



THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA
(Set Up by an Act of Parliament)



UNDER THE AEGIS OF
CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF ICAI
HOSTED BY: GUWAHATI BRANCH (EIRC)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

Lakshya

where dreams meet direction



19th-20th December, 2025



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A Souvenir to commemorate the

National Conference:

LAKSHYA: "Where Dreams Meet Direction"

Organised by: **Continuing Professional Education Committee**

Hosted by: **Guwahati Branch (EIRC)**

19th -20th December 2025

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The views expressed in this publication are the personal views of the respective authors and do not in any way reflect the views of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India or any of its committees.



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NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

THEME

Lakshya
where dreams meet direction



LAKSHYA: WHERE DREAMS MEET DIRECTION

At the heart of the theme stands “**LAKSHYA**” - the goal that anchors thought, action, and integrity. For a Chartered Accountant, a goal is not merely an endpoint; it is the axis around which key elements, like focus, discipline, and professional excellence rotate. When convictions embrace the goal, obstacles lose strength. The pulse of the theme is that where dedication steadies the mind and focus transforms challenges into pathways.

The title “**LAKSHYA**” and the phrase “**Where dreams meet Direction**” together reveal a journey: from challenges to dreams, from dreams to direction and from direction to fulfilment, from focussing on the arrow to hitting the bulls’ eye”.

The **eye** represents perception, scrutiny, and the ability to see beyond the obvious. It symbolises professional scepticism - the core strength of Chartered Accountants observing deeply, questioning precisely, and discerning the true and fair.

Nested within the eye is the illuminated **bull’s-eye**, the emblem of accuracy. It reflects the profession’s commitment to precision and evidence-based output. It stands as a reminder that excellence does not happen; it is executed.

The **arrow** at the centre is the metaphor for decisive action. It represents unwavering focus, a path free from distraction, and effort aligned with purpose. Just as an arrow reaches its mark only when its flight remains steady, a professional realises excellence only through continuous, disciplined attention.

The theme opens upon a **deep black canvas**, symbolising uncertainty and risk surrounding every professional endeavour. And therein, emerges a radiant **green**, signifying renewal, balance, and responsibility.

The black and green reflect the Institute’s commitment to advancing the United Nations’ sustainability goals. The theme signifies a shift from carbon and pollution towards sustainability.

The essence of **LAKSHYA – Where Dreams meet direction** is to invite every professional to:

- Observe with depth,
- Act with precision,
- Aim with clarity, and
- Reach every goal with responsibility.

It calls for aligning dreams with discipline, ambition with ethics, and progress with sustainability - so that every pursuit leads to meaningful achievement.



NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

Lakshya
where dreams meet direction



Chairperson's Message

Distinguished guests, speakers and dear delegates,

It is with immense pride and heartfelt warmth that I welcome each one of you to the National Conference 2025. This Annual Conference is a legacy, a festival, a tradition of the Guwahati Branch. It is a collective reaffirmation of the members of this Branch towards the writings on the stone for unwavering commitment to excellence, integrity, and mutuality that we have scripted over years.

This year, we meet under an inspiring and evocative theme: “**LAKSHYA – Where Dreams Meet Direction.**” It embodies the disciplined pursuit of purpose that defines the journey of every Chartered Accountant. In our profession, aspirations gain strength only when guided by clarity, resilience, and a responsibility that stands firm even in the face of uncertainty.

The theme reminds us that vision alone does not lead to achievement. Vision and dreams need to be directed. It is the ability to observe with sharp insight, act with measured judgement, and align effort with intention that transforms possibilities into outcomes. The interplay of perception, precision, and purposeful action is what strengthens our professional identity.

The symbolic elements of the theme—the dark canvas, the eye, the radiating green dart, the arrow in the bull’s eye, the bulls eye holding the human eye are demonstrative of perceptive vision, illuminated accuracy, steadfast effort, disciplined desirable focus, excellence, sustainability and much more. The contrasting hues of depth and renewal further reflect our responsibility towards perseverance, strategy, excellence, sustainability, governance, and overall long-term societal standing.

The theme of the Conference has been coined with a lot of thoughtful brainstorming and readers may enjoy unveiling the theme designed by us for this flagship event that belongs to this great Branch of our Institute. To capture the spirit of focus and ambition that defines this year’s theme, we can even sum it up by saying:

“When the goal is in the eye, the path reveals itself.”

It reflects the essence of our professional journey — that when vision is sharp and purpose is unwavering, the way forward reveals itself with clarity and confidence.

Change is the only constant and it always co-exists with our profession too. We all are going through exceptional times of change, where both the legacy and the futuristic subjects are forming part of the core at the profession. While we are accelerating with AI, we are fire fighting due dates equally hard. Decisions have to change upon callings and similarly strategy and execution always changes.

I extend my sincere gratitude to each of our distinguished guests and speakers for honouring us with their presence and expertise, I will eschew naming a few, because all those who have spared their time and effort for making this Conference a success deserve high regards from me and my team. I offer equal gratitude to all participants for coming forward to multiply the vibrancy of this event. The Conference has been curated with a lot of love and passion for the delegates attending it. Here’s wishing all a happy learning and happy networking fest of fraternity !!

With warm regards,

CA. Raginee Goyal,
Chairperson

Guwahati Branch (EIRC)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
ICAI Guwahati Branch (EIRC)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

THEME: LAKSHYA: "Where Dreams Meet Direction"

UNDER THE AEGIS OF: CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF ICAI

HOSTED BY : GUWAHATI BRANCH (EIRC)

VENUE: SRIMANTA SANKARDEVA INTERNATIONAL AUDITORIUM, GUWAHATI

19th -20th December 2025 (Friday - Saturday)

DAY 1 - 19th DECEMBER, 2025

SPOT REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING : 09:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

INAUGURAL SESSION : 10:00 A.M. TO 10:30 AM by Eminent Guests

TECHNICAL SESSION I : INDIRECT TAXES (10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.)

TOPIC: In-depth Study on Evidence and Statements in GST Proceedings

Session Chairman: CA. Rajendra Kumar P

Speaker: Adv. (CA.) J. K. Mittal

TECHNICAL SESSION II: PANEL DISCUSSION (12:30 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.)

TOPIC: Crystalgazing the Profession - 2030 and Beyond

Moderator: CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, Past President ICAI

Panelist: CA. Manoj Fadnis, Past President ICAI

Panelist: CA. (Adv.) Ved Jain, Past President ICAI

Panelist: CA. Aniket Talati, Past President ICAI

LUNCH BREAK (2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.)

TECHNICAL SESSION III: TECHNOLOGY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.)

TOPIC: Agentic AIs vs. Chartered Accountants

Session Chairman: CA. Sanjib Sanghi

Speaker: CA. Anil Bhandari

DAY 2 - 20th DECEMBER, 2025

TECHNICAL SESSION IV: DIRECT TAXES (10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.)

TOPIC: Income Tax Act, 2025: Way forward

Speaker: CA. (Dr.) Girish Ahuja

SPECIAL SESSION - LEADERSHIP SESSION (12.30 P.M. to 2.00 P.M.)

CA. Charanjot Singh, Nanda President, ICAI | CA. Satish Kumar Gupta, Chairman, CPE, ICAI |

CA. Vishnu K Tulsyan, Chairman, EIRC

LUNCH BREAK (2.00 P.M. to 3.00 P.M.)

TECHNICAL SESSION V: ECONOMY AND CAPITAL MARKETS (3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.)

TOPIC: Capital Market Insights and Wealth Creation

Session Chairman cum Moderator: CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa

Panelist: Mr. Kunal Saraogi | Mr. Sumeet Bagadia | Mr. Nikunj Saraf

MOTIVATIONAL SESSION (5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.)

TOPIC: The Jaamvant Transformation - Unstoppable Bharat

Speaker: Ambassador Shri Deepak Vohra, Made in Bharat

VALEDICTORY SESSION (6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.)



Editorial

Dear Members and Delegates,

It is a privilege to welcome you to the National Conference 2025 and to these pages that seek to capture its spirit. This Conference brings together thought, experience, and shared purpose, where learning extends beyond sessions, and conversations help shape direction. The souvenir has been curated to reflect this collective journey, offering delegates not merely a record of the event, but a thoughtful companion to its ideas, insights, and aspirations.

For me, curating this souvenir marked a quiet professional transition - from working largely as a designer to assuming the editorial responsibility. This shift demanded not just an eye for presentation, but judgement, balance, and respect for every voice represented in these pages.

Each activity and article has been reviewed through the lens of relevance, clarity, and professional value, with a simple yet demanding objective: to ensure that these pages offer something meaningful to take back, enduring beyond the sessions and speeches.



At the heart of this Conference stands LAKSHYA, the goal that anchors thought, action, and integrity. For a Chartered Accountant, a goal is never just an endpoint. It is the axis around which focus, discipline, analysis, and ethical responsibility rotate. As the theme reminds us, dreams ignite vision, direction channels that vision into action, and focus enables achievement.

This souvenir also serves as a tribute. It honours our distinguished dignitaries and speakers by capturing not only their presence, but their experience and professional identity. The contributions from members reflect a profession in motion, balancing legacy with transformation, compliance with judgement, and tradition with innovation. As a timeless thought reminds us, "Excellence does not happen by chance; it is executed."

I extend my sincere gratitude to the members, mentors, and office bearers whose guidance and trust make such initiatives possible. Their belief in collaboration and engagement keeps the Institute vibrant and forward-looking. To my fellow members, I offer a heartfelt invitation to participate actively in ICAI programmes. Attend, speak, mentor, volunteer, and engage. These events are not merely about formal requirements. They are about alignment of dreams with discipline, ambition with ethics, and progress with responsibility.

The profession gives us knowledge and accountability; events like these give us perspective and belonging. May these pages inspire members to observe with depth, act with precision, aim with clarity, and pursue every goal with purpose - so that where dreams meet direction, every effort finds its rightful mark.

Warm regards,

CA. Rishabh Sharma

Chairman, with the team of Souvenir Committee
Lakshya – Where dreams meet direction



ড° হিমন্তু বিশ্ব শর্মা
Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma



মুখ্যমন্ত্রী, অসম
Chief Minister, Assam

CMS.7/2023/3490
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December 10, 2025



MESSAGE

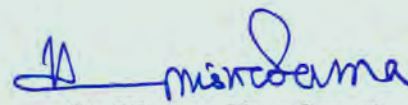
I am pleased to extend my warm greetings to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on the occasion of the National Conference 2025 in Guwahati, organised under the theme "Lakshya: Where Dreams Meet Direction" on 19th and 20th December. This gathering provides a valuable platform for professional dialogue and reflection at a time of rapid economic transformation.

For more than 75 years, ICAI has been a cornerstone of India's financial governance. With its vast membership, robust educational framework and growing global presence, the Institute has significantly strengthened transparency, accountability and professional standards across the country.

The Chartered Accountancy profession plays an essential role in driving economic growth. Chartered Accountants uphold financial discipline, support sound business decisions, build investor confidence and help enterprises navigate an increasingly complex economic landscape. Their contributions are central to India's aspiration of emerging as a strong and globally competitive economy.

I am pleased to note that the Guwahati Branch of ICAI, which has served Assam with dedication since 1977, continues to nurture a vibrant and expanding community of professionals and students. I am confident that the deliberations at this conference will inspire participants and reinforce the profession's commitment to excellence.

I convey my best wishes for the grand success of the National Conference. May the Chartered Accountancy fraternity continue to uphold its high standards and contribute meaningfully to the nation's progress and development.


(Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma)



Ranoj Pegu
Minister
Education & Tribal Affairs (P)



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MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my warm greetings and best wishes to all the members and students of the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** on the occasion of the National Conference being held at Guwahati.

The theme, **Lakshya: where dreams meet direction**, beautifully captures the spirit of ambition and focused endeavor that defines the Chartered Accountancy profession. As custodians of financial integrity and governance, Chartered Accountants play a pivotal role in shaping the economic progress and sustainable development of our nation.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, with its rich legacy of over 75 years, has consistently upheld the highest standards of professionalism and ethical values. Its commitment to capacity building, knowledge sharing, and international cooperation is commendable and serves as an inspiration to aspiring professionals and students alike.

I am confident that this conference will provide an excellent platform for insightful deliberations and knowledge exchange, fostering professional excellence and innovation in the field. I congratulate the Guwahati Branch of ICAI for their dedication in organizing this prestigious event and wish the conference every success.

May the conference inspire new directions and help convert dreams into meaningful realities for all participants.

With best wishes,

(Dr. Ranoj Pegu)



জয়ন্ত মল্লবৰুৱা
মন্ত্ৰী
জনস্বাস্থ্য কাৰিকৰী আৰু
গৃহ নিৰ্মাণ আৰু নগৰ পৰিকল্পনা বিভাগ,
অসম চৰকাৰ



Jayanta Mallabaruah
MINISTER
Public Health Engineering and
Housing & Urban Affairs Departments,
Government of Assam



MESSAGE

It gives me great pleasure to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to the Guwahati Branch of the Eastern India Regional Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on the occasion of the National Conference 2025, being held at Guwahati on 19th and 20th December 2025, along with the release of the conference souvenir.

ICAI has long stood as a pillar of professional excellence, integrity, and good governance. Over the years, the Institute and its Guwahati Branch have played a vital role in nurturing competent professionals, strengthening financial discipline, and contributing meaningfully to nation-building.

The theme of the conference, "Lakshya: Where Dreams Meet Direction," aptly reflects the aspirations of today's professionals and students, guiding them to align ambition with ethics, responsibility, and purposeful growth. Such initiatives provide a valuable platform for deliberation, learning, and collaboration in an evolving economic environment.

I am confident that this conference will inspire participants to strive for higher professional standards while contributing positively to society and the economy.

With warm regards and best wishes for a successful and enriching conference.

Best regards,

(Jayanta Mallabaruah)

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MESSAGE



CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda
President, ICAI

Lakshya – Where Dreams Meet Direction serves as a powerful and inspiring theme for this National Conference, reminding us that it is purposeful learning and focused effort that truly drive professional excellence. It reflects the evolving aspirations of today's Chartered Accountants—professionals who seek not only knowledge but the wisdom to apply it meaningfully in an environment of constant change.

Building on this guiding vision, the **Continuing Professional Education Committee of ICAI** is organising the **National Conference 2025 on 19th & 20th December 2025, hosted by the Guwahati Branch of the Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) of ICAI**. This event aims to bring together leading minds, emerging perspectives, and practical insights that will empower members to navigate the complexities of our profession with confidence and clarity.

As technology reshapes industries, regulatory frameworks evolve, and the demand for responsible financial stewardship grows stronger, Chartered Accountants must continue to elevate their understanding and sharpen their judgement. ICAI remains steadfast in its mission to cultivate a learning environment that is dynamic, forward-looking, and rooted in the highest ethical standards. With Excellence, Independence, and Integrity at its core, the Institute strives to prepare its members for opportunities that require not just competence, but thoughtful leadership and purposeful action.

This National Conference will feature engaging sessions led by eminent experts, covering contemporary topics that impact the profession today and will shape its future, such as Technology and Artificial Intelligence, Capital Markets, Income Tax Act 2025, etc. The programme is carefully designed to offer a rich blend of knowledge, perspectives, and practical takeaways that will add meaningful value to every participant's professional journey.

I would like to commend the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Continuing Professional Education Committee for their vision and efforts in organising this Conference. I also convey my appreciation for the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and the dedicated Managing Committee of the Guwahati Branch of EIRC of ICAI for hosting this important event with enthusiasm and commitment.

I am confident that the National Conference will inspire new ideas, deepen professional understanding, and contribute significantly to the growth of all who participate.

My best wishes for its grand success.

CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda
President, ICAI



CA. Prasanna Kumar D
Vice- President, ICAI

Finances have always been a crucial concept since time immemorial, however owing to the recent ever-evolving financial and regulatory landscape, the area of finance has undergone significant changes.

I am happy to know that a **Two-Day National Conference on the theme Lakshya – Where Dreams Meet Direction** is being organized by the Continuing Professional Education Committee of ICAI and hosted by Guwahati Branch of Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) of ICAI on 19th and 20th December 2025.

The Chartered Accountancy profession has always been a cornerstone of economic governance and financial integrity. In today's era of rapid regulatory reforms, technological advancements, and globalization, our role extends far beyond traditional domains. We are expected to be partners in nation-building, ensuring transparency, fostering good governance, strengthening businesses and contributing to sustainable growth.

This conference, with its carefully curated sessions, will undoubtedly enrich members with insights on contemporary issues ranging from taxation and auditing to digital transformation and global best practices. I urge all participants to engage deeply, learn collectively, and take forward the spirit of continuous professional excellence.

I compliment the Managing Committee members of the Guwahati Branch of EIRC and the members of Continuing Professional Education Committee of ICAI for their dedicated efforts in putting together this conference and wish the deliberations great success. May this gathering inspire new ideas, reinforce our professional values, and strengthen our collective resolve to serve the nation with integrity and commitment. I convey my best wishes to all the participants and wish the Conference a resounding success.

With regards,
CA. Prasanna Kumar D
Vice- President, ICAI



CA. Satish Gupta
Chairman, Continuing Professional Education Committee, ICAI

Dear Colleague,

I am delighted to extend my warm greetings and heartfelt congratulations to the ICAI Guwahati Branch (EIRC) for hosting the National Conference 2025 – “Lakshya: Where Dreams Meet Direction” under the aegis of the Continuing Professional Education Committee of ICAI. This prestigious event reflects the Branch’s commitment to professional excellence and its continued efforts to create meaningful platforms for learning, collaboration, and forward-looking dialogue.

The theme “Lakshya: Where Dreams Meet Direction” beautifully captures the essence of our profession — one that transforms aspirations into purposeful action, guided by integrity, knowledge, and the highest standards of ethics. In an era of rapid technological transformation, regulatory evolution, and globalisation, continuous learning is not merely a professional requirement but a cornerstone of our identity as members of ICAI. The CPE Committee remains steadfast in empowering our members with contemporary knowledge, dynamic skills, and a vision that prepares them for the opportunities and challenges of the future.

National conferences such as this play a pivotal role in nurturing thought leadership and fostering a sense of collective growth. The presence of distinguished speakers, subject-matter experts, and enthusiastic participants will undoubtedly enrich the deliberations and inspire fresh perspectives. I am confident that this conference will serve as a catalyst for innovation, capacity building, and renewed professional zeal among our fraternity.

I commend the ICAI Guwahati Branch for its meticulous planning and dedication in organising this landmark event. My best wishes to the Managing Committee, Souvenir Team, delegates, and all stakeholders who have contributed to making this conference a reality.

May “Lakshya” guide us all towards excellence, purpose, and impactful contribution to the nation.

Lastly, I earnestly request you to attend WOFA 2.0 where we shall have an opportunity to connect, to network, to become familiar with emerging opportunities and to meet with the International and ICAI leadership. Looking forward to seeing you at WOFA 2.0.

Warm regards,

CA. Satish Gupta
Chairman, Continuing Professional Education Committee
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India



CA. Vishnu Kumar Agarwal
Vice-Chairman, CPE Committee of ICAI

The profession of Chartered Accountancy has always been deeply committed to fostering financial responsibility, transparency, and accountability across all spheres of society. In today's rapidly evolving environment, the role of Chartered Accountants has become even more critical—not only because of the increasing complexities and continuous developments within the audit and accountancy profession, but also due to the profound impact of emerging technologies. These dynamic shifts have heightened the need among members to pursue continuous learning and professional growth. Consequently, it has become essential for professionals to equip themselves with in-depth knowledge not only in their core areas of expertise but also in emerging domains, enabling them to effectively navigate new challenges and adapt to transformational changes.

