



सत्यमेव जयते

## COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION ASSAM STATE BRANCH

**Report on Hosting of the Meeting of the  
International Mid-Year CPA Executive Committee  
and the 8th CPA India Region Conference at Guwahati, Assam  
(9-12 April, 2022)**



**ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT  
Dispur, Guwahati-781006**

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**Composition of the Executive Committee of the Indian Parliamentary Association (CPA Assam State Branch)**

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri Biswajit Daimary,<br>Speaker , Assam Legislative Assembly                       | <b>President</b> |
| 2. Dr. Numal Momin,<br>Deputy Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly                       | Vice-President   |
| 3. Shri Pijush Hazarika<br>Minister, Parliamentary Affairs, etc., Assam                 | Vice-President   |
| 4. Shri Debabrata Saikia,<br>Leader of the Opposition, Assam Legislative Assembly       | Member           |
| 5. Shri Binod Hazarika, MLA   | Treasurer        |
| 6. Smti. Renupoma Rajkhowa, MLA   | Member           |
| 7. Smti. Nandita Garlosa, MLA<br>(Now ceases to be a Member as inducted in the Cabinet) | Member           |
| 8. Shri Sushanta Borgohain, MLA   | Member           |
| 9. Shri Siraj Uddin Ajmal, MLA  | Member           |
| 10. Shri Lawrence Islary, MLA   | Member           |
| 11. Shri Rabi Ram Narzary, MLA  | Member           |
| 12. Shri Monoranjan Talukdar, MLA   | Member           |

**Secretariat**

1. Shri Hemen Das, Principal Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly & Secretary CPA Assam State Branch.
2. Smti Deerga Baruah, Deputy Secretary, I/C Conference Branch, Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat.
3. Shri Sudip Roy, Committee Officer, Conference Branch, Assam Legislative

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Assam Legislative Assembly hosted the Meeting of the International Mid-Year CPA Executive Committee for the first time in India and the 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference in Guwahati, for the first time in Assam from 9-12 April, 2022.

2. It is a great honour and privilege not only for the Assam Legislative Assembly but for the whole state of Assam to have hosted these two events with resounding success in Guwahati, Assam.

3. On behalf of the Assam Legislative Assembly I place on record my thanks and sincere appreciation to the Government of Assam led by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma for their unstinting help and cooperation in all fields for the hosting of the ExCo meeting/Conference and making them a grand success.

4. I also place on record my appreciation to all the Officers and staff of Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat for their consistent efforts and hard work in making both events a grand success.

23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2022

Biswajit Daimary  
President,  
CPA Assam State Branch,  
India Region

## **Chapter-I**

### **REPORT OF THE CPA EX-CO MEETING**

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association was founded in 1911 as the Empire Parliamentary Association. The CPA consists of over 180 Legislatures from across the globe, divided into 9 (Nine) geographic regions of the Commonwealth. The aim of the Association is to deepen the Commonwealth's pledge to the highest standards of democratic governance and parliamentary practice.

The Constitution of the CPA vests in an Executive Committee the control and management of the activities and business of the Association. The CPA Executive Committee meets just prior to and just after the General Assembly, to which it reports, and the CPA Executive Committee holds a second meeting in another Commonwealth country midway between General Assemblies.

The CPA Executive Committee consists of approximately 36 Members led by the Chairperson of the CPA and comprising the Officers of the Association (who include the Chairperson of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP), the CPA Small Branches Chairperson and the Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities Chairperson) and three Regional Representatives from each Region, except the CPA Africa Region which, as the largest Region in the Commonwealth, has six Regional Representatives. The CPA Executive Committee is supported by four subcommittees: CPA Coordinating Committee, CPA Audit Committee, Planning & Review Subcommittee and the Finance Subcommittee.

The first proposal of holding the International CPA Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting was formally made by the former Hon'ble Speaker of Assam Legislative Assembly Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami, who was then the Member of the CPA Executive

Committee and Chairman of CPA India Region Zone-III at the Executive Committee meeting of CPA India Region Zone-III held on 07-10-2018 at Vivanta by Taj, Khanapara, Guwahati. The Executive Committee of CPA India Region Zone-III accordingly unanimously adopted a resolution to request the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan for approving the proposal for holding the CPA ExCo. The then Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha Smt. Sumitra Mahajan agreed to the resolution and accordingly the matter was taken up with the CPA Headquarters which also agreed to the proposal. However, due to COVID, the International ExCO meeting which was supposed to be held in Guwahati in 2020 could not be held.

