

Common Wealth Parliamentary Association Sikkim Branch

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is a voluntary Association of 53 sovereign independent States united by community of interest, respect for the rule of law and individual rights and freedoms, and most significantly by the pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy. It provides the platform for exchange of information closer understanding and frequent interaction between Parliamentary representative from different part of the globe.

The Association is a charity registered under the laws of the United Kingdom. Its purpose embodies the promotion of knowledge and understanding of the Constitution, legislative, economics, social and cultural systems within a parliamentary democratic framework. It undertakes the mission with particular reference to the Countries of the Common wealth Nations and countries having close historical and parliamentary associations with it.

It provides the sole means of regular consultation among Members of Commonwealth Parliaments and thereby fosters co-operation and understanding among them. The myriad of roles that it performs are endorsed by Commonwealth Parliaments and Heads of the states.

It pursues these objectives by way of:

- ❖ Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences, Regional Conferences and other Symposiums;
- ❖ Inter parliamentary visits;
- ❖ Parliamentary Seminars and Workshops;
- ❖ Publications, notably The Parliamentarian and two newsletters on CPA activities and on parliamentary and political events, and also
- ❖ Parliamentary information and Reference Centre Communication.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association was founded in 1911 as the Empire Parliamentary Association and its affairs were administered by the United Kingdom Branch. The original member Branches were Australia, Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Evolving with the Commonwealth, the CPA in 1948 adopted its present name and amended its rules to enable all member Branches to participate in the Association's management, and established a separate Secretariat to manage its affairs. Association Branches now exist in 142 national, state, provincial and territorial Parliaments, with a total membership of over 14,000 Parliamentarians.

In the 1990s, more than 20 new Parliaments and Legislatures were admitted to or resumed its membership /like: Cameroon; Fiji and newly created Indian states and territories; like Mozambique; Pakistan and its provinces; Seychelles; South Africa and its provinces; Uganda, and Zanzibar in Tanzania etc.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, in 1989 created the constitutional posts of Patron and Vice-Patron. Her Majesty the Queen as the Head of the Commonwealth consented to become Patron. The Vice- Patron is normally the Head of State or Government of the Branch hosting the coming plenary conference.

Branches and Membership

The Association is composed of Branches formed in Legislatures in Commonwealth Countries which subscribe to parliamentary democracy. The Members of the Legislatures in which a Branch is formed are entitled to become Members of that Branch. For a Branch to qualify it must be a legislative body, thus both national and state or provincial Parliaments as well as the Legislatures of dependent territories may be members.

The Presiding Officers of Legislative Chambers are normally the Branch Presidents, while the Leaders of the parliamentary parties are Vice-Presidents. The Clerk or Secretary of the Legislature usually performs the duties of the Secretary of the Branch.

Every Branch is autonomous and the affairs of most Branches are managed by an Executive Committee, elected annually by Members and usually representative of all main parties or groups. Many Branches require their

Members to pay an annual subscription and many permit Members to apply for associate status on ceasing to belong to the Legislature.

Branches are grouped geographically into eight Regions of the Commonwealth for purposes of representation on the international Executive Committee of the Association and for the organization of regional conferences and seminars on parliamentary practice and procedure. The Regions are: Africa; Asia; Australia; British Islands and Mediterranean; Canada; Caribbean, America and Atlantic; Pacific, and South-East Asia.

General Assembly

The General Assembly, the Association's supreme authority, is constituted by delegates in the annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference.

Executive Committee

The Constitution vests in an Executive Committee the control and management of the activities and business of the Association. This Committee consists of 32 Members, comprising the Officers of the Association and three Members as Regional Representatives from each Region except Africa and Asia which, has large Regions, have four and six Representatives respectively.

The Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Association is located in London, United Kingdom, A staff of 14 is headed by the Secretary-General, the Association's chief executive officer, who is responsible for the interpretation and implementation of its policies and the enhancement of its activities, and also is Secretary to the annual plenary conference. The Secretariat maintains close relations with all Branches and promotes liaison and cooperation among them. There are three Directors who are in charge with organizing Secretariat operations including: conferences, finance and administration; strategic planning and project development, and publications and information services.

Finances

The Association is financed mainly by membership fees paid annually by Branches, as well as by income from investment funds and other sources.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Sikkim Branch, was set up on March 31st, 1978 and formal approval of admittance was received in 1979, The Rules of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Sikkim Branch was prepared and approved on March 11th 1980 and printed on April 29th 1980.

As per the Rules of The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Sikkim Branch, the Hon'ble Speaker is the ex-officio President and in the absence of Hon'ble Speaker and the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker shall be the ex-officio President of the Branch and the Hon'ble Leader of the House shall be the ex-officio Vice-President of the Branch. The Secretary of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat shall be the ex-officio Secretary and Treasurer of the Branch. The Management of this Branch is vested with the Executive Committee consisting of not more than 9 Members which has to be elected from amongst the sitting Members of Sikkim Legislative Assembly.