As the world continues to evolve at a fast pace, it is crucial for professionals to stay updated and future-ready. To support this, the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Committee of ICAI offers a wide range of programs designed to enhance members' competencies through innovative technologies and modern learning tools. These initiatives have become more accessible, relevant and personalized, empowering members to develop their skills and excel in an increasingly complex professional landscape.

The CPE Committee undertakes a range of initiatives to enhance the knowledge and skills of its members. These efforts include:

- Hosting Conferences, Seminars, Webinars, and Workshops on pertinent topics to keep members abreast of updates and changes in Professional topics.
- Offering training programs designed to help members acquire new skills and competencies.
- By encouraging its members to volunteer to become speakers and moderators for CPEC Programmes.

I am glad to extend my heartfelt greetings on the occasion of the **Two-Day National Conference "Lakshya – Where Dreams Meet Direction"**, organized by the **CPE Committee of ICAI** and hosted by the **Guwahati Branch of EIRC of ICAI**, scheduled to be held on **19th & 20th December, 2025 at Guwahati**.

The topics of this event are meticulously chosen such as Indirect and Direct Taxes; Crystal Gazing the Profession – 2030 and Beyond; Technology and Artificial Intelligence; Economy and Capital Markets among others. I am confident that the eminent faculties of the CA profession will offer invaluable insights to this conference, enabling members to enhance their knowledge and deliver high-quality services to their clients and other stakeholders, thereby contributing to the economic development of our nation.

I extend my earnest gratitude to CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda, Hon'ble President, ICAI and CA. Prasanna Kumar D, Hon'ble Vice-President, ICAI, for their visionary leadership and unwavering guidance in advancing the initiatives and activities of the CPE Committee.

I also express my appreciation to CA. Satish Kumar Gupta, Chairman of the CPE Committee, for his visionary leadership and to all the members of the CPE Committee for their valuable support.

I also appreciate the efforts of CA. Raginee Goyal, Chairperson of the Guwahati Branch of EIRC of ICAI and the entire Managing Committee of the Guwahati Branch of EIRC of ICAI for organizing this event superbly.

On this occasion, I extend my warm greetings to all participants and wish the Conference great success.

CA. Vishnu Kumar Agarwal
Vice-Chairman, CPE Committee of ICAI



CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra
Past President, ICAI

Dear Professional Colleagues,

I am happy to note that the Guwahati Branch of the Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is organising a **Two-Day National Conference 2025** on 19th and 20th December, 2025 under the aegis of Continuing Professional Education Committee of our Institute on the theme **“Lakshya: Where Dreams Meet Direction”**.

The Conference is an apt platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas on subject areas of professional relevance to the fraternity. The Conference aims to enlighten the members on Direct Taxes, Artificial Intelligence, Indirect Taxes, Capital Market, Future of the Profession by eminent experts. The subjects to be discussed are very topical and will certainly enrich the knowledge of those attending.

I am sure that the delegates would take advantage of this Conference to upskill, empower, and enlighten themselves in the best interests of the profession.

I compliment the Chairman and the entire Managing Committee of the Guwahati Branch of EIRC for their hard work & the Continuing Professional Education Committee for its initiative to conduct this Conference at Guwahati.

Being a Past Chairman of the Branch, I convey my best wishes to all the participants and wish the Conference a resounding success.

CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra
Past President, ICAI



CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa
Central Council Member, ICAI

It is with immense pride and pleasure that I convey my heartiest congratulations to my home branch, for hosting the National Conference 2025 on the theme "Lakshya - Where Dreams Meet Direction." This mega event is more than just an event as it is a confluence of professional wisdom and invaluable learning coupled with the driving forces of resilience and excellence.

The conference will be providing an enriching experience to every participating delegate as it is an exceptional platform for knowledge sharing, networking, and exploring emerging opportunities. I firmly believe that this mega event will help in equipping the professional fraternity with the insights needed to navigate the evolving professional landscape, making dreams actionable with defined directions. I am sure that it would serve as a catalyst to boost professional trajectories to new heights.

As for me, to witness the collective efforts of the team, conceptualized under the theme of 'Lakshya' turn into reality will be a deeply emotional and rewarding experience.

I would take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to the dynamic Managing Committee of the Guwahati Branch led by CA Raginee Goyal, Chairperson for the team's leadership, tireless dedication, unwavering commitment and endeavours, blended with the highest standards of professional excellence. The efforts of the managing committee members and the volunteers are the true strength of our branch, and I would like to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to each and every one of them.

May the energy of this conference inspire all of us to achieve our highest 'Lakshya'!

Best wishes always,

CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa
Central Council Member, ICAI



CA. Sanjib Sanghi
Central Council Member, ICAI

It gives me immense joy and pleasure to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Guwahati Branch of EIRC of ICAI for hosting the **National Conference 2025**, titled "**Lakshya – Where Dreams Meet Direction**" on the 19th and 20th of December, 2025.

As Chartered Accountants and the partners in Nation Building, we are entrusted with a mandate that goes far beyond compliance. We are the custodians of trust, the architects of financial discipline, and the strategic partners enabling businesses to innovate and grow.

As we gather at the prestigious Srimanta Sankaradeva International Auditorium, we stand at a pivotal moment for our profession. The theme "**Lakshya**" is incredibly timely. It reminds us that ***while our dreams fuel our ambition, it is professional direction, technical rigour, and ethical grounding that turn those dreams into reality.***

These two days cover a full spectrum of a modern CA's journey — from the nuances of the Income Tax Act, 2025 and GST Proceedings to wealth creation in Capital Markets and much more.

I am particularly excited to personally engage with you during **Technical Session III**, where we will delve into a topic that is redefining our workspace: "**Technology & Artificial Intelligence.**" I look forward to exploring the dynamic relationship between "Agentic AIs vs. Chartered Accountants". It is high time that we, as Chartered Accountants, understand how to leverage these advanced tools not as competitors, but as powerful allies in our practice.

I compliment and extend my heartiest wishes to the Conference Director and my Council Colleague, **CA Ravi Kumar Patwa**; the Chairperson of the Guwahati Branch, **CA Raginee Goyal**; Vice-Chairman, **CA Anjani Kumar Mundhra** and the entire team for their dedication in organising this grand event.

I also extend my gratitude to all the dignitaries and contributors and wish the delegates two days filled with insightful learning, networking, and the inspiration to set new "Lakshya" for the future.

Jai Hind, Jai ICAI.

Warm regards,
CA. Sanjib Sanghi
Central Council Member, ICAI



CA Vishnu K. Tulsyan
Chairman, EIRC of ICAI

MESSAGE

Dear Professional Colleagues,

I am delighted to learn that the Guwahati Branch of the Eastern India Regional Council of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India is hosting the National Conference 2025, aptly christened “LAKSHYA – Where Dreams Meet Direction”, under the aegis of the Continuing Professional Education Committee of ICAI, scheduled to be held on 19th and 20th December 2025 (Friday & Saturday) at the prestigious Srimanta Sankardeva International Auditorium, Guwahati, Assam.

In an era of rapid economic transformation, technological advancement and evolving regulatory landscapes, such national-level professional platforms play a pivotal role in equipping Chartered Accountants with contemporary knowledge, strategic insights and future-ready perspectives. The theme “LAKSHYA” truly resonates with the aspirations of our profession, emphasizing clarity of purpose, focused growth and purposeful leadership.

The “LAKSHYA” of overall development has become the call of the day as both technological advancement and social upliftment have to go side by side. To be part of such social reforms which are relatively new to us, EIRC has launched 11 initiatives that we may continue to implement. Our initiatives are given in our website alongwith a Google Form with the link wherein you can offer your suggestions. If any of these initiatives you can relate to your daily life then please come forward and inform us about your new beginning. To move towards the lakshya of nation building we thought it is our duty to pay tribute to our freedom fighters and nation builders. Hence we are organising a theatrical evening on 23rd January 2026 entitled “MAA TUIHE SALAM”. To know more on this please visit our website .

My Message will be incomplete if I do not mention with humility for the overwhelming support you have shown to us in organising the Golden Jubilee Conference of EIRC, with 5,200+ Footfalls, 125 + Guests & dignitaries, 40 topics, 3 Cultural & Motivational sessions and UN Framework (UNFCCC) certificate for carbon neutrality vis a vis participation of Four foreign countries. Thank you for all the support you have extended to us.

I am confident that this conference will provide an enriching learning experience through insightful deliberations, thought stimulating sessions and meaningful interactions with eminent speakers and fellow professionals from across the country. I commend the Guwahati Branch and its Chairperson for their dedication and meticulous efforts in organizing this landmark event, which will undoubtedly add significant value to the professional fraternity.

I extend my best wishes for the grand success of the National Conference 2025 and encourage members and students to participate wholeheartedly and make the most of this opportunity.

Warm regards,

CA Vishnu K. Tulsyan
Chairman, EIRC of ICAI
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Past Branch Chairmen



Late CA. Kabindra Narayan Choudhury
Session 1981-82 & 1985-86



Late CA. Shyama Prasad Sharma
Session 1979-80



Late CA. Arunangshu Bhattacharjee
Session 1980-81 & 1983-84



Late CA. Kabindra Narayan Choudhury
Session 1981-82 & 1985-86



CA. Devajit Sharma
Session 1986-87 & 1987-88



CA. Amlan Bhadra
Session 1988-89 & 1991-92



CA. Shyam Sundar Agarwala
Session 1989-90, 1992-93 and 1993-95



CA. Suresh Kumar Beria
Session 1990-91



Late CA. Chitta Bikash Bhowmik
Session 1995-96



CA. Bhanwar Lal Purohit
Session 1995-96 B



CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra
Session 1996-97



CA. Mahaveer Chand Betala
Session 1997-98



CA. Harish Kumar Agrawala
Session 1998-99



Late CA. Sampat Kumar Jain
Session 1999-00



CA. Nirmal Kumar Dosi
Session 2000-01



CA. Suresh Kumar Bhartia
Session 2001-02



CA. Ashoke Kumar Jalan
Session 2002-03



CA. Santosh Kumar Jain
Session 2003-04



CA. Ashok Kumar Agarwala
Session 2004-05



CA. Subhash Banik
Session 2005-06

Past Branch Chairmen



CA. Omprakash Agarwalla
Session 2006-07



CA. Nirmal Kumar Kotecha
Session 2007-08



CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa
Session 2008-09



CA. Shankarlal Agarwal
Session 2009-10



CA. Bikash Agarwalla
Session 2010-11



CA. Anil Kumar Agarwalla
Session 2011-12



CA. Naveen Garg
Session 2012-13



CA. Kaberi Bhuyan
Session 2013-14



CA. Kailash Prasad Sarda
Session 2014-15



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Session 2015-16



CA. Rakesh Agarwalla
Session 2016-17



CA. Mahabir Agarwalla
Session 2017-18



CA. Rohit Agarwal
Session 2018-19



CA. Dhiraj Kumar Jain
Session 2019-20



CA. Sharad Agarwalla
Session 2020-21



CA. (Dr.) Kamal Mour
Session 2021-22



CA. Gaurab Garodia
Session 2022-23



CA. (Dr.) Ayush Saraf
Session 2023-24



CA. Saurabh Choudhary
Session 2024-25



Past Branch Secretaries

Session	Name
1977-78	CA. Kabindra Narayon Choudhury
1978-79	CA. Kabindra Narayon Choudhury
1979-80	CA. R.C Khanna
1980-81	CA. Suresh Kumar Beria
1981-82	CA. Champalal Maheshwari
1982-83	CA. Mahipal Patni
1983-84	CA. B.K. Dhar
1984-85	CA. Hari Prosad Hazarika
1985-86	CA. Devajit Sharma
1986-87	CA. Amlan Bhadra
1987-88	CA. Shyam Sundar Agarwala
1988-89	CA. Suresh Kumar Beria
1989-90	CA. Braham Dutt Garodia
1990-91	CA. Bhanwar Lal Purohit
1991-92	CA. Ramawatar Jhuria
1992-93	CA. Suresh Kumar Bhartia
1993-95	CA. Ashok Kumar Agarwala
1995-96A	CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra
1995-96B	CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra
1996-97	CA. Harish Kumar Agrawala
1997-98	CA. Nirmal Kumar Dosi
1998-99	CA. Sunil Sharma
1999-00	CA. Suresh Kumar Bhartia
2000-01	CA. Suresh Kumar Bhartia

Session	Name
2001-02	CA. Subhasish Ghosh
2002-03	CA. Subhasish Ghosh
2003-04	CA. Pradip Kumar Nahata
2004-05	CA. Subhash Banik
2005-06	CA. Bikash Agarwala
2006-07	CA. Gopal Singhanian
2007-08	CA. Sunil Sharma
2008-09	CA. Anil Kumar Agarwala
2009-10	CA. Naveen Garg
2010-11	CA. Naveen Garg
2011-12	CA. Vikash K Jain
2012-13	CA. Vikash K Jain
2013-14	CA. Rakesh Agarwala
2014-15	CA. Rakesh Agarwala
2015-16	CA. Mahabir Agarwala
2016-17	CA. Rohit Agarwal
2017-18	CA. Dhiraj Kumar Jain
2018-19	CA. Sharad Agarwalla
2019-20	CA. (Dr.) Kamal Mour
2020-21	CA. Gaurab Garodia
2021-22	CA. (Dr.) Ayush Saraf
2022-23	CA. Saurabh Choudhary
2023-24	CA. Raginee Goyal
2024-25	CA. Anjani Kumar Mundhra



Managing Committee of ICAI Guwahati Branch (EIRC): 2025-26



CA. Raginee Goyal
Chairperson



CA. Anjani Kumar Mundhra
Vice Chairman



CA. Jay Prakash Gupta
Secretary



CA. Piyush Birmiwal
Treasurer



CA. Vikash Kumar Choudhary
Chairman EICASA



CA. Nitika Bagaria
Chairperson CPE Committee



CA. Kumar Victor Saha
Nominated Member EICASA



CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa
Ex-Officio Member

Obituary



Late CA. Binod Kumar Kejriwal
(1st July, 1952 - 27th December, 2024)



Late CA. Sanjay Hazarika
(3rd May, 1953 - 2nd July, 2025)



Late CA. Sanidhya Saraf
(13th January, 1992 - 26th July, 2025)



Late CA. Sarang More
(8th April, 1988 - 2nd September, 2025)



Late CA. Pradip Kumar Roy
(1st May, 1942 - 8th October, 2025)





অসম শক্তি বিতৰণ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

(অসম চৰকাৰৰ ৰাজহুৱা খণ্ডৰ এটি পৰিসীমিত কোম্পানী)

প্ৰধানমন্ত্ৰী সূৰ্য ঘৰঃ বিনামূলীয়া বিদ্যুৎ আঁচনি

ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰধানমন্ত্ৰী সূৰ্য ঘৰ বিনামূলীয়া বিদ্যুৎ আঁচনি, সেউজ শক্তিৰ দিশত এক সৰ্ব-বৃহৎ জন-অংশীদাৰীত্বৰ পদক্ষেপ।

ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ এই আঁচনিৰ জৰিয়তে গ্ৰাহকে নিজে সৌৰশক্তিৰ সহায়ত বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন কৰি বিদ্যুৎ বিল কমাৰ পাৰিব।

নতুন অধিসূচনাৰ মতে আৱাসিক গ্ৰাহকৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ১০ কিলোৱাট পৰ্যন্ত ৰুফটপ সৌৰ ক্ষমতা স্থাপনৰ বাবে Net Metering পদ্ধতিৰ জৰিয়তে গ্ৰাহকে APDCL গ্ৰিডত ৰপ্তানি কৰা সৌৰ ইউনিটখিনি APDCL গ্ৰিডৰ পৰা আমদানি কৰা ইউনিটৰ পৰা বিয়োগ কৰা হ'ব আৰু বাকী বৈ যোৱা ইউনিটৰ ওপৰত বিদ্যুৎ বিলখন তৈয়াৰ কৰা হ'ব।

ৰুফটপ সৌৰ শক্তি সংস্থাপনৰ বাবে অসম চৰকাৰ আৰু ভাৰত চৰকাৰে বৃহৎ সংখ্যক ধন ৰাজসাহায্য হিচাপে বহন কৰাৰ লগতে চৰকাৰে বেহাইমূলক বেংক ঋণৰো ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব, যি পোনে পোনে গ্ৰাহকক বেংক একাউন্টত প্ৰদান কৰা হ'ব।

এই আঁচনিখনৰ সুযোগ গ্ৰহণ কৰি নিম্নলিখিত হিচাবে ৰাজসাহায্য লাভ কৰক

সৌৰ প্ৰকল্পৰ ক্ষমতা	এমএনআৰই, ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ কেন্দ্ৰীয় ৰাজসাহায্য	অসম চৰকাৰৰ ৰাজ্যিক ৰাজসাহায্য	সৰ্বমুঠ ৰাজসাহায্য
১ কিলোৱাট	৩৩,০০০ টকা	১৫,০০০ টকা	৪৮,০০০ টকা
২ কিলোৱাট	৬৬,০০০ টকা	৩০,০০০ টকা	৯৬,০০০ টকা
৩ কিলোৱাট	৮৫,৮০০ টকা	৪৫,০০০ টকা	১,৩০,৮০০ টকা
৩ কিলোৱাটৰ অধিক	৮৫,৮০০ টকা	৪৫,০০০ টকা	১,৩০,৮০০ টকা

প্ৰধানমন্ত্ৰী সূৰ্য ঘৰ আঁচনিৰ অধীনত কৰা সংযোগৰ বাবে স্মাৰ্ট মিটাৰ ক্ৰয় আৰু সংস্থাপনৰ বাবে গ্ৰাহকে কোনো ধৰণৰ ধন ব্যয় কৰিব নালাগে।

১০ কিলোৱাট পৰ্যন্ত ছাদৰ ওপৰত সৌৰ স্থাপনৰ বাবে আবেদন কৰা গ্ৰাহকৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত প্ৰয়োজন হ'লে অনুমোদিত লোড সৌৰ প্ৰকল্পটো আৰম্ভ কৰাৰ সময়ত এপিডিচিএলে বৃদ্ধি কৰিব।

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Member Activity Report

Conferences, Seminars and Workshops

1. CA National Conference 2024 – Disha: Empowering Tomorrow

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) of ICAI hosted the grand National Conference 2024, titled “DISHA - Empowering Tomorrow...” under the aegis of Continuing Professional Education Committee of ICAI on the 9th and 10th August 2024 at ITA Machkhowa.



CA. Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal, President, ICAI graced the conference with his presence. Distinguished speakers such as CA. (Dr.) Girish Ahuja, CA. G. Sekar, CA. Guru Prasad Makam, CA. Anand Prakash Jangid, CA. (Dr.) Debashish Mitra, Past President, ICAI, among several other eminent luminaires of the profession, delivered profound insights across multifaceted domains of professional practice.



The Managing Committee of the Guwahati Branch and a multitude of members from our professional community were present to mark the auspicious beginning of this momentous event. The two-day conference was an amalgamation of knowledge, wisdom, and experience. Ace experts from diverse fields across the country shared brilliant insights on crucial topics and compelled critical thinking.



Members benefitted from 12 CPE hours, enriched through diverse technical sessions, forward-looking perspectives, and stimulating discussions that fostered professional upskilling. A highlight of the conference was the soul-stirring motivational session delivered by Shri Amogh Lila Prabhu, which left the audience deeply inspired.



