

PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

**24 APRIL 2024
NEW DELHI**

**CAG OF INDIA VISITS SPAIN TO FOSTER BILATERAL RELATIONS
WITH COURT OF ACCOUNTS**

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, Mr. Girish Chandra Murmu, visited the office of the Court of Accounts (Tribunal de Cuentas) of Spain to strengthen bilateral cooperation, knowledge sharing and capacity development between the two institutions. The visit aimed to deepen discussions on the functioning of the respective Supreme Audit Institutions of both nations and explore avenues for collaboration.

During his visit, Mr. Murmu engaged in extensive deliberations with Ms. Enriqueta Chicano, President of the Court of Accounts, Spain. Discussions revolved around the respective mandates, organisational structure, audit planning and execution methodologies, institutional independence, and recent initiatives undertaken by both institutions. Ms. Chicano elaborated on the independence enjoyed by the Court of Accounts from the executive branch and highlighted recent initiatives in performance audit and the evaluation of public policies.

Mr. Murmu shed light on the recent emphasis placed on leveraging Information Technology, capacity building in areas such as Environment audit and audit of Blue Economy, among others. Both heads expressed mutual interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation and outlined plans to formalize this commitment through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the near future.

In addition to meeting with Ms. Chicano, Mr. Murmu also met Mr. Pablo Arellano Pardo, the Comptroller General of the State Administration (IGAE), Spain. The IGAE, serving as the internal supervisory agency of the state public sector, plays a key role in ensuring compliance with principles of legality, economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Acknowledging the commonality of mandates in the accounting function, both dignitaries appreciated how internal audit complements external audit, and aligns with the shared objective of promoting transparency and accountability in governance. They deliberated on emerging challenges and opportunities stemming from digitization, the development of common accounting formats, and

the imperative of fiscal responsibility and debt sustainability for both federal and provincial governments.

