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are viable are eligible for assistance under the Scheme.

Delinking of Associated Banks from S.B.L

876. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): SHRI DATTATRAYA BAN-DARU: SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'MPs favour demand to delink associated banks from SBI' appearing in the Economic Times dated January 29, 1992;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have seen the news-item referred to in the question regarding the memorandum submitted by some Hon'ble MPs recommending that 7 associate banks of the State Bank of India be merged into one corporation by delinking them from that bank.

The Committee on the Financial System, under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Narasimham, set up by the Government to examine all aspects relating to the structure, organisation, function and procedures of the financial system has, in its report inter alia, made certain recommendations regarding restructuring of the banking system. So far no decision has been taken in this regard.

[Translation]

Assistance from Japan

877. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-DEYA: SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has signed an agreement recently to give assistance of 66000 million Yen to India;

(b) if so, the details of the projects on which this amount is to be incurred and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) the conditions laid by Japan for these loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Five Loan Agreements for Yen, 66,082 million as detailed below were signed with OECF of Japan on 9.1.1992:

	Project	Amount in Million Yen	Expected Date of Completion	
Ŋ	Gandhar Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Project (II)	42,599	July, 1995	