2. Seminar on Tax Audit

On 29th August 2024, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a focused seminar featuring CA. Aditya Kumar Maheshwari, CA. Deepak Bholasaria, and CA. Pawan Kumar Agarwal providing members with deep technical clarity on tax audit provisions and practical considerations. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]





3. Seminar on Direct Tax

As the tax season peaked, September was dedicated to sharpening professional skills in taxation. The month featured a significant CPE session on Direct Tax on 7th September 2024, addressed by esteemed speakers CA. Pawan Kumar Agarwal and CA. Sudhir Baheti, who navigated participants through contemporary tax developments, practical interpretations, and compliance nuances. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



4. Seminar on Code of Ethics & MDP

On 5th November 2024, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a focused, four-hour seminar, led by CA Nitika Bagaria and CA Piyush Birmiwala on the Code of Ethics and MDP, emphasising ethical responsibilities, multidisciplinary partnerships, and professional conduct. [CPE Credit: 4 hours]



5. Residential Refresher Course on GST at COE Hyderabad

The members of Guwahati Branch (EIRC) were privileged to get an opportunity to be a part of a two-day immersive learning programme called Residential Refresher Course at Centre of Excellence, Hyderabad organised by the GST and Indirect Taxes Committee, ICAI on 15th & 16th November 2024 on Goods and Services Tax. Faculty included distinguished experts like CA. Sushil Goyal, CA. J. K. Mittal, CA. Sunil Gabhawalla, CA. (Dr.) Avinash Poddar, CA. Yash Dhadha. [CPE Credit: 12 hours]





6. Seminar on Automation Excel & AI

The Guwahati Branch (EIRC) hosted a Seminar on Automation Excel & AI on 9th November 2024. CA. Pankaj Jain, CA. Pankaj Periwal and CA. Tanuj Jallan conducted this three-hour session, guiding members on leveraging modern tools like Excel automation and Artificial Intelligence to significantly enhance efficiency and accuracy in professional assignments. [CPE Credit: 3 hours]



7. CPE Seminar on GST Amnesty Scheme & Commonly found non-Compliance in Standards on Auditing

A CPE Seminar was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on GST Amnesty Scheme & Commonly found Non-Compliance in Standard on Auditing on 30th November 2024. This seminar featured CA. Omprakash Agarwal and CA. Prabhaw Kr Agarwalla and addressed recent developments in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Amnesty Scheme [CPE Credit: 4 hours]



8. Seminar on New Procedure of Assessment relating to Search and Reassessment

A Seminar on New Procedure of Assessment relating to Search & Reassessment was held by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on 4th December 2024. The session featured Shri Pankaj Kumar, Principal Director of Income Tax (Investigation), NER, Guwahati, alongside CA. Sanjay Mody. They provided crucial, authoritative insights into the legal and procedural aspects governing tax assessment following search and reassessment operations. [CPE Credit: 3 hours]



9. Seminar on GST and AQMM

A full day seminar on GST and AQMM was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on 16th December 2024. CA. Kamal Mour and CA. Vikash Kumar Banka delivered this five-hour program, focusing on an in-depth understanding of complex GST provisions and the Assessment and Quality Monitoring Mechanism (AQMM) for practitioners, which is essential for maintaining high-quality professional standards. [CPE Credit: 5 hours]



10. Seminar on Networking Guidelines

On 19th December 2024, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organized a Seminar on Trademark and Networking Guidelines led by CA. Mohan Agarwal and CA. Prabesh Agarwal, covering legal aspects of professional networking guidance. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



11. Seminar on Direct Tax – "Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme, 2024"

The Direct Tax session was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on 19th December 2024, led by CA. Anil Kumar Agarwala, was a timely effort dedicated to explaining the modalities and benefits of the new Direct Tax Dispute Resolution Scheme. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



12. Seminar on Networking Guidelines

A dedicated Seminar on Networking Guidelines was conducted on 23rd December 2024 by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC). During the session, CA. Prabesh Agarwal provided detailed clarification and insight into the professional guidelines governing ethical networking among Chartered Accountants. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



13. Seminar on Professional Tax, Standards on Auditing, and the Code of Ethics

On 26th December 2024, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised an extensive Seminar on Professional Tax, Standards on Auditing and the Code of Ethics. The sessions were led by CA. Mohan Agarwal, CA. Kumar Victor Saha, and CA. Nidhi Jallan, who provided detailed technical insights and practical guidance on statutory requirements, audit quality expectations, and ethical compliance. [CPE Credit: 5 hours]



14. Group Discussion on Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships

The Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a focused Group Discussion on Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships on 28th December 2024. The discussion was facilitated by CA. Piyush Birmiwai, who guided members through the scope, structure, and regulatory considerations related to MDPs. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



15. Seminar on AQMM & Peer Review FAQs

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised a Seminar on Audit Quality Maturity Model (AQMM) and Frequently Asked Questions on Peer Review on 2nd January 2025 at Hotel Sib, Nagaon. The session was led by CA. Nitika Bagaria, who provided a comprehensive overview of audit quality parameters, key requirements under Peer Review, and practical considerations for firms to enhance audit compliance. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



16. Sub Regional Conference – विचारणा: Insights into GST Search, Appeal & Real Estate

The two-day Sub-Regional Conference from 7th to 8th January 2025 convened an eminent constellation of speakers from across the profession including CA. Venugopal G, CA. K.K. Chhaparia, CA. Manoj Nahata, CA. Bikash Agarwala, CA. Sushil Kumar Goyal, CA. Rohini Aggarwal, Adv. Sudipta Bhattacharjee, CA. Vishal Poddar, and CA. Manish Gadia.



The sessions covered a wide range of professional topics, including taxation, company law, audit practices, technology adoption, and industry-specific developments.



The mock tribunal and technical sessions enriched participants with practical insights and interactive learning, contributing to a total of 12 CPE hours.



17. Seminar on Capital Markets

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) held a Seminar on Capital Markes on 10th January 2025. The session was addressed by CA Vijai Mantri and CA Gautam Lath. The session presented a penetrative exploration of the capital market ecosystem, decoding investment frameworks, market behaviour, regulatory transformations, and wealth-building strategies. [CPE Credit: 4 hours]



18. Seminar on Union Budget

On 18th February 2025, a seminar on Union Budget 2025 was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) where speakers CA. Asim Prakash, CA. Anil Kumar Agarwala, and CA. Vikash Kumar Jain analysed fiscal policies, taxation changes, and professional implications. [CPE Credit: 5 hours]



19. Vaidyanath Memorial Lecture (GST Amnesty & Indirect Tax Proposals

The S. Vaidyanath Memorial Lecture was successfully hosted on 22nd February 2025 at ICAI

Bhawan. The objective of this technical session was to provide an in-depth focus on specific indirect tax topics. Esteemed speaker CA. Manoj Nahata delivered specialized technical knowledge, concentrating on the crucial GST Amnesty scheme and the latest Indirect Tax Budget proposals. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



20. Motivational Seminar: Aspire Adapt Achieve – Pioneering Change, Setting Trends

On 8th March 2025, a motivational seminar titled “Aspire Adapt Achieve – Pioneering Change, Setting Trends” was conducted to inspire members with critical motivational and leadership insights from diverse professional fields. The seminar featured a distinguished panel of speakers: Smt. Arunima Choudhury (Joint Commissioner of State Tax, Assam) and Dr. Deepanjali Brahma (Plastic Surgeon & Aesthetics Expert), with moderation by CA. Rajani Damani Jain. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



21. Seminar on GST

A seminar on latest trends in GST Litigation and Amnesty Scheme under GST by CA. Manoj Nahata was conducted at Silchar CPE Study Chapter on 12th March 2025. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



22. Seminar on GST Provisions in Export Transactions with Neighbouring Countries

A seminar on GST provisions in Export Transactions with Neighbouring Countries was conducted by the Jorhat CPE Study Chapter on 12th March 2025 featuring CA. Shiv Kumar Bansal as the speaker. [CPE Credit: 3 hours]



23. Seminar on Bank Audit

A comprehensive Seminar on Bank Audit was organized on 26th March 2025 with the objective of providing thorough training on the principles and practices essential for the bank audit season. The seminar was addressed by key resource persons, CA. Niranjana Joshi, and CA. Lokesh Gupta. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]





24. One-Day Training Programme for Peer Reviewers

On 3rd April 2025, a specialized One-Day Training Programme for Peer Reviewers was conducted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) to train and certify members, thereby upholding audit quality standards. The program was distinguished by the participation of high-profile guests, notably CA. Purushottam Lal Khandelwal (Chairman, Peer Review Board), alongside CA. Kamal Mour and CA. Amitesh Agarwal. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



25. Banker's Panel Discussion on Concurrent Audit of Banks

A Banker Panel Discussion was held on 25th April 2025 by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC). Moderated by CA. Sandip Khaitan, the panel featured leading bank officials, including Shri Dhruba Charan Bal (GM, SBI NWII), Shri Sidhartha Pujari (AGM, SBI WEB CAS), Shri Sachikanta Das (DGM, Indian Bank), and Shri Alok Kumar (Zonal Head of Credit, Indian Bank). [CPE Credit: 1.5 hours unstructured]



26. Seminar on Labour Laws, NPO and Trust Related Laws

A targeted seminar on Labour Laws, NPO & Trust Related Laws was held on 26th April 2025 by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC). Speakers CA. Suresh

Kumar Kejriwal and CA. Vivek Agarwal updated members on the latest compliances and issues concerning these specialized statutes. The session covered key regulatory and compliance aspects for both Labour and Not-for-Profit Organizations (NPO)/Trust laws. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



27. Seminar on Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships

The Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised a focused seminar on Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships on 29th April 2025. Conducted by CA. Gaurab Garodia, the session aimed to discuss the evolving framework and significant professional opportunities presented by multi-disciplinary practice. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



28. Seminar on Networking Guidelines

The essential Seminar on Networking Guidelines was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on 30th April 2025 with CA. Prabesh Agarwal as the speaker. The objective was to educate members thoroughly on the professional rules and best practices governing networking. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



29. Seminar on Scaling Up Audit Quality for Non-Corporate Entities

A seminar focused on Scaling Up Audit Quality for Non-Corporate Entities was organized at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati on 3rd May 2025 by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) featuring distinguished speakers, including CA. (Dr.) Pramod Jain (Convenor, Committee on Audit Quality, ICAI) and CA. Debashis Mitra (Past President, ICAI), alongside CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa and others. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



30. Seminar on In-Depth Study of Compliances under Select State Tax Laws in Assam

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a seminar focusing on In-Depth Study of Compliances under Select State Tax Laws in Assam on 10th May 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. The session featured direct participation from key government officials, Sri Vivek Agarwal, and Sri Dibya Ranjan Borah (Assistant Commissioners, SGST), along with CA. Mohan Agarwal and others. [CPE Credit: 3 hours]



31. Seminar on Scaling up Audit Quality of Non-Corporate Entities

Jorhat CPE Study Chapter, on 10th May 2025, conducted a seminar on Scaling up Audit Quality of Non-Corporate Entities. CA. Anil Kumar Agarwala dealt upon addressing the need for improving audit standards. CA. Vikash Jain focused on practical implications and compliance strategies under updated provisions on Simplifying Tax Compliance & Analysing Recent TDS/TCS Amendments. [CPE Credit: 4 hours]



32. Seminar on Charitable Entities Income Tax Returns (AY 2025-26)

On 23rd May 2025, a seminar on Charitable Entities Income Tax Returns (AY 2025-26) took place at ICAI Bhawan. CA. Sajjan Kumar Jajodia and CA. Gaurab Garodia guided members through the specialized process of filing ITRs for non-profit organizations. The session focused on the distinct compliance requirements, enabling members to handle ITR filings for charitable trusts and institutions accurately. [CPE Credit: 3 hours]



33. Sub-Regional Conference 2025 – “CRESCENDO: Ascend, Amplify, Excel”

The flagship Sub-Regional Conference 2025, titled “CRESCENDO: Ascend, Amplify, Excel,” hosted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) and organised by the EIRC of ICAI was a major two-day event held on 30th and 31st May 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati.



Attended by over 350 delegates, the conference provided a comprehensive platform for technical and motivational discourse. Distinguished guests and speakers included Shri Jayanta Mallabaruah (Hon'ble Minister), Dr. Dhrubashis K. Deka, IRS, CA. Ashwani Taneja, CA. Vijay Srinivas Kothapalli, Ms. Sanjukta Parasor, IPS, Past President CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, CA. Arun Chhajer, CA. Vivek Bajaj, and CA. Kamal Garg.



The conference delivered hours of professional development, networking, and exposure to diverse viewpoints, receiving wide coverage in major regional newspapers. [CPE Credit: 12 hours]



34. Workshop on RERA – Overview and Compliances

An in-depth Workshop on RERA (Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016) was conducted on 7th June 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. The program, featuring cross-disciplinary experts like CA (Adv.) Nipun Singhvi and Adv. Shalini

Bajaj covered the overview and compliance requirements under RERA. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



35. Seminar on Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships & Charitable Entities ITR

Jorhat CPE Study Chapter hosted a seminar on 13th June 2025 where CA. Gaurab Garodia covered the twin topics of Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships and Income Tax Returns for Charitable Entities (AY 2025-26). [CPE Credit: 3 hours]



36. ICAI MSME Mahotsav

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organized the ICAI MSME Mahotsav on 27th June 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, focusing on the development and challenges facing Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The event drew entrepreneurs, members, and bank officials, featuring panellists from major banks (SBI, Indian Bank, HDFC Bank) and development institutions (NEDFi), alongside MSME help desks. The Mahotsav facilitated crucial interaction between CAs, MSMEs, and lenders, and promoting financial and credit awareness. [CPE Credit: 4 hours]



37. Seminar on Emerging Issues in GST

A seminar on Emerging Issues in GST was held on 28th June 2025 at ICAI Bhawan. Local experts CA. Raginee Goyal, CA. Jatin Jain, and CA. Mannu Kashliwal analysed the latest and emerging complexities in Goods and Services Tax. The session focused on contemporary challenges and recent changes in GST law and practice, successfully keeping members abreast of the rapidly evolving regime. [CPE Credit: 4 hours]



38. Seminar on Code of Ethics

A seminar on Code of Ethics was conducted on 30th June 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. CA. Madhukar Agarwal and CA. Nitika Bagaria led a detailed session to reinforce the professional standards and ethical responsibilities of Chartered Accountants. This program focused on the ICAI Code of Ethics and professional conduct, ensuring high ethical standards in professional practice [CPE Credit: 3 hours].



39. Seminar on Recent Changes in Taxes and TDS

The Silchar CPE Study Chapter organized a seminar focused on Recent Changes in Taxes and TDS on 30th June 2025. Speaker CA. Anil Jain updated members on the latest amendments and changes in various tax laws and Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) provisions. [CPE Credit: 2 hours]



40. Seminar on Reassessment U/S 148A/148

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a seminar on Reassessment U/S 148A/148 on 7th July 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. CA. Pankaj Shah (Indore) provided clarity and in-depth knowledge on the new framework for income tax reassessment. This focused session on the frequently litigated and recently amended provisions enhanced member competence in handling complex tax scrutiny and litigation matters. [CPE Credit: 3 hours]





41. Seminar on Financial Statements of Non-Corporate Entities

A seminar on Financial Statements of Non-Corporate Entities was conducted on 12th July 2025 in Nagaon. Speakers CA. Bisworanjan Sutar and CA. Anil Kumar Agarwala guided members on the preparation and presentation of financial statements, addressing the unique accounting and reporting challenges of non-corporate businesses. [CPE Credit: 5 hours]



42. World Youth Skills Day Celebration

The World Youth Skills Day Celebration was observed on 15th July 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. The event aimed to promote essential professional skills and celebrate the role of youth in the profession. CA. Neha Gaggar, CA. Manish Khatuwala, and Ms. Poonam Adhikari led focused sessions on skill development, successfully motivating young members and towards continuous skill enhancement. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



43. 48th Annual General Meeting

The Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted its 48th Annual General Meeting on 30th July 2025, where members adopted the Annual Report dated 15th July 2025 and the Audited Annual Accounts for 2024-2025.



44. Sameeksha – GSTAT Litigation Conference

The Guwahati Branch (EIRC), under the aegis GST and IDT Committee, ICAI, organised Sameeksha – GSTAT Litigation Conference on 22nd and 23rd August 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. Curated by Branch Chairperson CA. Raginee Goyal and inaugurated by CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa (CCM), the conference provided in-depth analysis of GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) litigation.



A key highlight was a moot tribunal conducted with CA. Sushil Kumar Goyal as Technical Member and Adv. Boudhayan Bhattacharya as Judicial Member.



The event equipped attendees (including members, advocates, and tax professionals) with specialized knowledge and simulated experience in GSTAT proceedings. [CPE Credit: 12 hours]



45. Seminar on Future of Accounting with Zoho Books

A seminar on the Future of Accounting with Zoho Books was organised by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on 30th August 2025. CA. Harish Rathi and Mr. Sushil M. Ravani trained members on the integration of technology, specifically Zoho Books, in modern accounting practice. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



46. Seminar on Tax Audit

A seminar on Tax Audit was conducted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) on 4th October 2025. The session, featuring speakers from major cities, CA. Manoj Kumar (New Delhi) and CA. Ajay Kumar Agarwalla (Kolkata), provided in-depth analysis and practical guidance on the complex provisions of Tax Audit under the Income Tax Act. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



47. Seminar on Corporate Law

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised a seminar on Corporate Law on 28th November 2025 with CA. Amit Pareek and CA. (Dr.) Swati Tejawat as the speakers. [CPE Credit: 5 hours]



48. Workshop on Annual filing & GSTR-2B Reconciliation

On 29th November 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organized a workshop on annual GST filings and GSTR-2B reconciliation at the ICAI Bhawan,

Guwahati. CA. Abhishek Pawan, CA. Bikash Agarwala and CA. Vivek Jain conducted the workshop. [CPE Credit: 6 hours]



49. 50th Regional Conference at Kolkata

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) managing committee attended the 50th Regional Conference held at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre at Kolkata on the 21st and 22nd November 2025. The chairperson CA. Raginee Goyal initiated the first technical session of the conference.