Generally, the meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, is held in March every year. At present the Branch has 11 Life Members and 21 Ordinary Members. Details are given in the annexure "A".

Under the very agenda of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, a new Association under the name of NERCPA including the state of Sikkim was formed on 11th November, 1996, under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha. This Association is a Common Forum of all North Eastern States including Sikkim for sharing views on system Parliamentary Institutions, Parliamentary practices and procedure as well as on matter of various social, economic, political and democratic issues identical in the Region. The Hon'ble members are aware, Sikkim Branch has already organised the Pre-conference of the NERCPA from 15th to 17th December, 1997 at Gangtok and the 5th and 9th NERCPA Conferences during the year 2001 and 2005 respectively.

The headquarters of NERCPA is established at Guwahati for which the land was donated by the Assam Government.

The main object of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is to promote understanding and co-operation for common purpose between those engaged in the Parliamentary Government of the countries of the Commonwealth having close political and parliamentary association.

On the 18th of May, 2010 at Dispur, Guwahati, the Hon'ble Speaker of this August House, Shri K.T Gyaltsen was unanimously and with great accolades, elected as the Vice President of the NERIPSTR during its Executive and Council meeting. The meeting was attended by all the Hon'ble Speakers, Hon'ble Deputy Speakers and Secretaries of the North East regions including the Hon'ble Speaker and Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Secretary and Officers of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

ANNEXTURE "A"

The Hon'ble Members of the 8th Sikkim Legislative Assembly who have Subscribed for the Life Membership of the CPA, Sikkim Branch

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>
1.	Dr. Pawan Chamling	-Hon'ble Chief Minister
2.	Shri Ran Bahadur Subbha	-Hon'ble Minister
3.	Shri Thenley Tshering Bhutia	-Hon'ble Minister
4.	Shri Dawa Norbu Takarpa	-Hon'ble Minister
5.	Shri Narandra Kumar Pradhan	-Hon'ble Minister
6.	Shri Dawcho Lepcha	-Hon'ble Minister
7.	Shri Dil Bahadur Thapa	-Hon'ble Minister
8.	Shri Sonam Gyatso Lepcha	-Hon'ble Minister
9.	Shri Chandra Bahadur Karki	-Hon'ble Minister
10.	Shri Bhim Prasad Dhungel	-Hon'ble Minister
11.	Smt. Tilu Gurung	-Hon'ble Minister
12.	Miss Neeru Sewa	-Hon'ble Minister
13.	Shri Karma Tempo Namgyal Gyaltsen	-Hon'ble Speaker
14.	Shri Man Bahadur Dahal	-Hon'ble Deputy Speaker
15.	Shri Phetook Tshering Bhutia	- Hon'ble Member
16.	Shri Puran Kumar Gurung	-Hon'ble Member
17.	Shri Prem Lall Subba	-Hon'ble Member
18.	Miss. Chandra Maya Subba	-Hon'ble Member
19.	Shri Tenzi Sherpa	-Hon'ble Member
20.	Shri Am Prasad Sharma	-Hon'ble Member
21.	Shri Dorjee Namgyal Bhutia	-Hon'ble Member
22.	Shri Tshering Wangdi Lepcha	-Hon'ble Member
23.	Shri Madan Cintury	-Hon'ble Member
24.	Shri Sonam Gyatso Lepcha	-Hon'ble Member
25.	Shri Binod Kumar Rai	-Hon'ble Member
26.	Smt. Tulshi Devi Rai	-Hon'ble Member
27.	Shri Badu Singh Panth	-Hon'ble Member

28. Shri L.M. Lepcha	-Hon'ble Member
29. Shri Bek Bahadur Rai	-Hon'ble Member
30. Shri Menlom Lepcha	-Hon'ble Member
31. Prem Singh Tamang	Hon'ble Member
32. Shri Ugen Gyatso Bhutia	Hon'ble Member

