RESOLUTION OF THE 21ST CPA INDIA REGION ZONE-III CONFERENCE HELD AT AIZAWL, MIZORAM

The 21st Annual Conference of the CPA India Region, Zone-III was held at Aizawl, Mizoram on the 27th and 28th September, 2024 with the theme "Fostering the Legislative Sanctity."

During the Plenary Sessions, the Hon'ble Speakers, Deputy Speakers and MLAs of various States of Northeast India deliberated upon and discussed threadbare the following two topics:-

- (i) Inclusion of the Northeast Region in the India-ASEAN Vision for Trade and Cooperation.
- (ii) Merging the Ministry of DONER with NEC for better strategic planning and coordination of various projects in the region.

After the discussions concluded, the members unanimously agreed/resolved the following on the 28th of September, 2024:-

(I) Inclusion of the Northeast Region in the India-ASEAN Vision for Trade and Cooperation:

The House sincerely appreciated and acknowledged the renewed efforts of the Central Government under the leadership of Honourable Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi to work towards the socio-economic upliftment of the North East Region, which is also renowned as Ashtalakshmi through visionary policies of the "Act East Policy."

- i) At the same time, impresses upon the Central Government to extend the scope of the Act East Policy and Ashtalakshmi by incorporating the North East Region into the Indo-ASEAN bilateral trade agreements to encourage the North East Region in becoming a growth engine for the Nation while appreciating the regions International Border trading potentials.
- ii) To accelerate the completion of key infrastructure projects such as the India Myanmar Thailand Highway and the Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport Project.

- iii) To identify and upgrade existing International Trading outpost namely; Moreh in Manipur, Zokhawthar in Mizoram, Pangsha and Avangkhu in Nagaland, Pangsu Pass in Arunachal Pradesh, to name a few.
- iv) To make more efforts in encouraging tourism related projects appreciating the rich cultural diversity and resources and potential of the Region for promotion and at the same time, employment livelihood generation, stressing regional inclusiveness policy.
- v) To promote cultural exchange programmes of the Region with ASEAN Nations as a multiplier factor in promoting potential Foreign Trade in the Region.

(II) Merging the Ministry of DONER with NEC for better Strategic Planning and Coordination of various Projects in the Region:

Having noted that at present, legislative oversight over the functioning of Ministry of DONER and NEC is under the Parliamentary Department Related Standing Committee on Home Affairs, it was felt that a separate Departmental Related Standing Committee (DRSC) in Parliament exclusively for the Ministry of DONER to oversee the functioning of DONER and NEC would strengthen the legislative oversight on their functioning and in effective implementation of the schemes and policies implemented by them. This will ensure greater accountability and strengthen the oversight of the Ministry of DONER and its implementing agencies to the people through the Parliament of India. Towards this end, the Northeast MPs forum may be approached for taking up the matter with the Government of India as well as the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha at the earliest.