50. Seminar on Registration and Compliance under RERA and opportunities for CAs under RERA and Recent Amendments in GST Trends and Litigation

Jorhat CPE Study Chapter conducted a seminar on 22nd November 2025 which included sessions on Registration & Compliance under RERA and Opportunities for CAs, by CA. Saurav Sahewalla; and Recent Amendments in GST & Litigation Trends, by CA. Manoj Nahata. [CPE Credit: 4 hours]





Certification Courses

1. Certificate Course on AI under Committee of AI in ICAI (Level 1) Batch No: 13

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a Certificate Course on Artificial Intelligence from 17th October 2024 to 19th October 2024 under the Committee of AI in ICAI. The program was conducted by distinguished faculty members: CA Vishal Gandhi, CA Anand Prakash Jangid and Dr. Sourabh Maheshwari. [CPE Credit: 18 hours]



2. Certificate Course on AI under Committee of AI in ICAI (Level 1) Batch No: 104

An intensive three-day course from 16th December 2024 to 18th December 2024 on the Certificate Course on Artificial Intelligence under the Committee of AI in ICAI was organised by Guwahati Branch (EIRC). Faculties Vinay Kumar Saini, Harpreet Singh & Manmeet Singh Mehta familiarised members with AI frameworks, automation workflows, and the future of digital transformation in professional practice. [CPE Credit: 18 hours]



3. Diploma in Information Systems Audit (DISA) Batch

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised a DISA Batch from 4th February to 16th February 2025 under the Internal Audit and Assurance Committee. The programme featured esteemed faculties including Piyali Basu, Naresh Gandhi, CA. Manoj Agarwal, CA. Sanjay Gupta, CA. Raj Kishore Poddar and Dr. Vinay Saini, delivering insightful sessions across six structured modules. [CPE Credit: 30 hours]



4. Certificate Course on AI under Committee of AI in ICAI (Level 1) Batch No: 215 – Jorhat CPE Study Chapter

Jorhat CPE Study Chapter conducted a Certificate Course on Artificial Intelligence under the Committee of AI in ICAI from 7th March 2025 to 9th March 2025 under the Committee of AI of ICAI. The program was conducted by faculty members CA. Rohit Pradhan, CA. Ramjayam Jaychandran, and CA. Anup Audumbar Tabe. [CPE Credit: 18 hours]



5. Certificate Course on AI under Committee of AI in ICAI (Level 1) Batch No: 247

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted another AI Level 1 Certificate Course on 27th March 2025 to 29th March 2025 under the Committee of AI in ICAI. Expert speakers, including CA. (Dr.) Durgesh Surendra Pandey, Mr. Ramjayam Jaychandran, and Mr. Tarun Manchanda, equipped members with basic AI skills, deemed essential for the future of the accounting profession. [CPE Credit: 18 hours]



6. Certificate Course on AI under Committee of AI in ICAI (Level 1) Batch No: 283

The AI Level 1 Certificate Course under the Committee of AI in ICAI continued its mission to professionalize members in emerging technologies

with Batch 283 held from 16th April 2025 to 18th April 2025 by Guwahati Branch (EIRC). This three-day foundational training in Artificial Intelligence was led by capable faculties including Dr. Saurabh Maheshwari, CA. Ramjayam Jaychandran, and CA. Akhil Pachori. [CPE Credit: 18 hours]



7. 434th Concurrent Audit Course

A comprehensive six-day Concurrent Audit Course (434th Batch) under the Internal Audit Standards Board was successfully organized by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) from 22nd April to 27th April 2025. The in-depth, specialized training was conducted by a panel of experts: CA. Tushar Kanti Basu, CA. Lokesh Gupta, CA. Akesh Vyas and CA. Yukti Arora. [CPE Credits: 30 hours]





8. Certificate Course on AI under Committee of AI in ICAI (Level 1) Batch No: 497

The AI Level 1 Certificate Course under the Committee of AI in ICAI was organised by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) from 29th August 2025 to 31st August 2025. This three-day course was led by faculties including Mr. Bhavin Gokhlani, CA. Ankit Jallan and CA. Akhil Pachori. [CPE Credit: 18 hours]



Cultural, Sports and Extra Curricular Activities

1. Independence Day Celebrations

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) commemorated the nation's 78th Independence Day on 15th August 2024 with a ceremonial flag hoisting at ICAI Bhawan, honouring the spirit of patriotism and collective responsibility.



2. Republic Day Celebrations

On 26th January 2025 Republic Day was celebrated at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. A Bike Rally was also organised in which members and students of the Branch actively participated.



3. Saraswati Puja Celebration

On 2nd February 2025, members and students came together to celebrate Saraswati Puja, fostering cultural fellowship. The event featured puja rituals, a quiz competition, and a Stotra Veena competition, followed by a prasad lunch. It successfully encouraged cultural activities and social interaction among participants.



4. CA Premier League

Held on 11th, 14th, and 15th February 2025, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised the CA Premier League at ICAI Bhawan auditorium and Noonmati Refinery playground. The CA Premier League promoted sportsmanship and fellowship through competitive sports. Innovative team selection added excitement to the multi-day event.





5. Annual Sports Meet

On 16th February 2025 at Green International School, members participated in a variety of games including cricket, badminton, chess, carrom, table tennis, races, and fun activities. The sports meet encouraged physical activity, fellowship, and a healthy work-life balance.



6. International Women's Day Celebration

On 8th March, the branch celebrated International Women's Day under the Women and Young Member Excellence Committee. Chief Guest Dr. Arunima Deb Choudhury and judges Dr. Kasturi Kalita, Dr. Jayashree Goswami, and CA. Kaberi Bhuyan joined Chairperson CA. Raginee Goyal in leading the programme. Activities included a "Millets for Health" competition, creative sessions like a "Wall of Thoughts," impromptu painting, jamming, and concluded with Holi celebrations.



7. Rongali Bihu Celebration

On 17th April 2025, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) members and their families celebrated Rongali Bihu with performances by Milijuli Sangskritik Gusthi, traditional games such as Tekeli Bhanga, and Assamese Jolpan. Influencer Syed Marruf Hussain of Parichay Assam attended as Chief Guest, with coordination by CA. Rita Rajkumari.



8. World Laughter Day – LOL @ ICAI

On 4th May 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) celebrated World Laughter Day under the Committee on Promoting Work-Life Balance. Coordinated by CA. Kumar Victor Saha, the event featured humorous poetry by Irshad Group, stand-up comedy by Mr. Arunodoi



Sutradhar, and performances by CA members, anchored by CA. Ashok Sharma and CA. Pooja Jain. The programme provided stress relief, fellowship, and reinforced the importance of mental well-being.



9. World Environment Day – “Think, Act, Save Green”

On 5th June 2025, members and students of the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) celebrated World Environment Day with competitions themed around sustainability. Winners included CA. Atika Agarwal and CA. Dipti Agarwal (“Plastic se Parhez”), CA. Dipti Agarwal (“Me and My Plant”), Muskan Agarwal (“Kabaad Se Jugaad”), and Pallab Jyoti Bhattacharjya (“Click for Mother Nature”). Coordinated by CA. Shruti Agarwal and CA. Neha Jajodia, the event also included an indoor potted plant initiative.



10. World Bicycle Day – Cyclo-thon

On 8th June 2025, a cyclo-thon was organized from Nehru Stadium to Assam Secretariat and back by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC), coordinated by CA. Kumar Victor Saha under the Work-Life Balance

Committee. The event promoted physical fitness, environmental health, and fellowship, encouraging members to adopt cycling as a healthy lifestyle choice.



11. E-Waste Collection Drive

From 10th to 25th June 2025, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted an E-Waste Collection Pakhwada coordinated by CA. Kumar Victor Saha. Members and students contributed unusable electronic items for responsible disposal and recycling.



12. 5-Day Series International Yoga Day

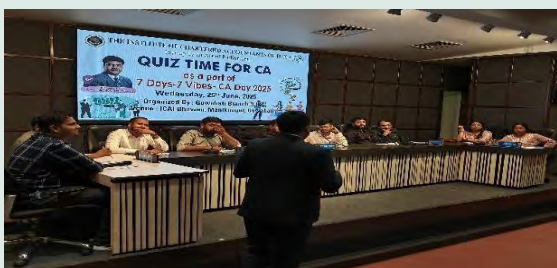
From 17th to 21st June 2025, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) celebrated International Yoga Day with a series of events coordinated by CA. Kumar Victor Saha and led by certified trainer Suchandra Roy. Activities included essay writing (winner: CA. Pushpak Gangwal), slogan writing (winner: CA. Khusboo Khetawat), video making (winner: CA. Priyanka Jain), and a yoga quiz (winner: CA. Deepesh Bharech). The celebration concluded with a yoga session on 21st June at ICAI Bhawan.



13. CA Day Week – “7 Days, 7 Vibes”

From 25th June 2025 to 1st July 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) celebrated CA Day Week with diverse activities.

- 25th June 2025: Intra-Branch Quiz conducted by CA (Dr.) Kamal Mour, won by CA. Pratik Agarwal & CA. Rishabh Sharma.
- 26th June 2025: Indoor Games coordinated by CA. Vasundhara Jalan and CA. Nikita Agarwal, featuring winners across carrom, chess, and arm wrestling.
- 27th June 2025: MSME Mahotsav at ICAI Bhawan with panellists from banks and NEDFi, focusing on MSME development.
- 28th June 2025: Auditaakshri, a music-quiz competition anchored by CA. Vivek Jain, won by the team led by CA. Ankit Agarwal.
- 29th June 2025: Box Cricket coordinated by CA. Abhishek Jain and team, with multiple winning teams.
- 30th June 2025: Movie Night at Grand Cines, Guwahati, screening “Well Done CA Sahab!” for members and families.
- 1st July 2025: CA Day celebrations included flag hoisting by CA. Raginee Goyal, a motivational session by Shri Amogh Lila Das Prabhu, distribution of potted plants, Swachh Bharat drive, free eye camp, and a family fusion evening at Hotel Nandan. The week concluded with wide media coverage and a special edition of the branch e-newsletter.



14. Independence Day Celebration

On 15th August 2025 the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) celebrated the 79th Independence Day. Chairperson CA. Raginee Goyal hoisted the flag, followed by a bike rally across Guwahati with patriotic slogans. A self-defence workshop was conducted by martial arts champion Ms. Praggya P. Khanikar, coordinated by CA. Kumar Victor Saha.



Finance and Tax Literacy Drives

1. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Hengrabari

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Hengrabari, on 28th December 2024, with CA. Lakshyajit Gogoi as the resource person.



2. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Betkuchi

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Betkuchi, Laloong Gaon, Guwahati, on 28th December 2024, with CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy as the resource person.



3. Financial and Tax Literacy Drives at Tea Estates, Charaideo, Assam

Financial and Tax Literacy Drives were conducted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Khagorijan Tea Estate, Borahi Tea Estate, Hingarajan Tea Estate, Deepling Tea Estate and Korangani Tea Estate, Charaideo, Assam, on 30th and 31st December 2024, with CA. Rochak Agarwal serving as the resource person.



4. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Dhamdhama H.S. School, Nalbari

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Dhamdhama H.S. School, Nalbari, on 3rd January 2025, with CA. Vikash Kumar Choudhary as the resource person.



5. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Gyanm Senior Secondary School, Jagiroad

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Gyanm Senior Secondary School, Jagiroad, on 6th January 2025, with CA. Neha Choudhary as the resource person.



6. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Hengerabari Government High School, Kamrup

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Hengerabari Government High School, Kamrup, on 6th January 2025, with CA. Lokesh Agarwal as the resource person.



7. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Luit Valley Academy, Jorhat

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Luit Valley Academy, Jorhat, on 7th January 2025, with CA. Govind Jhawar as the resource person.



8. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Carmel School, Jorhat

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Carmel School, Jorhat, on 8th January 2025, with CA. Madhavi Karnany as the resource person.



9. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Delhi Public School, Jorhat

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Delhi Public School, Jorhat, on 9th January 2025, with CA. Madhavi Karnany as the resource person.



10. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Rashtra Bhasha Vidyalaya, Jorhat

A Financial and Tax Literacy Drive was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Rashtra Bhasha Vidyalaya, Jorhat, on 10th January 2025, with CA. Sejal Jalan as the resource person.



11. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Mahavir Bhawan, Nalbari

A Financial and Tax Literacy Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Mahavir Bhawan, Nalbari, on 5th May 2025, with CA. Priyanka Jain as the resource person, addressing women participants on basic financial and tax awareness.



12. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Digamber Jain School, Guwahati

A Financial and Tax Literacy Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Digamber Jain School, Guwahati, on 15th May 2025, for students of Classes VI–VIII and IX–X, with CA. Priyanka Jain and CA. Nupur Kamani serving as the resource persons.



13. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Happy Child High School, Guwahati

A Financial and Tax Literacy Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Happy Child High School, Guwahati, on 19th May 2025, with CA. Priyanka Jain as the resource person.



14. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at GNRC Hospital, Guwahati

A Financial and Tax Literacy Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) under the Vittiya Gyan Mela Initiative of ICAI at GNRC Hospital, Guwahati, on 23rd August 2025, with CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy as the resource person. The programme was coordinated by CA. Kumar Victor Saha, MC Member, with support from CA. Anshul Khemka, Member & CFO, GNRC, and was attended by medical, paramedical, administrative and support staff.



15. Financial and Tax Literacy Drive at Dumopaham Village

On 17th October 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted a Financial and Tax Literacy drive at Dumopaham Village, educating villagers on digital money, UPI, and basic banking. The team also shared information on women-centric and collateral-free loans to support organic farming and cottage-industry initiatives.



Career Counselling Sessions

1. Career Counselling at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Hengrabari

A Career Counselling session was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Hengrabari, on 28th December 2024, where CA. Lakshyajit Gogoi guided students on the opportunities, structure and prospects of the Chartered Accountancy course.



2. Career Counselling at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Betkuchi

A Career Counselling session was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shankardev Vidya Niketan, Betkuchi, Laloong Gaon, on 28th December 2024, where CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy interacted with students and provided insights into the Chartered Accountancy course, its structure, eligibility and diverse career opportunities, helping them make informed academic choices.



3. Career Counselling at Dhamdhama H S School, Nalbari

A Career Counselling session was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Dhamdhama H.S. School, Nalbari, on 3rd January 2025, where CA. Vikash Kumar Choudhary guided students on the Chartered Accountancy course and career opportunities in the Commerce stream.



4. Career Counselling at Luit Academy, Nalbari

A Career Counselling programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Luit Academy, Nalbari, on 3rd January 2025, with CA. Ashwani Kumar Gupta addressing students on the CA profession and future prospects in finance and accounting.



5. Career Counselling at Sri Sundarmal Modern School, Jorhat

A Career Counselling session was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Sri Sundarmal Modern School, Jorhat, on 4th January 2025, where CA. Kabita Siktia interacted with students and provided insights into the CA course structure and career pathways.



6. Gyanm Senior Secondary School, Jagiroad

A Career Counselling programme was held by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Gyanm Senior Secondary School, Jagiroad, on 6th January 2025, with CA. Neha Choudhary guiding students on professional opportunities in commerce and accounting.



7. Career Counselling at Luit Valley Academy, Jorhat

A Career Counselling session was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Luit Valley Academy, Jorhat, on 7th January 2025, where CA. Govind Jhawar explained the scope and



relevance of the Chartered Accountancy profession.



8. Career Counselling at Tarini Choudhury (T.C.) Govt. Girls H.S. & M.P. School, Silpukhuri

A Career Counselling programme was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Tarini Choudhury (T.C.) Govt. Girls H.S. & M.P. School, Silpukhuri, Kamrup, on 8th January 2025, with CA. Neha Choudhary addressing students on career planning in commerce.



9. Career Counselling at Carmel School, Jorhat

A Career Counselling session was held by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Carmel School, Jorhat, on 8th January 2025, where CA. Madhavi Karnany guided students on the CA course and career options.



10. Career Counselling at Delhi Public School, Jorhat

A Career Counselling programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Delhi Public School,

Jorhat, on 9th January 2025, with CA. Madhavi Karnany sharing insights on the CA profession.



11. Career Counselling at South Point School, Barsapara

A Career Counselling session was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at South Point School, Barsapara, Kamrup, on 9th January 2025, where CA. Nidhi Agarwal addressed students on career opportunities in commerce and finance.



12. Career Counselling at Rashtra Bhasha Vidyalaya, Jorhat

A Career Counselling programme was held by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Rashtra Bhasha Vidyalaya, Jorhat, on 10th January 2025, with CA. Sejal Jalan guiding students on the CA course and its prospects.



13. Career Counselling at Modern High School Senior Secondary, Geetanagar

A Career Counselling session was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Modern High School Senior Secondary, Geetanagar, Kamrup, on 10th January 2025, where CA. Lokesh Agarwal provided insights into professional avenues in accounting and finance.



14. Career Counselling at Shishu Niketan School, Kumarpara

A Career Counselling programme was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shishu Niketan School, Narayan Nagar, Kumarpara, Kamrup, on 10th January 2025, with CA. Narendra Bhansali interacting with students on the CA profession and career planning.



15. Career Counselling at Nalanda Public School, Nalbari

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Nalanda Public School, Nalbari, on 5th May 2025, with CA. Priyanka Jain as the resource person.



16. Career Counselling at Oakland English High School, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was conducted by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Oakland English High School, Guwahati, on 17th May 2025, where CA.

Ashish Bajaj served as the resource person, assisted by CA. Pooja Harlalka.



17. Career Counselling at TV9 Education Expo 2025, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at the TV9 Education Expo 2025 held from 24th to 25th May 2025 at Maniram Dewan Trade Centre, Guwahati. CA. Priyanka Jain, CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy, CA. Lokesh Agarwal and CA. Kailash Agarwal guided students and parents on the benefits and enrolment procedure of the CA course, with overall coordination by CA. Gaurab Garodia, Past Chairman, Guwahati Branch.



18. Career Counselling at Gopal Boro High School, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Gopal Boro High School, Guwahati, on 13th June 2025, with CA. Khusboo Khetawat as the resource person, addressing students on the Chartered Accountancy course and career options in commerce.



19. Career Counselling at Shishu Niketan Higher Secondary School, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shishu Niketan Higher Secondary School, Guwahati, on 14th June 2025, where CA. Pooja Harlalka served as the resource person and guided students.



20. Career Counselling at Brahmaputra Valley English Academy, Borjhar

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Brahmaputra Valley English Academy, Borjhar, on 26th June 2025, with CA. Priyanka Jain as the resource person, providing an overview of the CA course and its scope.



21. Career Counselling at Wisdom Public School, Mirza

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Wisdom Public School, Mirza, on 26th June 2025, where CA. Priyanka Jain addressed students on career pathways in the Chartered Accountancy profession.



22. Career Counselling at Shiksha Mitra Education Fair, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Shiksha Mitra – Northeast's Biggest Education Fair, held on 5th and 6th June 2025 at Maniram Dewan Trade Centre, Guwahati. CA. Priyanka Jain, CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy, CA. Lokesh Agarwal and CA. Kailash Agarwal assisted students and parents on the benefits and enrolment procedure of the CA course, with overall coordination by CA. Gaurab Garodia, Past Chairman, Guwahati Branch.



23. Career Counselling at Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati, on 16th July 2025, with CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy. The programme was graced by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



24. Career Counselling at Goalpara College, Goalpara

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Goalpara College, Goalpara, on 19th July 2025, with CA. Varsha Bucha as the resource person. The programme was attended by Shri Naranarayan Nath, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.



25. Career Counselling at Cultural Complex, Kokrajhar

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at the Cultural Complex, Kokrajhar, on 21st July 2025, with CA. Shiva Ram Boro as the resource person. The programme was graced by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



26. Career Counselling at Bongaigaon College, Bongaigaon

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Bongaigaon College, Bongaigaon, on 26th July 2025, with CA. Ravi Jajodia as the resource person. The programme was attended by Shri Naranarayan Nath, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.



27. Career Counselling at Pratima Barua Pande Auditorium, Bilasipara

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Pratima Barua Pande Auditorium Hall, Bilasipara, on 26th July 2025, with CA. Dhanindra Kumar Surana as the resource person. The programme was attended by Shri Naranarayan Nath, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.





28. Career Counselling at Yuvadol Auditorium, Sivasagar

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Yuvadol Auditorium, Borpukhuripar, Sivasagar, on 28th July 2025, with CA. Kabita Siktia as the resource person. The programme was graced by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



31. Career Counselling at Bar Azara Chankuchi Cultural Auditorium, Nalbari

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Bar Azara Chankuchi Cultural Auditorium, Nalbari, on 30th July 2025, with CA. Priyanka Jain as the resource person. The programme was attended by Shri Naranarayan Nath, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.



29. Career Counselling at AAU Auditorium, Jorhat

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at AAU Auditorium, Jorhat, on 29th July 2025, with CA. Akhil Agarwal as the resource person. The programme was graced by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



32. Career Counselling at Mangaldai College, Darrang

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Mangaldai College, Mangaldai, Darrang, on 31st July 2025, with CA. Babulal Chowhan as the resource person. The programme was attended by Shri Naranarayan Nath, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.



30. Career Counselling at B.H. College, Barpeta

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at B.H. College, Barpeta, on 30th July 2025, with CA. Bijoy Shahu as the resource person. The programme was attended by Shri Naranarayan Nath, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.

