

# Independence Of Accountants

## OFFICIAL'S VIEW REBUTTED

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

NEW DELHI, December 2: The view of the Comptroller and Auditor-General, Mr. A. K. Roy, that accountants in the public sector were more independent than those in the private sector was powerfully rebutted at the concluding session of the conference of Asian and Pacific accountants today.

Summing up the four-day discussions, the conference chairman, Mr. C. C. Chokshi, declared he did not agree with Mr. Roy's contention that, simply because auditors in the public sector were appointed by the Auditor-General, they were more independent than those in the private sector. Auditors, he pointed out, were appointed not by the managements but by the shareholders.

### NEXT SESSION

Mr. Chokshi also announced that the next session of the conference would be held in Wellington, New Zealand, in February or March, 1968. The invitation of the New Zealand Society of Accountants had been accepted by the heads of delegations today.

The other decision taken concerned the objectives of the conference. These included the bringing together of the official representatives of the various professional bodies in the region to enable them to discuss their common problems and foster research.

Mr. Chokshi said it was generally agreed that a uniform terminology for accountancy was not possible. What was possible was better understanding of accounting practices in the various parts of the world. Regarding tax laws the most important need was for the laws to be re-framed so that they were easily understood and fairly administered.

Mr. N. Dandekar, chairman of the concluding session, also tilted at the Auditor-General's assertion that the auditor in the private sector was inhibited in his work. The true purpose of accounting and auditing was to appraise the working of the management. This was a very important service in the context of a developing economy like ours.