

**Loans from Middle East Countries,
Japan and Asian Countries**

8376. SHRI BABURAO PARAN-
JAPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE
be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the loans taken by Government of India from the Middle East Countries, Japan and other Asian countries during the last three years, giving country-wise and amount-wise details;

(b) the purpose for which these were taken, the extent to which these have been fully/partly utilised and still to be utilised; and

(c) the details of terms and conditions of the loans and how these will be repaid ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) A statement showing the details of loans taken by the Government of India from the Middle East Countries and Japan is laid on the table of the House. (Placed in library, See No Lt. 6468/83) No loans have been taken from any other Asian country.

**Suggestions Made in Seminar on
“Business Opportunities Through
World Bank Procurement”**

8377. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the principal suggestions made in the one-day Seminar on “Business Opportunities through World Bank procurement” organised jointly by the Engineering Export Promotion Council and ICICI in Calcutta in January 1983;

(b) whether the Indian exporters have failed to make a dent in the world Bank aided projects so far as procurement of equipment is concerned; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remedy this situation ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE**
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) Some of the principal suggestions made at the one day seminar on business opportunities through the World Bank Procurement organised jointly by Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) & ICICI Ltd. at Calcutta in January, 1983 were as follows:—

(i) The volume and variety of procurement under World Bank aided projects is large and their is considerable potential for Indian businessmen to exploit the opportunities available.

(ii) Experience in projects in India itself is a useful credential particularly for consultants, and efforts should be directed towards this end.

(iii) The Indian consulting firms are capable and experienced in solving the types of problems arising in less developed countries. besides, costs are much less. In order to exploit these inherent advantages, Indian firms should look for joint ventures with more established firms from developed countries or with local firms in developing countries.

(vi) Consulting firms should develop language capability in French, Spanish etc. as this is considered during evaluation of proposals.

(b) India's participation in World Bank projects in the past two years has been around US \$ 400 million. Moreover, there has been a gradual increase in Indian participation in World Bank aided projects overseas.

(c) The steps being taken to improve India's participation in World Bank aided projects are as follows:

(i) Advance information relating to projects likely to be financed by World Bank is brought to the notice of exporters by the