33. Career Counselling at Darrang College, Tezpur

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Darrang College, Tezpur, on 31st July 2025, with CA. Surendra Duggar as the resource person. The programme was graced by Shri R. G. Baruah, Vice-Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



36. Career Counselling at District Library, Nagaon

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at the District Library, Nagaon, on 5th August 2025, with CA. Narendra Bhanshali as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri Narnarayan Barkataky, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.



34. Career Counselling at Moridhal College, Dhemaji

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Moridhal College, Dhemaji, on 1st August 2025, with CA. Bishal Handique as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri R. G. Baruah, Vice Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



37. Career Counselling at District Library, Sribhumi

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at the District Library, Sribhumi, on 7th August 2025, where CA. Jabedul Islam was the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



35. Career Counselling at North Lakhimpur University, Lakhimpur

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at North Lakhimpur University, Lakhimpur, on 2nd August 2025, where CA. Rajesh Lohiya served as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri R. G. Baruah, Vice Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



38. Career Counselling at Nilbagan Model H.S. School, Hojai

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Nilbagan Model H.S. School, Hojai, on 8th August 2025, with CA. Gobinda Majumdar as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri Narnarayan Barkataky, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.

39. Career Counselling at Gurcharan College, Cachar & Hailakandi

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Gurcharan College, Cachar & Hailakandi, on 8th August 2025, where CA. Mayank Bhura served as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



40. Career Counselling at Icon Academy, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Icon Academy, Guwahati, on 8th August 2025, with CA. Priyanka Jain serving as the counsellor and addressing participants on the Chartered Accountancy course and career pathways in commerce.



41. Career Counselling at Mangaldai Commerce College, Mangaldai

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Mangaldai Commerce College, Mangaldai, on 8th August 2025, with CA. Babulal Chowhan serving as the counsellor and guiding participants on the Chartered Accountancy course and career opportunities in commerce.



42. Career Counselling at PM SHRI Mangaldai Town High School, Mangaldai

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at PM SHRI Mangaldai Town High School, Mangaldai, on 8th August 2025, where CA. Babulal Chowhan addressed students on career pathways in the Chartered Accountancy profession.



43. Career Counselling at Dhula H.S. School, Darrang

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Dhula H.S. School, Darrang, on 9th August 2025, with CA. Babulal Chowhan serving as the counsellor and providing insights into the CA course and its scope.



44. Career Counselling at Biswanath College, Biswanath Chariali

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Biswanath College, Biswanath Chariali, on 9th August 2025, with CA. Ankrit Paul as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri R. G. Baruah, Vice Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



45. Career Counselling at Morigaon College, Morigaon

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Morigaon College, Morigaon, on 12th August 2025, where CA. Pankaj Jain was the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri Narnarayan Barkataky, ACS, Secretary, ASSEB, Assam.



46. Career Counselling at Modern High School, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Modern High School, Guwahati, on 19th August 2025, with CA. Nupur Kamani serving as the counsellor and addressing students on the Chartered Accountancy course and career pathways in commerce.



47. Career Counselling at Diphu, Karbi Anglong

A Career Counselling Programme for Heads of Institutions was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Diphu, Karbi Anglong, on 21st August 2025, with CA. Rishab Jain as the resource person. The programme was chaired by Shri R. C. Jain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, ASSEB, Assam.



48. Career Counselling at Nichols Higher Secondary School, Guwahati

A Career Counselling Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) at Nichols Higher Secondary School, Chhatribari, Guwahati, on 2nd September 2025, with CA. Pooja Harlalka serving as the resource person.





Investor Awareness Programmes

1. Investor Awareness Programme at Kamakhya Higher Secondary School, Kamrup Metro

An Investor Awareness Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) under the CFMIP Initiative of ICAI at Kamakhya Higher Secondary School, Kamrup Metro, Assam, on 9th January 2025, with CA. Deepjyoti Singh Roy as the faculty.



2. Investor Awareness Programme at University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya

An Investor Awareness Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) under the CFMIP Initiative of ICAI at the University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya, on 21st March 2025, with CA. Dipak Agarwal as the resource person, assisted by CA. Muskan Keshan Agarwal.



3. Investor Awareness Programme at Kaziranga University, Jorhat

An Investor Awareness Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) under the CFMIP Initiative of ICAI at Kaziranga University, Jorhat, on 25th March 2025, with CA. Bijay Kumar Agarwal as the resource person.



4. Investor Awareness Programme at Assam Institute of Management, Assam

An Investor Awareness Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) under the CFMIP Initiative of ICAI at the Assam Institute of Management, Assam, on 26th March 2025, with CA. Vikash Vijayvargiya and CA. Nupur Kamani as the resource persons.



5. Investor Awareness Programme at ICON Academy, Guwahati

An Investor Awareness Programme was organised by the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) under the Investor Awareness Initiative of ICAI at ICON Academy, Guwahati, on 13th August 2025, with CA. Nupur Kamani as the resource person.



CSR and Outreach Activities

1. Tree Plantation Drive

In alignment with ICAI's sustainability vision, a Tree Plantation Drive was organized at Smriti Uddan, Nalapara on 15th August 2024 where 250 saplings were planted, reaffirming our environmental stewardship.



2. Blood Donation Camp in Jorhat

On 10th January 2025 Blood Donation camp was organised at Jorhat in which members of Jorhat actively participated.



3. Blood Donation Camp

On 23rd February 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, the branch organized a blood donation camp in collaboration with the Lions Club of Guwahati Elite. Members and students actively participated, contributing to community health and welfare.



4. GST Amnesty Scheme Help Desk (CGST Commissionerate)

On 28th March 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organized a GST Amnesty Scheme Help Desk at ICAI Bhawan in association with the CGST Commissionerate, Guwahati. Officers from the Commissionerate, along with CA. Raginee Goyal, CA. Piyush Birmiwal, CA. Ashish Bajaj, and CA. Jatin Jain, guided taxpayers, members, and students on effectively utilizing the Section 128A Amnesty Scheme.



5. GST Amnesty Scheme Help Desk (SGST Commissionerate)

From 28th to 31st March 2025, a four-day GST Amnesty Scheme Help Desk was organised at New Kar Bhawan in collaboration with the SGST Commissionerate and the Tax Bar Association. CA. Jay Prakash Gupta, CA. Bikash Kumar Agarwala, CA. (Dr.) Ayush Saraf, CA. Anup More, CA. Vivek Jain, CA. Gopal Singhania, CA. Bineet Gupta, and CA. Avinash Jain actively participated. The initiative catered to taxpayers and members, offering extended support for the amnesty scheme. Commissioner of Taxes, Assam, Shri Jitu Doley, appreciated the branch's efforts.



6. CSR Bihu Celebration with Underprivileged Children

On 11th April 2025 at Akshar Forum, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) leaders and members celebrated Bihu with underprivileged children. The event included distribution of toys, stationery, and sweets, along with dance and



music activities. The initiative highlighted the Forum's unique model of charging plastic waste as fees, while reinforcing ICAI's commitment to community engagement and social responsibility.



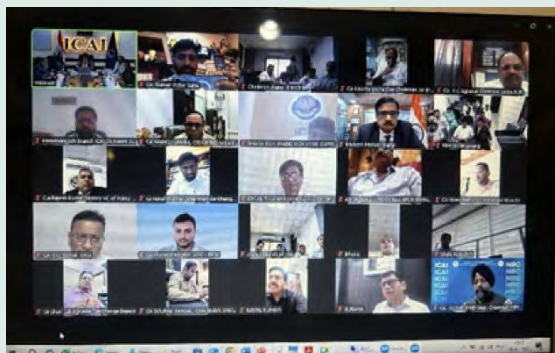
7. ICAI President on MSME

CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda, President, ICAI had addressed the leaders of the profession through virtual meeting on 05th May 2025 to promote and provide assistance to the MSME as a part of Government of India initiative.



8. ICAI President Address on National Solidarity

CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda, President, ICAI had addressed through virtual meeting on 09th May 2025 to appeal to stand with solidarity with the Government of India and Indian Armed Forces in their action against Terrorism and whole heartedly support the Operation Sindoor.



9. Tributes to Zubeen Garg

On 20th, 27th, and 28th September 2025, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) paid tribute to the late singer Zubeen Garg through floral offerings, a one-minute silence at the Managing Committee meeting, and a condolence visit to his family led by branch members and EICASA representatives. The gestures expressed collective grief and respect for the eminent cultural figure.



10. Ek Ghanta Desh Ke Naam (September)

On 28th September 2025, at Anand Marg Ashram Orphanage and School, Odalbakra, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) members interacted with underprivileged children through sessions on India's freedom fighters, fun games, and distribution of stationery kits. The programme concluded with the National Anthem, successfully combining education with community service.



11. Ek Ghanta Desh Ke Naam (October)

On 17th October 2025, branch leaders including CA. Raginee Goyal, CA. Jay Prakash Gupta, CA.

Piyush Birmiwal, and CA. Kumar Victor Saha visited Dumopaham and Nurling villages under Rani Development Block. They addressed school children on the importance of education and patriotism, distributing biscuits and chocolates. The outreach inspired rural students and reinforced ICAI's role as a positive community influence.



12. Sustainability Literacy Drive

On 17th October 2025 at Dumopaham and Nurling villages, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) leaders educated villagers on sustainability practices such as avoiding plastic and preventing water pollution.



13. Tree Plantation Drive

On 17th October 2025 at Dumopaham and Nurling villages, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) members participated in planting 50 Tulsi and 50 Neem saplings. Branch leaders explained their medicinal value, contributing to local greenery and educating the community on environmental health and sustainable practices.



Image and Brand Building Activities

1. MSME and Startup Yatra 2024

The ICAI MSME & Startup Yatra vehicle reached Guwahati on 8th August 2024 and was ceremonially flagged off the next morning. This initiative aims to catalyse entrepreneurial awareness and empower MSME stakeholders across the region.



2. CFO NEXT Forum 2024

On 18th December 2024, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) successfully organised the *CFO NEXT Forum 2024* at Arista by Ambition under the Committee for Members in Industry & Business. The forum brought together industry leaders and finance professionals to deliberate on emerging corporate trends, evolving expectations from financial leadership, and the future landscape of strategic finance.



3. We Care – Honouring our Senior Chartered Accountants

The Guwahati Branch (EIRC)'s "We Care" initiative on 11th January 2025 honored veteran Chartered Accountants for their invaluable contributions to the profession. The event celebrated the achievements and inspiring journeys of distinguished members including



CA. Mahipal Patni, CA. Bhikh Raj Poddar, CA. Satyanarayan Agarwala, CA. Manick Chandra Borah, CA Bhanwar Lal Purohit, CA. Murari Lal Choudhary, CA. Hukumraj Sajjanraj Kumbhat, CA. Nem Chand Karnany and CA. Champalal Maheswari. Their lasting impact and decades of dedicated service were warmly acknowledged. This initiative reflects ICAI's commitment to respecting and cherishing the legacy of senior members who have profoundly shaped the profession.



4. MoU with Government of Assam

On 4th February 2025, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) formalized its collaboration with the Department of State Taxes, Government of Assam. The ceremony was graced by Shri Jitu Doley (Commissioner of Taxes), Shri Ramen Kumar Barman, and Md. Shakeel Saadullah, alongside ICAI leaders including CA (Dr.) Jai Kumar Batra, CA. Sushil Kumar Goyal, CA. Bikash Kumar Agarwala, CA. Saurabh Choudhary, and CA. Shiv Kumar. The signing of the MoU marked the establishment of institutional cooperation aimed at professional support and capacity building in state tax administration.



5. MoU with the Government of Meghalaya

On 4th February, at Shillong, ICAI entered an MoU with the Taxation Department of the Government of Meghalaya. The event was attended by officials including Shri Sibhi Chakravarthy Sadhu and his team, with ICAI represented by CA. Sushil Kumar Goyal, CA. Bikash Kumar Agarwala, CA (Dr.) Jai Kumar Batra, and CA. Shiv Kumar. The agreement established institutional collaboration to provide professional support in Meghalaya,



6. Swearing In Ceremony

On 12th February 2025, CA. Raginee Goyal and CA. Jay Prakash Gupta from the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) attended the swearing in ceremony of CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda, President ICAI and CA. Prasanna Kumar D, Vice President, ICAI at ICAI, New Delhi.



7. Income Tax Outreach Programme (NFAC/NFAC Officials)

On 20th February 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) members including CA. Saurabh Choudhary, CA. Anjani Kumar Mundhra, and CA. Gaurab Garodia engaged with NFAC/NFAC officials to discuss stakeholder challenges in income tax administration. The programme provided a direct communication channel for grievances and suggestions, ensuring valuable feedback reached the department.

8. Installation Ceremony

The Managing Committee members of the Branch also attended the Installation Ceremony of the newly elected Eastern India Regional Council members at Kolkata on 21st February 2025.

9. Felicitation of CA. (Dr.) Debasis Mitra

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organized a felicitation ceremony for Past President CA. (Dr.) Debasis Mitra on 22nd February 2025 to recognize and honour his exemplary services to the Institute and his unconditional love for the Branch.



10. Installation of the New Committee of the Guwahati Branch (EIRC)

The handing over ceremony of the newly elected Managing Committee of the Guwahati Branch was held at the Branch Auditorium on 22nd February 2025. The ceremony was graced by the presence of newly installed Central Council members from Eastern Region CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa and CA. Sanjib Sanghi. The Program was also attended by Regional Council Members, CA. Mayur Agrawal, Vice-Chairman EIRC, CA. Hari Ram Agarwal, Secretary EIRC, CA. Aditya Kumar Maheshwari, Treasurer EIRC and CA. Bisworanjan Sutar, Member EIRC. The members of the newly installed

Central Council Members from Eastern Region alongwith Regional Council Members of EIRC were also felicitated.



11. Advantage Assam 2.0 (Delegation Attendance)

On 26th February 2025, at Khanapara, a branch delegation comprising CA. Raginee Goyal, CA. Jay Prakash Gupta, CA. Piyush Birmiwala, CA. Nitika Bagaria, CA. Kumar Victor Saha, CA. Saurabh Choudhary, CA. Gaurab Garodia and many others attended the valedictory session of the Advantage Assam 2.0 summit chaired by Union Minister CA. Piyush Goyal.



12. All India Managing Committee Members Meet 2025

Guwahati Branch Managing Committee actively participated in the three days All India Managing Committee Members Meet 2025 held on 21st to 23rd March 2025 at New Delhi, engaging in key sessions with ICAI leaders, discussing branch functioning, regional concerns, and sharing valuable insights.





13. Visit of Commissioner of State Taxes

CA. Rajendra Kumar P, Chairman, GST & Indirect Taxes Committee, ICAI, Central Council Member along with Branch Chairperson, CA. Raginee Goyal, attended a formal meeting with Shri Jitu Doley, IRS, Commissioner of Taxes, Government of Assam on 22nd April 2025 and discussed important issues for augmenting revenue and improving compliance.



14. MoU Signing Ceremony – ICAI & Assam State School Education Board (Career Counselling)

On 7th July 2025, at the ASSEB Conference Hall, ICAI's Committee on Career Counselling (CCC) signed an MoU with the Assam State School Education Board (ASSEB) to promote career awareness among school students. The ceremony featured ICAI leaders CA. (Dr.) Jai Kumar Batra (Secretary), CA. Durgesh Kabra (Chairman, CCC), CA. Pankaj Shah (Vice-Chairman, CCC), CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa (CCM), and Dr. Anita Mittal (Secretary, CCC), the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) members along with ASSEB representatives Shri R.C. Jain (IAS Retd., Chairman), Shri R.G. Baruah (Vice-Chairman), and Shri Narnarayan Nath (Secretary).



15. Career Counsellors Empowerment Meet

On 7th July 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) organised the Career Counsellors Empowerment Meet. CA. Durgesh Kabra, Chairman and CA. Pankaj

Shah, Vice Chairman of the Committee on Career Counselling graced the meet and shared recent initiatives and decisions, while CA. Gaurab Garodia, Past Chairman, conducted a refresher session to equip counsellors with updated presentations empowering them for new sessions.



16. Awareness & Outreach Programme – Trust & Charitable Institutions

On 26th August 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) hosted an outreach programme for Trusts and Charitable Institutions, featuring senior IRS officials including Shri Manish Kumar Jha (CIT Exemptions), Shri Robindro Huidrom (CIT OSD), and Shri Basuki Nath Jha (DCIT Exemptions). Coordinated by Shri Joyo Singh and CA. Harish Kumar Agarwala, the event was attended by NPOs such as Assam Don Bosco University, NIPER, Vivekananda Kendra, and Vidya Bharti Purvottar.



17. Women-Centric Motivation & Leadership Programme

On 13th September 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) hosted a Women-Centric Motivation & Leadership Programme at Hotel Vishwaratna, Guwahati. Chaired by CA. Raginee Goyal and moderated by Smt. Sarita Saha, the event featured inspiring panel discussions with women leaders, entrepreneurs, and professionals from diverse

fields including medicine, social work, tourism, education, and business. reported.



18. Industry Connect – Reliance BP Mobility Limited

On 11th October 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, members engaged with CA. Sanjay Jain (GM, Indirect Tax Head, Assam & NE, Reliance Industries Ltd.) and Mr. Raja Das (State Head, NE, Reliance BP Mobility Ltd.). The session provided insights into Reliance's business model, infrastructure expansion, and investment plans for oil pump projects in the Northeast, creating potential professional opportunities and enhancing members' understanding of the regional economy.



19. Brain Gain Initiative

On 22nd October 2025, the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) conducted the Brain Gain Initiative featuring Mr. Kapish Saraf, CEO & Founder of Kidex Ventures Pvt. Ltd., in an interactive session. The discussion focused on challenges faced by startups, ethical practices, and minimum fee structures, while also exploring expectations from Chartered Accountants. The Managing Committee shared suggestions for improved collaboration between CAs, startups, and MSMEs.



20. ICAI–CBSE Principals' Exposure Visit

Guwahati Branch of ICAI organised an ICAI–CBSE Principals' Exposure Visit on 24th November 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, under the Committee on Career Counselling. The programme introduced CBSE Principals to Commerce education and the CA profession, featuring sessions by CA. Narendra Bhanshali on new-age commerce careers and CA. Ashok Sharma on AI in accounting, curriculum design, NEP 2020 alignment, data protection and academic integrity.



21. We Care – Honouring our Senior Chartered Accountants

The "We Care" initiative of ICAI honours senior and veteran Members for their lifelong contribution to the profession, preserving the legacy and



strengthening inter-generational bonds within the ICAI fraternity. Under this initiative, the Guwahati Branch recognised CA. Bhikh Raj Poddar on 11th October 2025, CA. Manik Chand Nahata on 15th November 2025, CA. Garodia Brahmdutt on 16th November 2025, CA. Kanti Prasad Choudhary on 17th November 2025 and CA. Garodia Ramawatar on 30th November 2025 for their continued guidance and support to the profession.



Awards and Achievements

1. Award Presentation

Guwahati Branch (EIRC) had received the Best Branch Award for the year 2024-25 in the Large and Medium Category in the EIRC. The Branch also received Best Student Association Award for the Year 2024-25 in EIRC. The Office Bearers of Branch Managing Committee and EICASA Committee attended the Awards Ceremony held in Kolkata on 21st February 2025.





World-Class Heart Care at Health City Hospital under Dr. Bhabananda Das & Team

Dr. Bhabananda Das

MS, MCh (CTVS) (AIIMS)
Founder CMD Health City Hospital, Guwahati
Chief Consultant, Department of Cardio Thoracic & Vascular Surgery

Consultation available for

- ✓ Heart Transplant
- ✓ Aortic Surgery for Aneurysm & Dissection
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- ✓ Beating Heart Surgery
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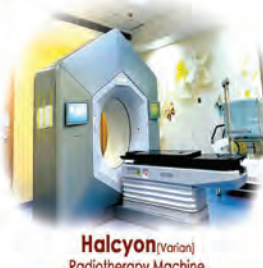
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EICASA Activity Report

Conferences, Seminars and Workshops

1. Tax Audit Seminar

A seminar on tax audit was held on 7th September 2024 by Guwahati Branch of EICASA, featuring CA. Mukesh Agarwal as the esteemed speaker. The interactive session, attended by 40 students, highlighted the importance of tax audits in ensuring compliance and funding public services.



