

(c) The rate of non-practising allowance varies from State to State.

#### LEVY ON PADDY

\*1313. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the peasants of West Bengal are agitating against the Kidwai Plan for levy of paddy from peasants having ten acres of land only; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the matter?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) and (b). The arrangements commonly referred to as 'Kidwai Plan' relate to supply of food-grains in the Calcutta Industrial area and the maintenance of issue prices there. If the hon. Member is referring to the procurement system in West Bengal the Government are aware of the agitation against the proposed levy scheme started in a few districts by certain groups of persons, but the general body of producers are not against the scheme. It is not proposed to reconsider the policy underlying the scheme.

#### AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE SYSTEM IN CALCUTTA

\*1314. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state when the automatic telephone system in Calcutta is likely to start functioning?

(b) What would be the likely expenditure for the completion of the scheme?

(c) Have Government any scheme to absorb the surplus telephone personnel consequent on the starting of the automatic scheme?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The approximate dates of the cut-over of the various stages of the Scheme are likely to be as follows:—

|            |  |                          |
|------------|--|--------------------------|
| Stage I    | { Jorasanko<br>Avenue<br>Central         | June/July, 1953.         |
| Stage II.  | { Bank<br>City                           | June/July, 1955.         |
| Stage III. | { Circus<br>Russa<br>Kalignat            | February/March<br>1956.  |
| Stage IV.  | { Baghbazar<br>East<br>Cossipore         | November/December, 1956. |
| Stage V.   | { Alipore<br>Salkia<br>Dum Dum<br>Sibpur | August/September, 1957.  |

(b) Rs. 14.5 crores approximately.

(c) Every endeavour will be made to absorb such of the personnel render-