

<i>Range of advances</i>	<i>Rate of interest % per annum</i>
(i) Upto Rs. 7500/-	10.00
(ii) Over Rs. 7500/- and upto Rs. 15000/-	11.50
(iii) Over Rs. 15000/- and upto Rs. 25000/-	12.50 to 14.00
(iv) Over Rs. 25000/-	14.00 to 15.50

The rates of interest for investment credit for a period of not less than 3 years are 10% per annum for small farmers and 12.5% per annum for others. There is no proposal to further reduce the rates of interest.

Reduction in the Strength of Indian Embassy at Kabul

247. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reduced the strength of our Embassy at Kabul, Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the quantum thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) and (b). The functional requirements of our mission in Kabul and the security situation in the city is kept under constant review. The strength of the mission may be reduced, if and when necessary.

Cultural Agreement with Pakistan

248. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have cultural agreement with Pakistan in near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). The Cultural Cooperation Agreement between India and Pakistan has already been signed on 31st December, 1988 at Islamabad. It envisages to promote and develop relations and understanding between the two countries in the realms of art, culture, archaeology, education mass media of information and sports. Its chief features cover exchanges of academicians, experts, artists, writers, musicians, sports teams, material/information, books, publications, art objects, and other exhibitions; participation in seminars, international film festivals; offer of scholarships and establishment of culture centres

National Seeds Corporation

249. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when the National Seeds Corporation was set up, the amount invested in this