4. Seminar on Union Budget

Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a seminar on the 2025 Union Budget on 19th February 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, conducted by CA. Shital Raut. Students, professionals, and members gained insights into key budget provisions, sectoral impacts, and fiscal policies. The interactive session enhanced participants' understanding and contributed to their professional development.

2. Webinar for Exam Guidance

A motivational webinar was organized by Guwahati Branch of EICASA for students on 14th November 2024, featuring All India Rank holder CS. Neha Patel. She shared strategies to overcome exam fear, manage time and stress, and study effectively. The session also offered career guidance, encouraging students to stay consistent, positive, and confident while preparing for CA exams.



5. Seminar on Health and Wellness

The Health & Wellness Seminar on 8th March 2025 organised by the Guwahati Branch of EICASA promoted workplace health and nutrition. Activities included Office Yoga, expert sessions on millets by Drs. Arunima Deb Choudhury, Priyanka Nath, Kasturi Kalita, and Jayashree Goswami, and professional insights by CA. Kaberi Bhuyan and CA. Raginee Goyal, concluding with a Millet Cooking Competition.

3. Seminar on GST Audit – GSTR 9 & 9C

On 2nd December 2024, a seminar on GST Audit was organised by Guwahati Branch of EICASA which attended by 38 participants. The session was led by renowned Chartered Accountant CA. Jatin Jain, who provided deep insights into GST provisions, audit procedures, compliance requirements, and practical challenges faced during GST Audits.



6. Seminar on Bank Audit

On 29th March 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a Bank Audit Seminar at ICAI Bhawan. CA. Kumar Victor Saha introduced the significance of bank audits, followed by CA. Sweta Agarwal's session on banking audits and fraud detection. CA. Lokesh Agarwal conducted a practical Excel session, equipping students with essential skills for financial data analysis and audits.



7. Seminar on Excel - Tips & Tricks

On 1st April 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a Seminar on Excel – Tips & Tricks, conducted by CA. Prabhaw Agarwalla. The hands-on session enhanced students' proficiency with practical shortcuts and professional techniques, equipping them with essential skills for academics and careers.



8. Webinar on Articleship Roadmap

On 15th April 2025, Surat Branch of WICASA, in collaboration with Guwahati Branch of EICASA and other CASAs, organized a webinar on "Articleship Roadmap." Conducted by CA. Hrudyesh Pankhania, the session provided guidance on selecting firms, balancing academics with practical training, and upholding professional ethics, helping students gain clarity and confidence for their articleship journey.



9. Seminar on Articleship

On 25th April 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a seminar on Articleship with CA. Ashish Bajaj, guiding students on choosing firms or companies, evaluating work culture, and mentorship for professional growth. CA. Ashish Bajaj shared valuable advice on how students can assess different articleship opportunities and align them with their long-term career goals.



10. Workshop on English Speaking

Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted a workshop on English Speaking, Writing Skills, and Business Communication on 27th April 2025 which featured three sessions: Ms. Bina Roy on professional communication, Ms. Ruchi Somani on speech delivery and articulation, and CA. Saurav Somani on writing skills. Students actively participated, enhancing their communication competence, confidence, and readiness for professional success in the CA profession.





11. Seminar on in-depth study of compliances under select State Tax Laws in Assam

On 12th May 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted a seminar on “Step-by-Step Training on Online Compliances under Assam Electricity Duty and Assam Professional Tax.” Chaired by CA Mohan Agarwal, with speakers CA. Neha Agarwala and CA. Tista Gupta, and special guests Sri Vivek Agarwal and Sri Dibya Ranjan Borah, the session provided practical insights for students in service industries, receiving positive and interactive participation.



12. Seminar on TDS Provision by CA Rishabh Sharma

On 29th May 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a half-day seminar on TDS Provisions, featuring CA. Rishabh Sharma. The session covered the legal framework, practical applications, and recent updates in TDS compliance.



13. Mega CA Students' Conference 2025 - Parivriddhi: Sankalp se Siddhi Tak

The Mega CA Students' Conference 2025 – Parivriddhi, organized by the Board of Studies (Operations) and jointly hosted by Guwahati Branch (EIRC) and Guwahati Branch of EICASA, was held at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, on 14th and 15th June 2025. With the theme “Parivriddhi – Sankalp Se Siddhi Tak” (From Resolution to Realisation), the conference was graced by dignitaries, central and regional council members of the institute and

brought together over 365 CA students from the Eastern Region for a comprehensive two-day experience combining knowledge, skill development, motivation, and cultural engagement.



14. Reskill/ Resolve/ Rejoice (RRR) Return – National CA Students' Conference

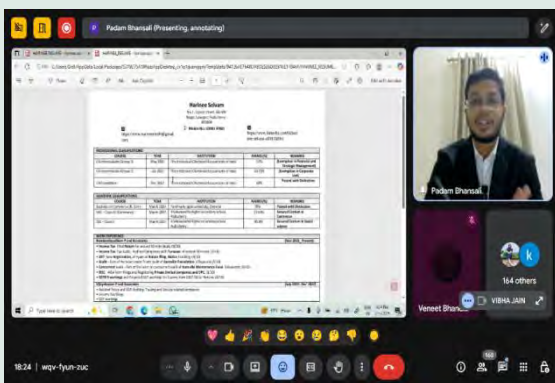
Guwahati Branch of EICASA team participated in the RRR Return – National CA Students' Conference on 28th and 29th June 2025 at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata, organized by EIRC and EICASA of ICAI. The two-day event offered insightful sessions, motivational talks, and networking opportunities, helping students enhance professional skills and reignite enthusiasm.



15. E-Gurukul | Episode 1 – Industrial Training vs. Articleship: What's Best for You?

Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted the first episode of its virtual series “E-Gurukul” on 13th July 2025, in collaboration with 22 CASA branches

across India. Hosted on Google Meet, the session on “Industrial Training vs. Articleship – What’s Best for You?” was led by CA. Padam Bhansali, who shared insights on pros, cons, application strategies, and real-life experiences. The session provided nationwide students with career clarity, promoting informed decision-making and professional readiness.



16. Workshop on Public Speaking

Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a Workshop on Public Speaking on 15th July 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Manik Nagar, conducted by CA. Neha Gaggar. Running from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, the workshop focused on building confidence, improving clarity, and overcoming fear of public speaking. Students actively participated in stage practice, mock presentations, group exercises, and received personalized feedback on verbal and non-verbal communication.



17. Mock Test Series – I for CA Final & Intermediate

Guwahati Branch of EIRC, in association with Guwahati Branch of EICASA, conducted Mock Test Series – I for CA Intermediate and Final students starting 21st July 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Manik Nagar

with a nominal fee of ₹118. The tests offered students a structured, exam-like environment to assess readiness, identify strengths and weaknesses, and build confidence ahead of their examinations.



18. Account-Tech 1.0 – Seminar on Enhancing Accounting Capability Using Technology

Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized “Account-Tech 1.0” on 26th July 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Manik Nagar, an in-person seminar focused on emerging technology in accounting. The event featured expert sessions by CA. Lokesh Agarwal on Tally + Excel with AI and CA. Naveen Bhartia on AI prompting.



19. E-Gurukul | Episode 2 – Power Query Basics: Transforming Data, Simplified

Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted the second episode of its virtual knowledge series, “E-Gurukul”, on 27th July 2025, focusing on Power Query in Excel. Hosted via Google Meet for CA students nationwide, the session was led by CA. Vivek Jain, covering tools like Merge, Append, Parameters, and Custom Functions, along with practical use cases. The session provided hands-on learning, enhancing students’ data handling



and analysis skills for modern accounting and finance applications.



20. Collaborative Webinar on “Savings & Spendings”

On 29th July 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA participated in a collaborative webinar, “Savings & Spendings”, organized by Agra Branch of CICASA. The session, led by CA. Harsh Bansal, focused on student-friendly personal finance, covering budgeting, saving habits, and practical financial planning. The webinar provided an engaging platform for inter-regional learning and encouraged students to manage their finances wisely early in their careers.



21. Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Guwahati Branch of EICASA

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Guwahati Branch of EICASA held on 30th July 2025 at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, brought together CA students for a focused review of the year’s activities. Led by the outgoing committee of 2024-25, the meeting featured the presentation and adoption of the Annual Report and the approval of the Audited Statement of Accounts. A detailed PowerPoint summary of seminars, webinars, workshops, industrial visits, and student-centric initiatives conducted under the leadership of the Branch Chairman and EICASA Chairperson was presented.



22. Path to Pinnacle: ICAI – NTS 2025 Champions Speak

A webinar featuring NTS 2025 champions – Rithik Bajaj, Guntas Ghai, Ankit Jain, and Khushi Kapoor was organised by Guwahati Branch of EICASA in collaboration with the Leo Club of Guwahati Elite, who shared their preparation strategies, challenges, and experiences on 8th August 2025. Students gained valuable insights on handling pressure, building confidence, and striving for excellence, inspiring them to aim higher in both academics and professional endeavours.



23. Webinar on Importance of Participating in ICAI Events

Guwahati branch of EICASA organized, in collaboration with Jodhpur Branch of CICASA, a webinar with Ankit Jain and Ishwin Kaur, emphasizing the benefits of engaging in ICAI events on 10th August 2025. Participants learned how such platforms enhance technical knowledge, leadership, confidence, and communication skills, motivating students to actively participate for holistic personal and professional growth.



24. E-Gurukul Episode 3 – Excel Functions

Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted the third episode of E-Gurukul on 15th August 2025 with CA. Ankit Jallan on Excel functions, guiding students on key tools like formulas, data analysis, and reporting. The interactive virtual session enabled participants to gain practical insights for academics, articleship, and professional tasks, enhancing their data handling and efficiency skills critical for modern accounting and finance roles.



25. Self Defense Workshop

Guwahati Branch of EICASA organised a Self Defense workshop on 15th August 2025, conducted by Ms. Praggya P. Khanikar. Students learned practical self-defence techniques, escape strategies, and scenario-based drills. The workshop aimed to empower participants with essential safety skills, boost confidence, and promote awareness of personal security, while providing hands-on training.



26. AURA Workshop – AI Understanding for Rising Achievers

The AURA workshop organised by the Guwahati Branch of EICASA, held on 23rd and 24th August 2025, led by CA. Lokesh Agarwal and CA. Pankaj Periwal, introduced students to AI applications in accounting, auditing, and business decision-making. Through interactive discussions and case studies, participants gained hands-on insights into leveraging AI, preparing them for technology-driven advancements shaping the CA profession.



27. Special Session – How to Face CA Exams

On 25th August 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organised a special session with CA. Neha Choudhary on exam strategies, time management, and stress handling. Students received practical tips to boost confidence, improve preparation efficiency, and tackle challenges during CA exams.



28. Seminar on Accounts on Zoho Books

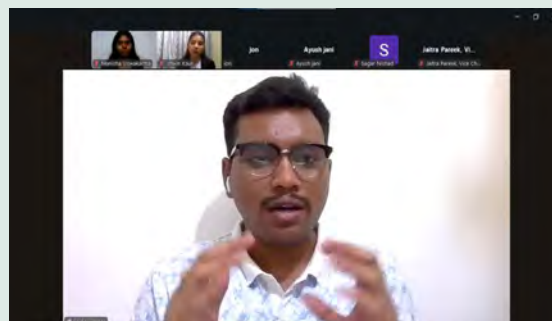
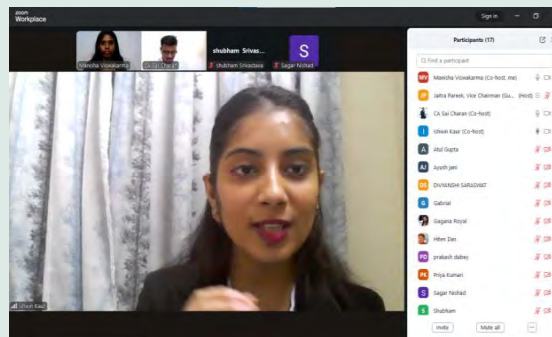
A seminar on Zoho Books was organised by Guwahati Branch of EICASA with Mr. Sushil M. Ravani on 30th August 2025. Students explored the features for managing finances, performing accounting tasks, and generating reports. The session enhanced practical skills, promoted digital adoption, and equipped participants with knowledge essential for modern accounting practices and professional efficiency.



29. E-Gurukul Episode 4 – Public Speaking

Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted the fourth episode of E-Gurukul on 30th August 2025 with CA. Sai Charan and Ms. Ishwin Kaur on public speaking,

teaching students how to overcome nervousness, build stage confidence, and communicate effectively. The webinar emphasized the importance of strong communication skills for personal and professional development, engaging students from across India in practical exercises and insightful discussions.



30. E-Gurukul | Episode 5 – “How to start your investment journey?”

On 10th September 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized Episode 5 of the E-Gurukul Series on “How to Start Your Investment Journey?” conducted by CA. Neha Choudhary. The session guided CA students on personal finance, investment strategies, risk management, diversification, goal-based investing, and compounding, aiming to encourage early financial planning and wealth creation.





31. E-Gurukul | Episode 6 – Time Management

On 21st September 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted Episode 6 of E-Gurukul on “Time Management,” led by CA. Lokesh Agarwal. The interactive session offered practical strategies for planning, prioritizing, avoiding procrastination, and balancing academic, professional, and personal responsibilities. Students actively participated, gaining insights to enhance productivity, achieve goals, and build disciplined, successful careers.



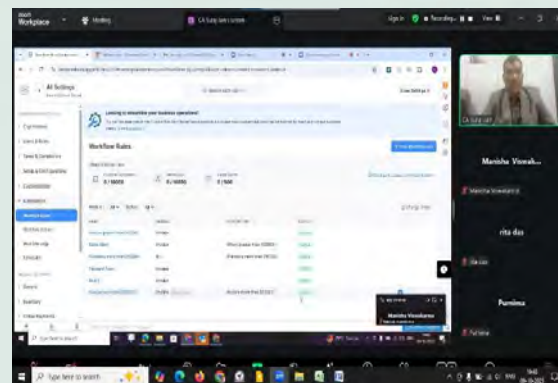
32. Tax Audit Seminar

On 4th October 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted a full-day Tax Audit Seminar at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati. CA. Manoj Kumar and CA. Ajay Kumar Agarwalla led sessions on finalizing Tax Audit Reports and key clauses of Form 3CD for AY 2025–26. The interactive seminar enhanced students’ practical knowledge, professional skills, and readiness for Articleship and audits.



33. E-Gurukul | Episode 7 & 8 – “How to start your investment journey?”

On 8th and 9th October 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA hosted Episodes 7 & 8 of the E-Gurukul Series on “How to Start Your Investment Journey?” CA. Suraj Jain guided students on investment fundamentals, risk assessment, wealth creation strategies, and the power of compounding. The interactive sessions encouraged early investing and promoted financial literacy among CA students.



34. Counselling session on “How to overcome fear of exam result?”

On 31st October 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a counselling session on “How to Overcome Fear of Exam Result?” conducted by CA. Ashwini Gupta. The interactive session guided students in managing stress, building emotional resilience, and maintaining a positive mindset, helping them overcome anxiety, develop confidence, and adopt healthy coping strategies during result time.



35. E-Gurukul | Episode 9 & 10 – “Power BI Beginners’ Series”

Episodes 9 and 10 of the E-Gurukul Series, organised by Guwahati Branch of EICASA on 17th and 18th November 2025, focused on the topic “Power BI – Beginners’ Series”. Led by CA. Kedar Gogate, the online Zoom sessions introduced students to Power BI fundamentals, including interface navigation, data connectivity, data cleaning, modelling, and creating interactive dashboards. A live demonstration illustrated how raw data transforms into actionable insights.



36. Special Counselling Session – “How to Effectively Utilise the Last Month for Exam Preparation”

Guwahati Branch of EICASA organised a Special Counselling Session titled “How to Effectively Utilise the Last Month for Exam Preparation?” on 29th November 2025. Conducted by CA. Anwesh Bawri, the session focused on strategic study planning, time prioritisation, revision methods, mock test analysis and stress management techniques. The highly interactive programme provided practical guidance and boosted students’ confidence for their upcoming examinations.



Educational Tours and Industrial Visits

1. Industrial Visit to Nezone Pipes and Structures

An industrial visit to Nezone Pipes and Structures was organised on 26th October 2024 by the Guwahati Branch of EICASA and accompanied by CA coordinators: CA. Sheetal Raut and CA. Babul Roy Chauhan. The visit, attended by 38 students, provided insights into manufacturing processes at the plant in Byrnihat, Meghalaya. The plant's manager, Mr. Ranjeet, guided the team through machine operations, production processes, and safety standards. Nezone produces 1,50,000 metric tonnes of pipes annually, with a turnover of Rs. 500 crores, using raw material from Tata Steel and Steel Authority of India.



2. Industrial Visit to Yarn Factory

On 21st March 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized an industrial visit to Orient Processors Pvt. Ltd. Unit-II, providing CA students practical exposure to yarn processing and textile operations. Supervised by CA. Prabhaw Agarwalla and CA. Neha Choudhary, the visit included demonstrations of handloom techniques, discussions on industry challenges, sustainability, and financial management, enhancing students’ industry understanding.



3. Educational Tour – Akshar Forum

On 11th April 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA, with Guwahati Branch (EIRC), organized an educational visit to Akshar Foundation, an NGO supporting 110 underprivileged children. Students observed the foundation’s inclusive education model, engaged with the children, and promoted social responsibility. The visit concluded with a Bihu celebration, fostering cultural appreciation, unity, and community engagement.



4. Industrial Visit to Oil India Limited

On 5th June 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized an industrial visit to Oil India Limited, providing CA students with practical exposure to the oil and gas sector. The visit included a guided facility tour and interactive session with officials, covering operations, financial systems, and compliance, bridging academic learning with real-world industry practices.



5. Industrial Visit to Jericho Foods & Beverages LLP

An Industrial visit to the Campa Cola production unit at Athiabari, Assam was organised on 23rd August 2025 by the Guwahati Branch of EICASA. The visit was guided by CA. Neha Choudhary where the students observed production processes, quality control, and supply chain management, gaining practical exposure to industrial operations.



Cultural and Sports Activities

1. 76th Republic Day Celebration

Guwahati Branch of EICASA celebrated the 76th Republic Day on 26th January 2025 at ICAI Bhawan with flag hoisting, the National Anthem, and a spirited bike rally across Guwahati. The event concluded with distributing toys to underprivileged children. CA students and members participated enthusiastically, promoting national pride, unity, and social responsibility.



2. Saraswati Puja Celebration

Saraswati Puja was celebrated by the Guwahati Branch of EICASA on 2nd February 2025 at ICAI Bhawan with Managing Committee members. Engaging events such as Mystic Tales Quiz and Stotra Veena added enthusiasm. Active student participation made the day a meaningful blend of devotion, learning, and camaraderie within the ICAI community.



3. Sports Fest 2025

Guwahati Branch of EICASA held Sports Fest 2025 on 16th February at Green International School with an enthusiastic student turnout. Events included Box Cricket, badminton, carrom, tug of



war, relay, 100m race, arm wrestling, and table tennis. The fest celebrated sportsmanship, teamwork, and camaraderie, creating an energetic and memorable experience for all participants.