Shri Biswajit Daimary was elected as the new Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2021. He was nominated as Regional Representative of the International CPA Executive Committee by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha Shri Om Birla on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 to complete the remaining term of Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami, former Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly Shri Biswajit Daimary, Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly after consulting with the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma discussed about hosting the next Mid-Year ExCo meeting in Assam with Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha and obtained verbal approval thereon. Further in the next Executive Committee meeting held virtually, Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly had reiterated the offer for hosting the 2022 Mid-Year ExCo Meeting.

In the CPA Executive Committee meeting held virtually on 27-30 September, 2021, the Executive Committee reviewed the matter of CPA Assam State Branch, India Region hosting the Mid-Year ExCo 2022. The Executive Committee welcomed the renewed offer by the CPA Assam State Branch to hold the Mid-Year ExCo, 2022 meeting and wrote a letter to the Acting Chairman & Hon'ble Members of the Executive Committee. Finally, after thorough coordination and virtual meetings the dates for the International Mid-Year CPA Executive Committee Meeting was fixed for 9<sup>th</sup>& 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2022.

Mr. Stephen Twigg, Secretary-General and Ms. Emily Davies, Head of Strategy, CPA Sectt. Office, London visited Guwahati from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for a pre Executive Committee site visit and relevant discussion on logistical and other arrangement with regard to holding of the ExCo meeting. From the CPA India Region Sectt, New Delhi, Shri Yumnum Arun Kumar, Addl. Director and Bishwash Anand, Protocol Officer had also joined the CPA Hqrs team for a recce for both the events, CPA ExCo and 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference. Shri P.C Koul, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Sectt. also came to Guwahati on a three-day pre-ExCo visit, i.e from 25- 27 March, 2022 for assessment of both the events.



**International Ex-Co delegates at Radisson Blu, Guwahati.**

Accordingly, the Mid-Year Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) was hosted by the Assam Legislative Assembly in Guwahati on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2022. The CPA Executive Committee meeting was opened by the Chairperson of the CPA India Region and Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla. The Executive Committee meetings were held in Hotel Radisson Blue, Guwahati. The Executive Committee meeting was attended by delegates from 53 different Commonwealth countries all over the world.



**Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Biswajit Daimary delivering Speech at the inauguration Programme of 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference in the Assembly House.**



**Group Photo Session of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Executive Committee Meeting in Assam Legislative Assembly**



### **ExCO meetings and Sub-Committee meeting details:**

On 7 April, 2022 the meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee/Audit Sub – Committee including the Orientation Meeting for New Members were held. Further, the Regional Secretaries meeting was also organised.

A pre conference tour was organised for the foreign delegations mainly to showcase the rich flora and fauna together with the ethnic lifestyles of the people of Assam on 8 April, 2022 to Borengajuli Tea Estate. The Pre-Conference tour was specifically aimed to offer a glimpse of the tea tourism sector of Assam with ethnic rural lifestyles. The excursion offered a Tea Garden Factory visit also with a methodical demonstration to the delegation with detailed briefing on the production process, covered specially in English keeping in mind the regions across the Globe represented. Further, the entire delegation was taken to the lush green Tea Garden for a precise experience of plucking tea leaves which have been very exquisitely enjoyed by all. The Tea Garden Authority also took utmost care to explain the Tea Leaves plucking procedure in detail and practical manners to the entire delegation.



**International delegates of CPA at a Bodo village**



**International delegates of CPA at Panery Tea Estate**



**International delegates of CPA witnessing weaving of traditional Bodo shawl**

Entire delegation was also taken for a visit to Jabrangpara Village to witness traditional weaving procedures and gain first hand exposure of ethnic lifestyle of indigenous people. There was a program and interaction to showcase the Tea Tribe and Boro traditional/ethnic cultural performances as well. The delegation has been offered a taste of Rural Ethnic life styles with colourful performance of the indigenous people wherein they even take part which also encouraged the local villagers with a different feel and practice. The Food was also served with options of Traditional Items so that a complete rural ethnic experience may be showcased during the Pre-Conference Tour organised for the International Delegation.

The entire delegation has appreciated the tour of the Tea Tourism clubbed with the Ethnic and Rural touch to a wide-ranging exposure. The tour was specially designed to offer a relaxing and diverse feel compared to the hustle bustle of the mundane professional life styles. It was an endeavour so that the visiting delegation may cherish the experience of the Pre Conference Tour for a life time to come.



Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Hon'ble CM, Assam and Chairperson, CPA HQ arriving for inauguration of CPA ExCo in Assam Assembly.

On 9 April, 2022 the Inauguration /Opening Ceremony for the CPA International ExCo in the Assam Legislative Assembly House precinct was attended by many dignitaries including the foreign delegation together with Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha. The main Meeting of the Executive Committee, the Finance and the Planning and Review Sub- Committees were held on 9 April, 2022 at Radisson Blu Hotel after the Opening Ceremony. The main ExCo Meeting together with respective sub committees were also held on 10 April, 2022. The official departure for the ExCo Meeting from Assam was on 11 April, 2022.

## Chapter-II

### **8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference**

Hosted by the Assam Legislative Assembly, the 8th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference was held in Guwahati, Assam from 10 to 12 April 2022. The Conference brought together Commonwealth Parliamentarians to share their experiences of parliamentary democracy with a special focus on youth engagement.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of CPA India Region was held at Radisson Blu Hotel on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2022. The Chairperson of the CPA India Region and Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla delivered the Inaugural Address on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 in the Assam Assembly Hall. Acting CPA Chairperson, Hon. Ian Liddell-Grainger also attended the Conference. The opening ceremony was also attended by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and the Hon'ble Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Biswajit Daimary delivered the Welcome Address.

The CPA India Region General Assembly met in Guwahati on Monday, 11 April, 2022 at 1800 hours.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region Conference had intensive discussions on the following **2 topics** :-

1. **'Mainstreaming Youth Centric Policies'** and
2. **'Harnessing Youth Energy for National Development and the Common Good'**.

The General Assembly unanimously passed the following **Resolution** :

**"All Legislative Bodies should organize appropriate programme on the subjects 'Mainstreaming Youth Centric Policies' and 'Harnessing Youth Energy for National Development and the Common Good' as a part of Amrit Mahotsav being celebrated to commemorate 75 Years of Independence of India. Youth from every section of the**

**society should be involved in these programmes with a view to spread universal awareness about these important subjects”.**

The total delegation size comprising the Presiding Officers, Secretaries and Officers of all State Legislatures of India: 233 persons. ACS Officers and Assistant Professors of different colleges were detailed on protocol duty with all the delegates.

The Conference concluded successfully with vote of thanks from the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly.

During the Conference, sightseeing/excursion was also organized for the delegates of both the international and India Region Conference to Borengajuli and Panery Tea Gardens as well as Pobitra Wildlife Sanctuary as per the choice of the delegates. This is planned as a way to showcase the rich culture and diverse natural beauty of Assam and for the delegates to experience the lives of the Assamese people first hand. The cultural programmes were appreciated by one and all, especially the international delegates.



**Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma entering into Assam Legislative Assembly**



**Delegates during the cultural Programme at Radisson Blu, Guwahati**



On 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Biswajit Daimary hosted a Cultural Show followed by Dinner at Hotel Radisson Blu in honour of the Delegates of CPA International Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting and 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference. Another Cultural Show followed by Dinner was hosted by Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, at Hotel Radisson Blu on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2022. Further, Shri Pijush Hazarika, Hon'ble Minister, Parliamentary Affairs, Assam took the privilege to host also a Cultural Show followed by Dinner on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 in Hotel Radisson Blu in honour of the Delegates.



**Cultural Dances during the cultural Programme at Radisson Blu, Guwahati**



The two events were a resounding success and congratulations for the success of the programme have poured in from all quarters. It is a matter of pride for Assam to have held such a successful international conference for the first time in India. Special thanks go to Lok Sabha Speaker and President of India Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Shri Om Birla for giving the opportunity to Assam Assembly to host these two events. Letter received from Mr. Stephen Twigg, Secretary-General of CPA HQ. appreciating the Assam Legislative Assembly is reproduced as **Annexure**.

Later-on, on various occasions, Sri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha praised the efforts of Assam Legislative Assembly, specially, Shri Biswajit Daimary, Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly. The response to Assam's unforgettable hospitality offered during Executive Committee meeting & General Conference of CPA India Region was reflected during the visit to CPA Conference in a reciprocate way.



