

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INCOME-TAX ARREARS

*295. SHRIMATI DEVAKI (GOPI-DAS): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Income-tax arrears have been written off recently;

(b) if so; what is the total amount so written off; and

(c) what are the circumstances under which this amount was written off?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) Demands which have proved to be irrecoverable are written off from year to year.

(b) The total amount written off during 1960-61—the latest year, for which figures are available—was Rs. 3.66 crore.

(c) The main reasons for writing off the above amount were:—

- (i) death of assessee without leaving behind any assets;
- (ii) departure of assessee from this country at the time of partition.
- (iii) insolvency of assessee.
- (iv) liquidation of companies.

NATIONAL LABORATORY IN KERALA

*296. SHRIMATI DEVAKI (GOPI-DAS): Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to start a National Laboratory in Kerala;

(b) if so, what will be the nature of the work to be done there; and

(c) where the laboratory will be located?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR):

(a) The matter is under consideration of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

LEGISLATION TO DEFINE THE FUNCTIONS, ETC., OF COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

*297. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce in Parliament some legislation defining the functions, powers, duties, etc., of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India; and

(b) if so, by when such legislation is likely to come up before Parliament?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bill is expected to be introduced in the next session of Parliament.

CIRCUS TROUPE TO U.S.S.R.

*298. SHRIMATI DEVAKI (GOPI-DAS): Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to send a circus troupe from India to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

(b) if so, when the troupe is expected to be sent; and

(c) whether the tour of the circus troupe is being sponsored by Government or by private agencies?