4. Women's Day Celebration – Aspire, Adapt, Achieve

On 8th March 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA, with Guwahati Branch (ERIC), celebrated International Women's Day themed "Aspire, Adapt, Achieve – Pioneering Change, Setting Trends." The event featured interactive activities, motivational talks by eminent women, networking, creative sessions, and a jamming session, culminating in a festive Holi celebration and Chaat Party, inspiring empowerment, creativity, and meaningful connections.



5. Independence Day Celebration

The 79th Independence Day was celebrated by the Guwahati Branch of EICASA with flag hoisting by CA. Raginee Goyal at ICAI Bhawan, Guwahati, followed

by a patriotic bike rally covering key city points on 15th August 2025. Students and members participated enthusiastically, promoting unity, road safety, and national pride.



Youth Festival

1. Vibe Quest 2024

The Ultimate Youth Festival – The Vibe Quest was organized on 22nd December 2024 by Guwahati Branch of EICASA, bringing together 180 enthusiastic participants across 10 exciting competitions. The events included Face Painting, Rangoli Making, Inter-Firm Treasure Hunt, Inter-Firm Quiz, Dance, Singing, Fireless Cooking, Splash the Quest, Stand-up Comedy, and Mr. & Miss EICASA. The festival provided a vibrant platform for students to showcase their creativity, talent, and teamwork, fostering a spirit of fun, camaraderie, and youthful energy. It was a highly engaging and memorable celebration of skills beyond academics.



2. Fusion Fiesta 2025

Fusion Fiesta 2025, held on 16th November 2025 by Guwahati Branch of EICASA, brought together CA students for a dynamic celebration of creativity and teamwork. The festival featured a full slate of events, including The Vocal Icon (Singing), Battle of the Beats (Dance), Trivia Quest (Quiz), The Grand Scavenger (Treasure Hunt), The Living Canvas (Face Painting), RangFusion (Rangoli), The Persona Crown (Mr & Ms EICASA), No Flame Feast (Fireless Cooking), Splash the Quest, and the newly introduced High Stake (Bidding Wars). Guided by Branch leaders and supported by an esteemed panel of judges, the event strengthened student engagement and unity.



Extra-Curricular & Talent Search

1. National Talent Search 2024

- The Extempore Speech Competition, organized by Guwahati Branch of EICASA on 23rd November 2024 under the CA National Talent Search for CA students, provided a dynamic platform for participants to demonstrate their spontaneous speaking skills. It was a valuable opportunity for

students to showcase their talent and boost their confidence.



- The Sketching Competition, organized by Guwahati Branch of EICASA on 23rd November 2024 under the CA National Talent Search, offered CA students a creative platform to showcase their artistic abilities.



- The Best PPT Presenter competition, organized as part of the CA National Talent Search for CA Students, was held by Guwahati Branch of EICASA on 23rd November 2024 with a focus on enhancing presentation and communication skills among CA students.



- The Chess Competition, organized under the CA National Talent Search for CA Students by Guwahati Branch of EICASA, was a



thrilling and intellectually stimulating event that brought together 23 enthusiastic and highly skilled participants. With 23 players involved, the tournament tested the participants' chess skills.



2. National Talent Search 2025

- On 19th April 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA hosted the Branch Level Round of the National Talent Search – Debate Competition and Pitch Desk at ICAI Bhawan. Judged by CAs Nidhi Jallan, Deepesh Sirohia, and Nayan Goswami, students displayed strong analytical and presentation skills. Winners included Khusboo Tiwari, Gunjna Gujrani, and the Pitch Desk team of Rithik Bajaj, Harshit Garodia, and Dipankar Das.



- On 18th May 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized the Branch-Level Round of the National Talent Search – Quiz, Elocution, and Essay at ICAI Bhawan. Judged by CA. Nikita Agarwal, CA. Rishabh Sharma, CA. Priyanka Jain, and CA. Saloni Binnani, students displayed critical thinking and communication skills. Winners included Rithik Bajaj, Utsav Singhania, Mayank Jain, Jaitra Pareek, Mayur Agarwal, Khushboo Tiwari, and Vansh Periwal.



- Branch-level competitions in Chess, Drama, Sketching, and Musical Instruments provided a platform for students to showcase creativity and talent beyond academics held on 31st August 2025. Winners in each category were recognized, with top performers advancing to the Eastern India Regional Round. The event encouraged holistic growth, confidence, and team spirit among participating CA students.

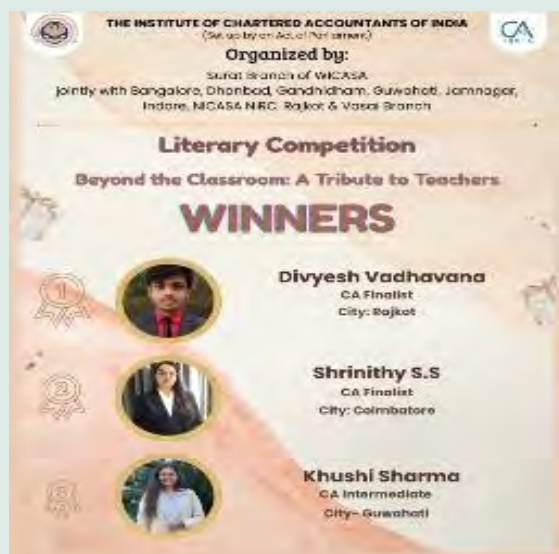


- Guwahati Branch of EICASA conducted the Branch Level Round of the CA Students' National Talent Search 2025 on 24th November 2025, featuring Poetry and Extempore Competitions judged by CA. Ratan Kumar Agarwala and CA. Deepjyoti Singha Roy. Students demonstrated creativity, spontaneous thinking, articulation and stage presence across both events. Poetry Winners: 1st – Garima Singh; 2nd – Dixita Baruah. Extempore Winners: 1st – Bidita Haldar; 2nd – Disha Agarwal.



3. Literary Competition

On 5th September 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA participated in a Teacher's Day online Literary Competition organized by WICASA Surat on the theme "Beyond the Classroom: A Tribute to Teachers." Students expressed gratitude through essays, poems, and articles, with Ms. Khushi Sharma from Guwahati emerging as one of the winners, bringing pride to the branch.



Social and CSR Activities

1. Blood Donation Camp

Guwahati Branch of ICAI, along with EICASA, organized a blood donation camp on 14th June 2024 to promote a noble cause and encourage selfless service. A total of 27 students participated, contributing to saving lives and supporting the healthcare system.



2. Blood Donation Camp

Guwahati Branch of EICASA, in collaboration with the Lions & Leo Club of Guwahati Elite, organized a Blood Donation Camp on 23rd February 2025. Students participated wholeheartedly, contributing to a life-saving cause. The well-organized camp ensured safety, awareness, and support for donors, successfully promoting the importance and impact of voluntary blood donation.



3. World Environment Day 2025

On 5th June 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA celebrated World Environment Day with the theme "Think, Act, Save Green." Activities included a Tree Plantation Drive at ICAI Bhawan, the "Best Out of Waste" online competition won by Muskan Agarwal, and the "Click for Mother Nature" photography contest won by Pallab Jyoti Bhattacharjya, promoting sustainability, creativity, and environmental awareness among CA students.



4. International Yoga Day Celebration

Guwahati Branch of EICASA, in collaboration with the Guwahati Branch (EIRC), celebrated International Yoga Day 2025 through a series of thoughtfully designed activities aimed at promoting wellness, mindfulness, and holistic



development among CA students, members, and employees – Essay Writing Competition, Slogan Writing Competition, Video Making Competition, Yoga Quiz and Live Yoga session through 17th to 21st June 2025.



5. Movie Night: “Well Done CA Sahab!”

Guwahati Branch of EICASA, in collaboration with Guwahati Branch (EIRC), celebrated CA Day with a Movie Night at Grand Cines on 30th June 2025, screening “Well Done CA Sahab!”. CA students, articles, and firm employees enjoyed the motivational film, peer bonding, and complimentary refreshments, making the evening inspiring, entertaining, and a memorable tribute to the CA profession.



6. CA Day Celebration

On 1st July 2025, Guwahati Branch of EIRC and EICASA celebrated Chartered Accountants Day to mark the foundation of ICAI. The event commenced with the hoisting of the ICAI flag in the presence of managing committee members, senior CAs, and students. The celebration highlighted the profession’s legacy, ethical responsibilities, and professional excellence, with active student participation reinforcing the values and commitments of the CA fraternity.



7. Raksha Bandhan Celebration

Guwahati Branch of EICASA organized a Raksha Bandhan celebration on 8th August 2025 with FTR HQ BSF soldiers. Students tied rakhis to the brave soldiers, expressing gratitude and respect for their service. The event fostered patriotism and strengthened bonds between youth and the armed forces, creating a heartfelt environment while celebrating the festival meaningfully.



8. Teacher’s Day Celebrations

On 5th September 2025, Guwahati Branch of EICASA participated in ICAI’s Teachers’ Day Presidential Address, honouring the role of teachers and mentors in shaping ethical and professional values. Through a live webcast, students learned about continuous learning, discipline, and gratitude, paying tribute to educators while reinforcing the significance of mentorship in the CA community.



Awards and Recognition

1. National Level Debate Winner

Guwahati Branch of EICASA proudly congratulates Muskan Daga for winning the National Level Debate Competition in Mumbai. She secured victories at the branch level in Guwahati, regionals in Kolkata, and finally the national stage..



2. Best Student Association 2024-25

Guwahati Branch of EICASA was awarded the Best Student Association of EIRC for 2025. The award, presented in Kolkata on 21st February 2025, recognized the dedication, impactful initiatives, and commitment to fostering an academic and professional community.



3. EICASA Premier League (EPL)

Cuttack Branch of EICASA hosted the EICASA Premier League from 2025, featuring eight teams including Guwahati. Led by Captain Pratik Agarwal and Vice-Captain Rithik Bajaj, Guwahati team secured a league-stage win.



4. Felicitation of CA Final AIR 2

On 7th July 2025, Guwahati Branch (EIRC) and Guwahati Branch of EICASA felicitated Ms. Nishtha Bothra for securing All India Rank 2 in the CA Final – May 2025 Examination. The felicitation celebrated her achievement and served as an inspiration for all students.



5. Felicitation National Level Quiz Competition Winner

On 30th July 2025, Guwahati Branch of EIRC and EICASA felicitated Mr. Rithik Bajaj and Mr. Utsav Singhania for winning the National Talent Search Quiz Competition 2025. The felicitation celebrated their dedication and served as an inspiration for fellow students to pursue excellence and actively participate in national-level competitions.



Best compliments from:

Ajay Agarwala
Neeraj Kapoor



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President's Profile

CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda, FCA
73rd President, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) (2025–26)



A distinguished Fellow Chartered Accountant and a visionary leader, **CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda** has been elected as the 73rd President of ICAI for the term 2025–26. With a career spanning over three decades, he brings a wealth of experience and commitment to excellence in the accountancy profession.

CA. Nanda began his professional journey in 1991 and has since become a driving force within ICAI. Academically brilliant, he secured the 35th rank in CA Inter and earned his B.Com from M.L.N. College, Kurukshetra University. His leadership within the Institute began with his service in the Northern India Regional Council (NIRC) and was marked by his term as NIRC Chairman in 2002–03. Elected to the Central Council in 2004, he is now serving his seventh term.

His contributions have been instrumental in shaping policy and advancing professional standards. As Chairman of the **Digital Accounting and Assurance Board**, he led ICAI to become the first global accounting body to issue **Forensic Accounting and Investigation Standards (FAIS)**.

During his tenure as Vice President (2024–25), he represented ICAI across key national bodies including the IRDAI's Standing Committee on Accounting Issues, SEBI's advisory committees, and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' Dedicated Cell on Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI). He also holds representation in ASSOCHAM, CBDT's Direct Tax Advisory Committee, and several other policy forums.

As President, he chairs ICAI's Standing Committees—Executive, Finance, Examination, and Disciplinary—and serves as Editor-in-Chief of *The Chartered Accountant* journal. He also leads ICAI's research arm (ICAI ARF), XBRL India, and various benevolent funds supporting members and students. He is a Director on the boards of ISAI, ICAI RVO, and IIPI.

Internationally, CA. Nanda represents ICAI at the **South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA)**, **Pan African Federation of Accountants (PAFA)**, and **ASEAN Federation of Accountants (AFA)**, reinforcing India's leadership in global accountancy.

Respected for his humility, strategic foresight, and inclusive leadership, CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda remains dedicated to positioning ICAI as a global benchmark and fostering professional excellence for future generations.



Vice-President's Profile

CA. Prasanna Kumar D.

Vice-President, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) (2025–26)



A visionary professional and dynamic leader, **CA. Prasanna Kumar D.** has been elected as the Vice-President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India for the Council Year 2025–26. With over three decades of diverse experience, he exemplifies leadership with integrity, excellence, and a deep commitment to the growth of the profession.

Qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in 1984, CA. Prasanna Kumar D. is a Fellow Member of ICAI and a prominent figure in the Southern region. His involvement with the Institute began early, serving as Secretary and Vice Chairman of the Southern India Chartered Accountants Students Association (SICASA). He later chaired the Visakhapatnam Branch (2001–02) and played key roles in the Southern India Regional Council (SIRC) from 2007 to 2016, including as Chairman in 2013–14. He is currently serving his third term on the Central Council (26th Council).

Known for his strategic foresight and collaborative approach, he has led numerous ICAI committees and initiatives. As Convenor of the **Chartered Accountants Benevolent Fund (CABF)** in 2024–25, he helped secure a significant contribution of ₹4.23 crore. Under his mentorship, **ICAI ARF** submitted a notable report proposing a Common Framework for Annual Accounts of Major Ports, receiving appreciation from the Indian Ports Authority.

He has also served as ICAI's representative to the **Regional Direct Tax Advisory Committee (Hyderabad)** and contributed valuable inputs to enhance government audit processes. His global impact includes active representation on **SAFA committees** for Small and Medium Practices and Education, Training, and CPD, advancing ICAI's position in international forums.

Outside of his professional accomplishments, CA. Prasanna Kumar is also a sports enthusiast and an advocate for sportsmanship. A former volleyball player, he continues to support state-level sports initiatives, promoting the Olympic spirit.

CA. Prasanna Kumar D.'s leadership is marked by a relentless pursuit of excellence, institutional development, and member welfare. With a legacy built on service, innovation, and professionalism, he is committed to further strengthening ICAI's global stature and inspiring the next generation of Chartered Accountants.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Satish Kumar Gupta

Chairman – Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Committee, ICAI



CA. Satish Kumar Gupta is a distinguished Chartered Accountant currently serving as the **Chairman of the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Committee** of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). In addition to this role, he also leads the **UDIN Directorate** as Chairman and serves as **Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Members in Practice (CMP)**.

A Central Council Member of ICAI (2019–2022), CA. Gupta has held several key positions, including:

- Chairman, Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Vice-Chairman, Direct Tax Committee
- Vice-Chairman, Professional Development Committee (PDC)
- Vice-Chairman, Committee on Management Accounting

CA. Gupta has made significant contributions to the tax and professional community. He was the **President of the Rajasthan Tax Consultants Association** for an unprecedented 10-year term (2013–2023), during which he championed initiatives that elevated the standards of tax practice and collaboration.

His leadership journey also includes his term as **Chairman of the Jaipur Branch of CIRC of ICAI**, under whose guidance the branch was honored with the "Excellent Branch Award" by the Central India Regional Council—testament to his effective leadership and team-oriented approach.

In recognition of his excellence and service, CA. Gupta has received several awards:

- **"Best Member of the Year – 2004"** by Rajasthan Tax Consultants' Association
- **"Yuwa Pratibha Samman – 2002"** for professional excellence at a young age

A sought-after speaker and prolific author, he has delivered lectures and written papers on various topics, including:

- Income Tax Assessments & Reassessments
- Surveys and Searches under the Income Tax Act
- Personal Development: Goal Setting, Motivation & Career Planning

CA. Gupta's deep-rooted belief in knowledge-sharing, ethics, and empowerment continues to inspire professionals nationwide. Through his leadership roles, he consistently promotes capacity building, continuous learning, and the upskilling of members, upholding ICAI's commitment to professional excellence.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Rajendra Kumar P

Central Council Member, ICAI | Chairman
– GST & Indirect Taxes Committee | Chair –
Edinburgh Group (2024–26)



CA. Rajendra Kumar P is a Fellow Member of ICAI and a prominent Chartered Accountant based in Chennai. A commerce graduate from the University of Madras, he currently serves as a Central Council Member of ICAI (2010–13, 2019–22, 2022–25, and 2025–29), and holds several pivotal positions including **Chairman of the GST & Indirect Taxes Committee, Convenor of the Members & Students Services Directorate, and Presiding Officer of the Board of Discipline.**

Internationally, he is the first Indian to be elected **Chair of the Edinburgh Group (2024–26)**, a global coalition of 16 accounting bodies representing over 1 million accountants, championing the cause of SMPs and developing nations within IFAC. He is also the only Indian on OECD's **Technical Advisory Group on Consumption Taxes** and a member of the **Platforms Task Force**, contributing to global VAT and e-commerce taxation policy.

He has represented ICAI at international forums in Paris, Tokyo, Vienna, Madrid, Melbourne, Malta, and more, and delivered technical papers on VAT and GST. As a practicing CA, he leads **Sanjiv Shah & Associates** as Managing Partner. He was also an Independent Director and Audit Committee Chair at the **Central Warehousing Corporation**, appointed by the Government of India.

He has authored popular books on Service Tax and VAT, trained officers of the Indian Government, and conducted CPE seminars for global audiences in Singapore, Malaysia, Bahrain, and beyond. Recognized as the **father of VAT Audit in Tamil Nadu**, his efforts led to its adoption in 2012.

CA. Rajendra Kumar has served as President of the Hindustan Chamber of Commerce, Rajasthani Association Tamilnadu, and the International Chamber of Indirect Tax Professionals. A former SIRC Chairman, he organized the record-setting “Karka Kasadara” Conference with 4,741 delegates—earning a place in the **Limca Book of Records.**

Widely honored, he has received the **TIOL National Taxation Award, Rajasthan Yuva Ratna, Sir Theagaraya Award**, and more. A passionate educator, speaker, and motivator, he remains committed to public service, professional excellence, and the global advancement of the accountancy profession.

Speaker's Profile

CA. Vishnu Kumar Agarwal, F.C.A, DISA
Central Council Member, ICAI (2025–29) |
Vice Chairman – CPE Committee & Direct
Tax Committee



CA. Vishnu Kumar Agarwal is an accomplished Chartered Accountant with over two decades of specialized experience in the field of Income Tax. He currently serves as a **Central Council Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** for the term 2025–29 and holds key positions as **Vice Chairman of both the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Committee and the Direct Tax Committee** of ICAI.

In addition to these roles, CA. Agarwal is a member of several crucial ICAI bodies including the **Standing Committee, Executive Committee, Management Committee, and Finance Committee**, contributing strategically to policy formulation and institutional governance.

Renowned for his deep expertise in **Income Tax litigation**, he has handled high-stakes cases involving **search and survey proceedings, Benami and Black Money laws**, and appearances before the **Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT)**. His professional excellence is reflected in his authorship of the well-regarded book *“Landmark Judgements of Income Tax”*, a comprehensive reference for professionals navigating complex tax issues.

A prolific speaker, CA. Agarwal regularly delivers lectures on Direct Taxes and litigation at ICAI forums, legal seminars, and academic institutions, earning recognition for his practical insights and clear articulation.

