*(v)*

**Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India**

**Audit of the Finance Accounts of the Government of Nagaland**

**Opinion**

The Finance Accounts of the Government of Nagaland for the year ended 31 March 2024 present the financial position along with accounts of the receipts and disbursements of the Government for the year involving transactions from and/ or to the Consolidated Fund, the Contingency Fund and the Public Account of the State. The compilation of Finance Accounts comprises two Volumes; Volume- I contains the consolidated position of the state of finances and explanatory ‘Notes to Finance Accounts' including a summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Volume-II depicts the accounts in detail. The Appropriation Accounts of the Government for the year for Grants and Charged Appropriations, which represent the budget comparison, are presented separately.

On the basis of the information and explanations that my officers required and have obtained and as a result of test audit of the accounts, in my opinion, the Finance Accounts read with the explanatory ‘Notes to Finance Accounts' present fairly the financial position and the receipts and disbursements of Government of Nagaland for the year 2023-24.

Observations arising from audit of these accounts as well as audit conducted during the year or earlier years are contained in my Financial, Compliance and Performance Audit Reports on the Government of Nagaland being presented separately for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Basis for Opinion**

The conduct of audit is in accordance with the CAG’s Auditing Standards. These Standards require that we plan and perform audits to obtain reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The audit evidence that we have obtained provides a basis for my opinion.

*(vi)*

**Responsibilities for Preparation of the Initial and Subsidiary Accounts**

The State Government is responsible for obtaining authorisation of budget from the State Legislature. The State Government and those responsible for execution of budget such as treasuries, offices and departments of Government of Nagaland are responsible for preparation and correctness of the initial and subsidiary accounts as well as for ensuring the regularity of transactions in accordance with the applicable laws, standards, rules and regulations.

Also, they are responsible for rendering the initial and subsidiary accounts and information related thereto to the Office of the Principal Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlements) of Nagaland for compilation and preparation of the Finance Accounts.

**Responsibilities for Compilation** **of Annual Accounts**

TheOffice of the Principal Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlements) of Nagaland functioning under my control is responsible for compilation and preparation of Annual Accounts of the State Government. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971.

The Annual Accounts have been compiled from the vouchers, challans and initial and subsidiary accounts as received from the treasuries, offices and departments of the Government of Nagaland and the statements received from the Reserve Bank of India.

Statements (9 and 20) and Appendices (IV, part of V, IX and XII) in this compilation have been prepared directly from the information received from the Government of Nagaland and the Union Government who are responsible for such information.

**Responsibilities for the Audit of the Annual Accounts**

The audit of the Annual Accounts is conducted through the Office of the Principal Accountant General (Audit) in accordance with the requirements of Articles 149 and 151 of the Constitution of India and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 for expressing an opinion on these Accounts based on the results of such audit.

*(vii)*

The Office of the Principal Accountant General (Audit), Nagaland and the Office of the Principal Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlements), Nagalandare independent organisations with distinct cadres, separate reporting lines and management structure.

**Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (K. SANJAY MURTHY)**

**Place: New Delhi** **Comptroller and Auditor General of India**