**Hon'ble Leader of Opposition, Shri Debabrata Saikia delivering Vote of Thanks at the inauguration Programme of 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference in the Assembly House.**



**Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Harivansh Narayan Singh Delivering Speech at the inauguration Programme of 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Conference in the Assembly House**



**Inauguration Program of 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference in Assam Legislative Assembly**

### **Observation :**

- It is a matter of great privilege that Assam Legislative Assembly got the honour of organising for the first time in India, the CPA International Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting and also hosting of the 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Region Conference for the first time in Assam.
- It was observed that throughout the events, all Covid-19 guidelines/SOP issued by the Govt. of Assam were complied with.
- A medical unit, equipped with all the essentialities, was set up in all the venues were a praiseworthy effort by the Health & Family Welfare Department.
- Exclusive provisions for specially-abled persons were taken in all the venues and arrangements put in place.
- There was complete media and publicity coverage during the events.
- Despite shortage of time, the Assembly House was fully renovated and the dais plan and design were customised specifically for the events.
- Hybrid element, for the first time, was introduced during the meetings of the CPA ExCo.
- The efforts of Home & Political Department, General Administration Department (GAD), Assam Police, Tourism Department, Transport Department, ASTC, PWD(Roads), PWD(Building), Handloom and Textiles, Information and Public Relations, Deputy Commissioners of Kamrup (M), Kamrup (R), Udalguri, Tamulpur; SPs of Kamrup(M),

Kamrum (R), Udalguri and Tamulpur are highly appreciated.

- During the Excursions organised alongside the two events and even the Pre – event site inspection the concerned authorities of the Poibitora Wild Life Sanctuary, Sualkuchi-weavers of Village, Borngajuli and Panery Tea Gardens extended all kinds of cooperation. The Pre – Inspection site visit team of the CPA Head Quarters, London including the CPA India Cell, Lok Sabha appreciated very much about the sites selected and all the arrangements offered. Further all the participating delegation to the excursions also enjoyed the field visits.
- Apart from that, the guidance and assistance of the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup (M) in regard to Kamakhya Temple visits of the National Delegation is very much appreciated by the Committee. The cooperation of the Kamakhya Debutter Board is also noteworthy to mention here.

Despite the challenges and difficulties, the employees of Assam Legislative Assembly, worked with full dedication had eventually succeeded in organising and hosting both the events with all grace. All the employees, irrespective of any seniority and grade, worked relentlessly to deliver a successful event on behalf of Assam Legislative Assembly and Govt of Assam to the National and International delegations assembled in Guwahati, Assam. Their untiring efforts in making the programmes a success is greatly appreciated.

## **Recommendations:**

1. The Mission of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is “to promote knowledge of the Constitutional, Legislative, Economic, Social and Cultural aspects of Parliamentary democracy, with particular reference to the countries of the Commonwealth.” To attain the objectives of the mission, CPA organizes theoretical workshop, webinar and conference encompassing topics ranging from the SDGs to the Letimer House Principles and Climate Change Possibility may be explored to attend such workshop, webinar and conference.
2. CPA, Assam Branch may explore the possibility of Online Parliamentary Professional Development Courses in collaboration with a university, especially Law University and CPA Parliamentary Academy.
3. Special courses for the Legislators and Legislative Assembly Staff to provide with knowledge of how an effective Legislature can adjust facilities and process to be as given accessible as possible for persons with disability.
4. Youth Parliament and Women Parliament may be organized to strengthen the roots of democracy in India in general and particularly in Assam.



24 May 2022

Honourable Biswajit Daimary, MLA  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Assam  
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Assam, India

Email: [cpaassam@gmail.com](mailto:cpaassam@gmail.com)

Dear Honourable Speaker,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the CPA Assam Branch for the excellent arrangements put in place for the Mid-Year Meeting of the CPA Executive Committee and the 8<sup>th</sup> CPA India Regional Conference, which took place in Guwahati from 9 – 10 and 11 – 12 April 2022 respectively.

Throughout their meetings in Assam, the Executive Committee Members enjoyed the warm hospitality of the region and the Legislative Assembly of Assam. We are so grateful for all that you did personally, Hon. Speaker, to ensure that the meetings were a great success.

I also wish to extend my thanks to your staff in the CPA Assam Branch for their tireless efforts in facilitating and coordinating the week's events. It is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to seeing you again, Hon. Speaker, in Halifax, Canada in August. In the meantime, let me please thank you again for your generosity to, and support for, the CPA and our mission.

Hon. Speaker, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Twigg'.

**Stephen Twigg**  
Secretary-General  
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

CC: CPA Assam Branch Secretary  
Hemen Das



**Hon'ble Speaker addressing the 8th CPA India Region Conference**

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