



Research Unit  
Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



## G20 Series #29

### India's G20 Presidency

#### *Supreme Audit Institutions-20 (SAI20) Engagement Group Meeting (Guwahati – March 13-15, 2023)*

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

March 23, 2023

*“India’s G-20 presidency will be inclusive, ambitious, decisive, and action-oriented. India will strive to ensure that the G-20 acts as a global “prime mover” to envision new ideas and accelerate collective action over the next one year.”*

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

Supreme Audit Institutions 20 (SAI20) is an Engagement Group introduced by the Indonesian Presidency in 2022. It is a forum to discuss the important role played by SAIs globally in ensuring transparency and accountability, and in promoting cooperation among the G20 members.

The first Senior Officials Meeting of the SAI20 Engagement Group under India's G20 Presidency began in Guwahati on March 13, 2023. Shri Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, as the Chair of the Supreme Audit Institutions-20 (SAI20) Engagement Group, led the deliberations.<sup>1</sup>



#### **Day-1: Opening Session**

In his opening address, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India highlighted that SAI20 Senior Officials Meeting 2023 is a symbol of global cooperation and collective efforts of the Supreme Audit Institutions of the member G20 countries, to ensure inclusive development and well-being of all.

While recognizing the importance of sustainability, growth and the role of emerging technologies, **he informed that the SAI20, priority areas – “Blue Economy” and “Responsible Artificial**

<sup>1</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1906344>

*Intelligence” represents the new-age opportunities and concerns, and these underline the need for genuine cooperation.*

❖ Explaining the criticality of the priority area of the Blue Economy, CAG stated that the Blue economy is an economic system that encompasses a spectrum of policy and operational dimensions aimed at conserving marine and freshwater environments while promoting their sustainable use, producing food and energy, supporting livelihoods, and acting as a driver for economic advancement and welfare.

❖ While speaking about the second priority area – Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI), CAG highlighted that democratization

of AI technologies is inevitable, and AI could be used to benefit citizens and the country through targeted and timely intervention.

❖ CAG also informed that SAI India’s **International Centre for Environment Audit and Sustainable Development (ICED)**, which serves as global training facilities, has been established as a **Centre of Excellence for the Blue Economy** and the first national training programme will be rolled out at the end of April.



## ***Day-2: Focus on the global promotion of Blue Economy***

Day-2 of the SAI20 meeting focused on the global promotion of the blue economy and its integration with SDGs.

- ❖ Senior Official meeting focused on the deliberations on the Zero draft of the SAI20 Communique. The delegates from the SAI20 member SAIs while broadly agreeing to the Zero draft of the Communique provided their valuable thoughts and suggestions to bring out an inclusive, decisive, and action-oriented Communique in the SAI20 summit scheduled in June 2023.<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Shri Girish Chandra Murmu in his valedictory address appreciated the wealth of knowledge gained during the deliberations on the priority areas of Blue Economy and Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI). He stressed the need for collaboration in developing and strengthening accountability frameworks in the two priority areas.



## ***National and International delegates at the SAI20 event***

The meeting saw the participation of [38 National and International delegates from G20 member SAIs, Guest SAIs and the World Bank as an invited organisation](#). The delegates from G20 member countries, guest countries and other International Organizations also attended the SAI20 event. ***SAIs of Australia, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Oman, the Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, and UAE participated in the meeting.***

<sup>2</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1906786>

## *Cultural Prowess of India - Samvad over Dinner*

Below are the glimpses of cultural performances at 'Samvad over Dinner' during the SAI Inception Meeting in Guwahati on March 13, 2023. G20 delegates and guests also witnessed the beautiful Bihu, Boro, and Sattriya performances during the gala dinner.



## *Excursion - Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary*

As the SAI20 Senior Officials Meeting hosted in Guwahati came to an end on March 15, 2023, the SAI20 delegates took some time out of their schedule to witness the rich flora and fauna of Assam at the **Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary**.<sup>3</sup> The Sanctuary has the highest one-horned Rhinos in the world.



### References:

- PIB Press Release on [The SAI20 delegates meeting of G20 concluded today in Guwahati](#) dated March 14, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [The SAI20 delegates meeting of G20 began today in Guwahati](#) dated March 13, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [The SAI20 Delegates Meeting of G20 to be held in Guwahati from 13th March](#) dated March 12, 2023.
- [https://sai20.org/assets/images/downloads/SAI20\\_Senior\\_Official\\_Meeting-Agenda.pdf](https://sai20.org/assets/images/downloads/SAI20_Senior_Official_Meeting-Agenda.pdf)
- [https://twitter.com/G20\\_Bharat/status/1634789951958032384?s=20](https://twitter.com/G20_Bharat/status/1634789951958032384?s=20)
- [https://twitter.com/pib\\_guwahati?lang=en](https://twitter.com/pib_guwahati?lang=en)

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<sup>3</sup> [https://twitter.com/PIB\\_Guwahati/status/1635902838277566464?s=20](https://twitter.com/PIB_Guwahati/status/1635902838277566464?s=20)