

Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is reported to, be investigating the matter.

(d) In view of the position stated above, the question does not arise.

Explosion in public expenditure

876. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an explosion in public expenditure at the central level;

(b) if so, what was the amount of public expenditure during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what measures are being taken by Government to curtail the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) The figures of Central Government expenditure including on the Plan, account for the last three years are as under: —

| (Rupees in crores) | |
|--------------------|--------|
| 1981-82 | 26,415 |
| 1982-83 | 33,973 |
| 1983-84 (RE) | 39,024 |

It has been the Government's endeavour to contain expenditure, while meeting urgent requirements, particularly for the Plan and the Nation's security. The Budget deficit has also been kept at a manageable level. Measures taken in 1983-84 for reducing expenditure are outlined in the Economic Survey, presented to Parliament in 27th January, 1984.

IDBI assistance for cooperative factories in Maharashtra

877. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEP-TULLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the co-operative factories in Maharashtra have submitted a proposal to the Industrial Development Bank of India for providing financial assistance for paper units out of surplus bagasse; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to provide finance for these ventures; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c) M/s. Mula SSK Ltd., M/s. Kopergaon SSK Ltd., M/s. Rahuri SSK Ltd., and M/s. Sangammer SSK Ltd., which are Cooperative Sugar factories located in the State of Maharashtra, have approached the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for financial assistance for setting up paper units based on utilisation of their surplus bagasse.

The public sector financial institutions including IDBI extend financial assistance to, all commercially viable and technically feasible industrial projects, keeping in view national priorities. Accordingly, IDBI will take suitable decisions in regard to financing the paper units of the four applicant Co-operative, Sugar factories after ascertaining the viability and feasibility of the projects. At this stage there is no proposal for Government to provide direct finance for these projects.