

(a) whether Government have any proposal to discontinue appointments of any retired judges of the Supreme Court or of any High Court to any office under the Central or State Government or Public Undertaking or Government companies, including Commissions; and

(b) whether Government are considering steps to improve the service conditions of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts and if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A Bill to amend the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 and a Bill to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 have been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 8-5-75.

Decision on lowering of voting Age

1252. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN;

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how long will Government take to finalize the decision regarding the granting of right to vote at age of 18;

(b) names of the countries in the world where voting right is given to the people at 18 or below 18; and

(c) what is the reason for delay in taking the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. V. A. SEVID MUHAMMAD): (a) and (c). Government will take further time to arrive at a decision having regard to some difficulties which may arise *inter alia* on account of the enlargement of the electorate, the electoral arrangements these would necessitate, etc.

(b) According to available information, people of the following countries are eligible to vote at the age of 18:—

Albania, Bulgaria, Ceylon, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Ecuador, Great Britain, Hungary, Poland, Israel, Italy, Laos, Mexico, North Korea, Paraguay, Rumania, Salvador, Somalia, Soviet Union, Sudan, United States of America (for Federal Elections only), Venezuela, Vietnam and Yugoslavia.

Control over Fertilizer Plants by the Fertilizer Corporation of India

1258. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the nature of control exercised by the Fertiliser Corporation of India over the production and distribution of fertiliser, in India; and

(b) which of the fertiliser plants are directly under its control and what is their production during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). The Fertilizer plants under the control of the Fertilizer Corporation of India and the production of fertilizers by these