NAME OF LIFE MEMBERS OF COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION, SIKKIM BRANCH

1.	Shri N.B. Bhandari	Former Chief Minister
2.	Shri B.B. Gurung	Former Chief Minister
3.	Shri Sanchaman Limboo	Former Chief Minister
4.	Shri P.T. Lepcha	Former Deputy Chief Minister
5.	Shri C.B. Subba	Former Speaker
6.	Smt. Kalawati Subba	Former Speaker
7.	Shri Palden Lachungpa	Former Deputy Speaker
8.	Shri Mingma Tshering Sherpa	Former Deputy Speaker
9.	Shri P.B. Gurung	Former Minister
10.	Shri Sherab Palden	Former Minister
11.	Shri P.L. Gurung .	Former Minister
12.	Shri Ram Lepcha	Former Minister
13.	Shri K.N. Upreti	Former Minister
14.	Shri C.K. Mohora	Former Minister
15.	Shri O.T. Bhutia	Former Minister
16.	Shri Namkha Gyaltsen	Former Minister
17.	Shri Thukchuk Lachungpa	Former Minister
18.	Shri Sonam Dupden Lepcha	Former Minister
19.	Smt. Rinzing Ongmu	Former Minister
20.	Shri Thutob Bhutia	Former Minister
21.	Shri D.P. Kharel	Former Minister
22.	Shri Tseten Tashi Bhutia	Former Minister
23.	Shri K.B. Chamling	Former Minister
24.	Shri S. B. Subedi	Former Minister
25.	Shri G.M. Gurung	Former Minister
26.	Shri B.M Ramudamu	Former Minister
27.	Shri O.T. Lepcha	Former Minister
28.	Shri Samten Tshering	Former Minister
29.	Shri Ugen Pintso Bhutia	Ex- MLA
30.	Shri B.B. Lohar	Ex- MLA
31.	Shri D.B. Thatal	Ex- MLA
32.	Shri Pradeep Yonzon	Ex- MLA
33.	Shri Tenzing Dadul	Ex- MLA
34.	Shri N.B. Khatiwada	Ex- Member
35.	Shri M.P. Sharma	Ex- Member
36.	Shri B.C. Sarda	Ex- Member
37.	Shri S.K. Pradhan	Ex- Member
38.	Shri T.M. Rai	Ex- Member
39.	Shri L.B. Rai	Ex- MLA
40.	Shri Gopal Lamichaney	Ex- MLA
41.	Smt. Manita Thapa	Ex- MLA
42.	Shri Norzong Lepcha	Ex- MLA
43.	Shri D.R. Basnet	Ex- MLA
44.	Shri K.N. Rai	Former Minister
45.	Shri Hishey Lachungpa	Former Minister

46. Shri Athuk Lepcha Former Minister
 47. Shri J. K. Bhandari Ex MLA

HON'BLE MEMBERS OF THE 8TH SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WHO HAVE SUBSCRIBED FOR THE LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CPA SIKKIM BRANCH

Sl.No.	Name		Present Position
1.	Shri Pawan Chamling	-	Hon'ble Chief Minister
2.	Shri K.T. Gyaltsen	-	Hon'ble Minister
3.	Shri Mohan Bahadur Dahal	-	Hon'ble Minister
4.	Shri Thenley Tshering Bhutia	-	Hon'ble Minister
5.	Shri Dawa Norbu Takarpa	-	Hon'ble Minister
6.	Shri Sonam Gyatso Lepcha	-	Hon'ble Minister
7.	Shri Bhim Prashad Dhungel	-	Hon'ble Minister
8.	Shri Phetook Tshering Bhutia	-	Hon'ble Member
9.	Shri Prem Lal Subba	-	Hon'ble Member
10.	Shri Madan Cintury	-	Hon'ble Member
11.	Shri B.S. Pant	-	Hon'ble Member

HON'BLE MEMBERS OF THE 8TH SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WHO SUBSCRIBED FOR THE LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CPA, SIKKIM BRANCH

Sl.No.	Name		Present Position
1.	Shri Narandra Kumar Pradhan	-	Hon'ble Minister
2.	Shri Dawcho Lepcha	-	Hon'ble Minister
3.	Smt. Tilu Gurung	-	Hon'ble Minister
4.	Shri Ran Bahadur Subba	-	Hon'ble Minister
5.	Miss Neeru Sewa	-	Hon'ble Minister
6.	Shri Dil Bahadur Thapa	-	Hon'ble Minister
7.	Shri Chandra Bahadur Karki	-	Hon'ble Minister
8.	Shri Ugen T. Gyatso Bhutia	-	Hon'ble Chief Whip
9.	Shri Menlom Lepcha	-	Hon'ble Member
10.	Shri Prem Singh Tamang	-	Hon'ble Member
11.	Miss. Chandra Maya Subba	-	Hon'ble Member
12.	Shri Puran Kumar Gurung	-	Hon'ble Member
13.	Shri Tenzi Sherpa	-	Hon'ble Member

14. Shri Am Prasad Sharma	-	Hon'ble Member
15. Shri Dorjee Namgyal Bhutia	-	Hon'ble Member
16. Shri Tshering Wangdi Lepcha	-	Hon'ble Member
17. Smt. Tulshi Devi Rai	-	Hon'ble Member
18. Shri Laxuman Lepcha	-	Hon'ble Member
19. Shri Bek Bahadur Rai	-	Hon'ble Member
20. Shri Sonam Gyatso Bhutia	-	Hon'ble Member
21. Shri Binod Kumar Rai	-	Hon'ble Member