

# KASHMIR GOVT. CRITICISED Audit Report

**"The Times of India" News Service**

**SRINAGAR, October 2:** The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India has, in his audit report for 1962, criticised the Kashmir Government for laxity in financial control.

The audit report, which was laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly on Monday by the Finance Minister, Mr. Dinanath Mahajan, pointed out many cases of infructuous expenditure owing to defective planning and designs and abandonment of works.

The report has also criticised the administration for bypassing rules and regulations by splitting up purchase orders to avoid inviting tenders, rejection of the lowest tenders, excess payments, unauthorised financial aid to contractors, defective maintenance of cash books, accounts and stock registers, non-recovery of loans and departmental sales on credit.

The report pointed out that the arrears in revenue collection at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 530 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 150 lakhs over the previous year's.

During the year, the State Government had suffered a net loss of Rs. 17.96 lakhs on irrigation and electricity schemes on which the total investment was nearly Rs. 12 crores.

The report disclosed that huge sums under various heads had remained unutilised after allotment.

**U.N.I. adds:** Three Opposition Praja Parishad members of the Assembly yesterday staged a walk-out when the Government refused to give an assurance that even Ministers would come under the anti-graft law in the State.

The House was discussing a Bill moved by the Law Minister seeking to amend the Government Servant Prevention of Corruption Commission so as to include retired public officials under the definition of Government servant.