

27th September 2024
Second Plenary
Opening Address by CAG of India

Mr. Hou Kai, Auditor General of the National Audit Office of the People's Republic of China, and Secretary General of ASOSAI;

Esteemed Heads of SAIs from the member SAIs of ASOSAI;

Distinguished delegates;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

- ❖ It is with great honour and immense happiness and a profound sense of responsibility\ that I stand before you today \ as the Chair of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI). \ It is indeed a privilege to address this esteemed gathering,\ comprising some of the finest minds in public sector auditing from across Asia \ and beyond. \ At the outset, \ I extend a warm welcome to all of you \ to the 2nd Plenary of the 16th ASOSAI Assembly.\
- ❖ I hope that after the intense deliberations of the last few days, \ yesterday was an occasion for you to unwind \ and enjoy the beauty of the Taj Mahal!\
- ❖ The 16th New Delhi Assembly of ASOSAI is significant in many ways. \ This is the first Assembly post Covid-19 pandemic. \ The global impact of pandemic has been transformative and disruptive, \ especially where

technology is concerned, \ Our discussions held during the past few days \ have aptly reflected the members' recognition of the relevance of advanced technologies \ that are driving the socio- economic milieu across the world, \ and the need for SAIs to adequately strengthen their own capacity to function \ and audit in a transformed world.\

- ❖ On the other hand, \ Covid-19 pandemic also brought to fore \ the stark inequalities that still persisted.\ Mahatma Gandhi had said that \ “progress of a society must be viewed by the state of the most vulnerable and the weakest ones.” \ Never before has the aspiration of “leaving no one behind” \ seemed more relevant than in the post pandemic world, \ where sustainable human development is at the top of the development goals.\ Therefore, \ another significant aspect of the 16th Assembly is the SAIs' recognition \ and strong reiteration of their support to the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development.\
- ❖ The New Delhi Declaration, \ which is on the verge of being adopted today,\ strongly reflects the above intentions of the ASOSAI membership. \ In my capacity as Chair of ASOSAI, \ I am deeply committed to supporting the resolutions \ that have been made in this Assembly \ and to fostering an environment of collaboration, \ innovation, and mutual support.\

- ❖ It goes without saying that \ the presence of the dignitaries from the member SAI's \ and our partners from the INTOSAI \ and the IDI \ has made the New Delhi Assembly a special occasion \ since we are able to once again meet in person, \ after the last Assembly, and renew our bonds.\

- ❖ The second plenary of the 16th ASOSAI Assembly today will be witnessing the induction of new members\ in the Governing Board \ and the Audit Committee of the ASOSAI. \ This is an occasion of great significance for the Organisation,\ and we look forward to the election and to welcoming the newly elected SAI's to the GB \ and the Audit Committee \. On behalf of all of us present here today, \ I would like to extend best wishes to all the self-nominated SAI's \. I also take this occasion to profusely thank the outgoing members \ for their unequivocal commitment and dedication in their role as the GB members \ and Audit Committee members. \ I would now like to invite the Secretary General, \ His Excellency Mr. Hou Kai, \ for taking forward the next agenda, \ which is the conducting of elections for the Governing Board and Audit Committee.\

Thank You.