His leadership journey includes serving as **Chairman of the Western India Regional Council (WIRC) of ICAI in 2017–18**, after having been elected as a Regional Council Member for three consecutive terms (2010–2019). During his tenure, he represented WIRC before several government and regulatory bodies, strengthening the bridge between the profession and policy-making institutions.

Beyond the profession, CA. Agarwal is deeply involved in **social service and community development**. He is associated with numerous organizations including **Aravali Agarwal Samaj, Lions Club of Mumbai, Bharat Vikas Parishad, Rajasthan Seva Samiti, RVG Alumni, Vasai CA Hostel Alumni, and Shree Jeen Mata Prachar Mandal**, reflecting his commitment to societal well-being alongside professional excellence.

Respected for his technical competence, ethical leadership, and service orientation, CA. Vishnu Kumar Agarwal continues to inspire professionals and contribute meaningfully to the growth of the accountancy profession and society at large.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa

Central Council Member, ICAI | Vice
Chairman – AASB, IASB & Women and
Young Members Excellence Committee



CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa is a distinguished professional with deep roots in Eastern India and a remarkable track record of leadership in the accountancy profession. A **Central Council Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)**, he currently serves as the **Vice Chairman of three key ICAI boards: the Auditing & Assurance Standards Board (AASB), Internal Audit Standards Board (IASB), and Women and Young Members Excellence Committee.**

With over two decades of experience, CA. Patwa is the **Managing Partner of RKP Associates**, a leading Chartered Accountancy firm with multiple offices across Eastern India, including Kolkata, Guwahati, Patna, Bhubaneswar, and Ranchi.

In his illustrious journey, he has held several prominent positions:

- **Chairman, Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) of ICAI (2022–23)**
- **Chairman, Assam State Council of FICCI**
- **National Council Member, FICCI**
- **Chairman, Guwahati Branch of ICAI (2008–09)**
- **Chairman, Batgach – the largest indigenous network of CA firms in India (2015–17)**
- **President, Calcutta Chapter of Institute of Internal Auditors (2019–20)**
- **Advisor to the National Council of the Institute of Internal Auditors of India**
- **Independent Director, Om Freight Forwarders Ltd.**
- **Member, Airport Advisory Committee (Assam)**
- **President, a historic educational institution established in 1863**
- **Trustee & Managing Committee Member, Hindustan Medical Institution (Birla Group)**

He has delivered lectures and conducted training programs across India for professionals from diverse backgrounds, including CAG officials, PSU executives, and financial institutions like NEDFI. He has also addressed national and international platforms, including **Indo-Bangla Trade Summits**, and spoken at conferences for professionals and students alike.

Socially active, CA. Patwa is involved in several educational and philanthropic initiatives. He serves on the governing bodies of educational institutions and holds leadership roles in various community organizations, reflecting his deep commitment to public service and nation-building.

CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa exemplifies visionary leadership, professional excellence, and an unwavering dedication to ethical practice and social welfare.

Speaker's Profile

CA. Sanjib Sanghi

Central Council Member, ICAI (2025–29) |
Digital Transformation Leader | Partner – S
N Banerjea & Co.



CA. Sanjib Sanghi is a dynamic Chartered Accountant with over 26 years of experience in professional practice, digital transformation, and capacity building. A Partner at **S N Banerjea & Co.**, he has earned a reputation for innovation, leadership, and impact in both professional and community spaces.

Currently serving as a **Central Council Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** for the term 2025–29, CA. Sanghi has been at the forefront of ICAI's modernization. As **Chairman of the Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) in 2024–25**, he led initiatives like:

- **Udaan – Celebrating Womanhood:** Featuring 75 inspiring stories of women CAs
- **Voice of Diamonds:** Honoring senior members through a 'We Care' initiative
- **Run@75:** A 75-day virtual learning marathon on diverse topics
- **Best Practices for SMPs:** A cloud-based knowledge repository for practitioners
- **49th EIRC Regional Conference:** Achieved a record-breaking delegate turnout

He has contributed actively to guiding the next generation through **career counseling drives, mentorship programs**, and academic workshops.

At the ICAI national level, he has held pivotal roles:

- **Vice Chairman – Board of Studies (Operations)**
- **Deputy Convenor – Digital Re-engineering & Transformation Directorate**
- **Member** – Standing, Executive, Finance, and Disciplinary Committees
- Contributor to various Non-Standing Committees including AASB, PDC, CMP, and BoS (Academic)

He serves as **Technical Advisor to the Edinburgh Group**, strengthening India's global voice in accountancy forums.

His industry and social engagements include:

- **Co-Chair (IT), MCCI**
- **Senior Vice President, MSME Development Forum (WB)**
- **Charter Member, TiE Kolkata**
- **Cabinet Member, Lions Clubs International**
- **Trustee, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, Siliguri**
- **Treasurer, Accountants' Library**

He has co-authored influential books:

- *The Digital Professional*
- *MSME Shorts – From Inception to Success*

With a vision to strengthen ICAI's global education standards, digital infrastructure, career opportunities, and regulatory relevance, **CA. Sanjib Sanghi** continues to drive meaningful transformation in the profession.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Vishnu K. Tulsyan

Chairman – EIRC of ICAI (2025–26) | FCA,
FCS, IP, Registered Valuer



CA. Vishnu K. Tulsyan is a multi-faceted professional with over two decades of rich experience in **audit, taxation, corporate law, insolvency, and valuation**. He currently serves as the **Chairman of the Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) of ICAI for 2025–26**, after having held key leadership roles including **Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer** of EIRC in previous terms.

A **Fellow Chartered Accountant, Company Secretary, Insolvency Professional, and Registered Valuer**, CA. Tulsyan has built a diversified practice headquartered in Kolkata, managing over 15 professionals and offering expert advisory to NBFCs, real estate firms, manufacturing entities, and logistic companies. He is the **Designated Partner of V.K. Tulsyan & Co. LLP**, with branches in **Mumbai and Bangalore**.

He is also empaneled with the **Official Liquidator of the Calcutta High Court** and regularly appears before **NCLT** in matters of merger, amalgamation, revival, and IBC cases. He has served as **IRP and RP**, currently handling two major CIRP cases at the **Kolkata and Delhi Benches of NCLT**. His expertise extends to complex **valuations under IBC, Private Placements, Buy-Backs, and Share Valuation (Rule 11UA)**.

As a **Speaker**, he is frequently invited to address seminars organized by ICAI and ICSI across cities including **Kolkata, Siliguri, Bhubaneswar, Dibrugarh, and Guwahati**, covering topics such as the **Companies Act, NBFC Regulations, LLP Act, and Income Tax**. He has authored numerous **articles** published in professional journals and newsletters, offering insights on LLP frameworks, NBFC governance, mergers, and corporate restructuring.

CA. Tulsyan is also the **Founder of Tulsyan Education & Research Foundation (TERF)**, a registered NGO working to promote education among underprivileged children in Eastern India. His commitment to social responsibility is further demonstrated through his role as **Trustee of Lions Club Dialysis Centre, Kolkata**, and **Moderator of the Google Group 'Professional Charcha'**, a forum with 40,000+ members for knowledge exchange among students and professionals.

A visionary leader and passionate mentor, **CA. Vishnu K. Tulsyan** continues to inspire the profession through his commitment to ethics, education, and excellence.

Speaker's Profile

CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra

Past President, ICAI (2022–23) | Global
Thought Leader | Academician & Reformer



CA. (Dr.) Debashis Mitra is a distinguished Past President of the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)**, having led the Institute during the landmark year 2022–23 when ICAI hosted the prestigious **World Congress of Accountants** in India for the first time.

A multi-qualified professional, Dr. Mitra is a **Chartered Accountant, Cost Accountant, Company Secretary, Information Systems Auditor**, and also holds advanced academic degrees including a Ph.D. in the comparative study of Indian GAAP, US GAAP, and IFRS, alongside qualifications in Commerce and Law.

His contributions to ICAI are vast and strategic. He has chaired critical ICAI committees such as the **Expert Advisory Committee, Corporate Laws & Corporate Governance Committee**, and the **Sustainability Reporting Standards Board**. As a government nominee, he served on the **MCA's committees for simplifying Company and LLP Rules**, and was ICAI's representative on **SEBI's Advisory Committee on Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (ACLOD)**.

Dr. Mitra played key leadership roles in ICAI's allied institutions:

- **Director, ICAI Registered Valuers Organisation (RVO)**
- **Board Member, Indian Institute of Insolvency Professionals (IIPI)**
- **Chairman, ICAI Accounting Research Foundation (ICAI ARF)**
- **Chairman, XBRL India**
- **Founder Director, Institute of Social Auditors of India**

He has also been a **Board Member of IRDAI, SEBI's Primary Market Advisory Committee**, and **Amicus Curiae to NCLT**, and has served on **Government of India's Quality Review Board**. He represented ICAI in the **Uday Kotak Committee on Corporate Governance** and the **MCA's panel on CARO revision**.

On the international stage, he has held influential roles with:

- **Board of Chartered Accountants Worldwide (CAW)**
- **SAFA – Chair of Education & CPD Committee**
- **CAPA – Audit Group Member**
- **IFAC – Technical Advisor on the Board**

He is a globally respected speaker, having addressed academic and professional forums across Amsterdam, Madrid, and other international platforms. Dr. Mitra also served as **National President of the Institute of Internal Auditors (India)** and **President of Rotary Club of Calcutta**, the oldest Rotary Club in Asia.

His career reflects a rare blend of technical depth, global advocacy, and relentless service to the profession and society.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Manoj Fadnis

Past President, ICAI | Former President,
CAPA | Global Professional Leader



CA. Manoj Fadnis is a highly respected leader in the global accountancy profession, known for his vast contributions to both national and international accounting bodies. He is a **Past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** and the **Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA)**, a premier regional body representing 32 professional institutes from 23 countries.

In February 2025, CA. Fadnis was nominated by the **Hon'ble Supreme Court of India** to serve on an Ad-hoc Committee overseeing an educational institution with nearly 2,000 students—a testament to his integrity and leadership in public service.

He was elected President of ICAI for the year 2015–16 and served as its Vice President in 2014–15. During his tenure, he held critical policy roles:

- **Non-Executive Director, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**
- **Member, National Direct Taxes Advisory Committee, CBDT**
- **Member, Company Law Committee**, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (2015), whose recommendations shaped the **Companies Amendment Act, 2017**

Internationally, CA. Fadnis was elected **President of CAPA in 2017**, having served on its Board since 2015 and as its Deputy President from 2015–2017. He also chaired the **Public Sector Financial Management Committee (PSFMC)** during this time. He was nominated as a **Member of the Small and Medium Practitioners Committee (SMPC) of IFAC** (2016–18), and served on **B20**, the business forum of G20, in 2018.

He is currently an **Independent Director on the Board of Federal Bank**, where he chairs the **Audit Committee**, and also serves on boards of other non-listed entities. His prior directorships include:

- **Director, State Bank of Indore** (2002–2005), nominated by SBI
- **Director, MCA-nominated positions** on two companies (2009–2012)
- **Chairman, MP Stock Exchange Ltd.** (2012–2014)

CA. Fadnis holds a **B.Com from Indore University**, qualified as a **Chartered Accountant in 1987**, and holds a **Diploma in Information Systems Audit (DISA)**. His expertise spans **Corporate Accounting, Direct Taxes, Corporate Law, and FEMA**.

An accomplished speaker, he has delivered over **1,000 technical presentations** in India and abroad, contributing significantly to thought leadership and professional development.

Speaker's Profile

CA. Aniket S. Talati

Former President, ICAI (2023–24) | Global Accounting Leader | Technology Visionary



CA. Aniket S. Talati is a distinguished professional leader known for his progressive mindset, strong ethical values, and commitment to digital transformation in the accounting profession. On **12th February 2023**, he was elected the **71st President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** for the term 2023–24, after having served as **Vice President in 2022–23**.

During his tenure, CA. Talati brought global recognition to the Indian accounting profession by **successfully hosting the World Congress of Accountants (WCOA)** in Mumbai in November 2022—one of the most prestigious events in the global accountancy calendar.

He has served in several prominent regulatory and advisory roles, including as:

- **Member, Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) Panel**
- **Board Member, IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India)**
- **Member, SEBI Committees**
- **Board Member, GASAB (Government Accounting Standards Advisory Board)**

A passionate advocate for modernization, he has led ICAI's **digital transformation journey**, overseeing the launch of several key tech-driven initiatives. He also played a pivotal role in crafting ICAI's **futuristic CA Curriculum**, which was launched by the **Hon'ble President of India**, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, on **July 1, 2023**. He was instrumental in unveiling the **'CA India' brand logo**, alongside the **Hon'ble Vice President of India** and **Union Minister CA. Piyush Goyal**.

In alignment with the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision, he chaired the **Expert Committee at IFSCA (GIFT City)** to promote India as a global accounting hub.

Internationally, he represents India on key platforms:

- **PAIB Advisory Group, IFAC**
- **Board Member, Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA)**

A **Commerce graduate from Mumbai University**, and a **Rank Holder from Gujarat University**, CA. Talati also holds a **Master's degree in Commerce**. He is a prolific writer and speaker, having contributed to numerous publications and addressed hundreds of seminars and conferences across India and abroad.

With his ability to bridge tradition and technology, CA. Aniket S. Talati continues to inspire the profession towards global leadership and inclusive growth.



Speaker's Profile

Adv. (CA.) Ved Jain

Past President, ICAI | Eminent Tax Expert |
Former IFAC Board Member



Adv. (CA.) Ved Jain is a highly respected leader in the Indian and global accountancy landscape, known for his scholarship, leadership, and commitment to nation-building. A rank-holder in both **CA Inter and Final**, he has consistently demonstrated excellence throughout his academic and professional journey. He holds three bachelor's degrees—**B.Sc. (Punjab University, 1973)**, **B.A. (Economics, 1979)**, and **LLB (1980)**—exemplifying his dedication to lifelong learning.

A prolific writer and a polyglot fluent in Hindi, English, French, Urdu, and Punjabi, he has authored numerous books on **Direct Taxes** and is a regular contributor to newspapers, journals, and television discussions on finance, taxation, and economic policy.

In 2008, he was elected **President of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)**—one of the largest accounting bodies globally. His tenure marked a transformational phase for ICAI in education, training, and global recognition. Under his leadership, ICAI signed **mutual recognition agreements** with prestigious bodies such as the **ICAEW (UK)**, **ICAA (Australia)**, and the **Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants**, enhancing global mobility for Indian CAs.

Internationally, he was a **Board Member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)** from 2008 to 2011 and was also a **Founding Board Member of the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (2008–2013)**, established by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

In the corporate domain, he held significant positions:

- **Chairman, Direct Tax Committee, ASSOCHAM** (2004–2015)
- **Vice President, ASSOCHAM** (2015–2017)
- **Board Member**, NALCO, PTC India, PTC Financial Services, DLF Ltd., Inventia Healthcare, ICAI Accounting Research Foundation
- **Chairman, MCX Clearing Corporation Ltd.**

He was appointed as **Government Nominee Director** for **MAYTAS Infra and MAYTAS Properties** post the Satyam crisis, where he successfully revived the companies. He is also a trusted advisor to various government panels and is frequently invited by national media as a thought leader on taxation, corporate law, and financial markets.

Currently, **Adv. (CA.) Ved Jain practices as an Advocate**, specializing in **Direct Taxes**, continuing his mission to contribute to policy, profession, and public discourse.

Speaker's Profile

Adv. (CA.) J.K. Mittal

Senior Advocate | Chartered Accountant |
Indirect Tax Expert | Policy Contributor



Adv. (CA.) J.K. Mittal is a distinguished legal and tax professional who seamlessly blends deep expertise in accountancy and law. A **Chartered Accountant turned Advocate**, he is a **Law Graduate from Delhi University** and has built a formidable reputation in the field of **Indirect Taxes**, especially **GST and Service Tax**. He regularly appears before the **High Courts and the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India**, representing clients in complex tax litigation and constitutional matters.

He currently serves as the **Co-Chairman of the National Council on Indirect Taxes at ASSOCHAM**, one of India's leading industry chambers. In this role, he has played a pivotal part in shaping national discourse and providing policy suggestions on evolving GST frameworks, litigation processes, and tax administration challenges.

In recognition of his sustained contributions to the legal field, the **Supreme Court Bar Association** has honoured Mr. Mittal **for nine consecutive years (2006 to 2014)** and again **from 2016 to 2018** on the occasion of **Law Day / Constitution Day**. These honors reflect his commitment to legal excellence, advocacy, and service to the nation's legal framework.

An accomplished author, Mr. Mittal has penned several authoritative books, widely referenced by tax professionals and academicians alike. His notable works include:

- *Law, Practice & Procedure of Service Tax*
- *Introduction to GST*
- *Handbook on Equalisation Levy*
- *Handbook of GST Law*

As the founder of **J.K. Mittal & Co., Legal Consultants**, based in New Delhi, he leads a team offering specialized advisory and litigation support in tax matters. His clientele includes corporates, industry bodies, and government departments seeking expert guidance on legal strategy and compliance.

Beyond litigation and authorship, Mr. Mittal is an active participant in **national seminars, policy forums, and training programs**, where he frequently speaks on constitutional challenges in GST, advance ruling mechanisms, and judicial trends in indirect taxation. His multifaceted contributions continue to influence policy, professional education, and legal reform.

With an exceptional blend of academic rigor, litigation experience, and public engagement, **Adv. (CA.) J.K. Mittal** remains a thought leader in India's evolving tax and legal landscape.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Anil Bhandari

Chartered Accountant | Cybersecurity Strategist | Global Thought Leader in Risk & Governance



CA. Anil Bhandari is a dynamic professional with over **25 years of experience** in the fields of **risk management, governance, and cybersecurity**. He serves as the **Mentor at ANB**, a leading Risk Advisory Services firm headquartered in India, with operations in over **15 countries** and a client base of **2,000+ organizations** across diverse sectors. Under his strategic guidance, ANB has emerged as a leader in the **cybersecurity and resilience domain**.

Anil's career is defined by his visionary leadership and impactful roles in professional bodies. He has served as:

- **Past President** of *The Institute of Internal Auditors, India*, and contributed globally through its **technology, risk, and control committees**
- **Member**, Global Task Force of the *Institute of Information and Systems Control (ISCA), USA*
- **Elected Chairman**, *Western Region of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)*, representing over **1 lakh members**
- **Central Council Member of ICAI** for two terms, where he was instrumental in ICAI's **digital transformation** for **4 lakh+ members** and **1 million students**

He has played a key role in shaping national standards on **valuation, internal auditing, fraud and forensic accounting**, and is a regular contributor to the **Digital Accounting and Auditing Standards Board**. Internationally, he served as **Vice Chairman of the Edinburgh Group**, a global forum of 20 major accounting bodies with deep alignment to IFAC, the world's standard-setting authority in accounting and auditing.

The **Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has appointed him as a **member of the Appellate Authority** under the CA, CS, and CMA Acts, where he adjudicates disciplinary matters related to professional misconduct in accounting and auditing.

He also holds honorary board-level positions on **IT Strategy and Cybersecurity Committees** at **Nippon Asset Management** and **LIC AMC**, fulfilling SEBI's governance mandates.

A serial innovator, Anil mentors **ARCON**, a Made-in-India cybersecurity firm ranked in the **Gartner Magic Quadrant**, serving clients in **75+ countries**. He is also an investor in **high-growth technologies**, with personal interests in **IoT, OT, and space asset protection**.

Speaker's Profile

CA. (Dr.) Girish Ahuja

Chartered Accountant | Renowned Tax Expert | Academic Leader | Author



CA. (Dr.) Girish Ahuja is one of India's most respected names in the field of Direct Taxation, known equally for his scholarly depth, public service, and enduring impact on tax education in the country.

He is a **Fellow Chartered Accountant**, having qualified in **1970** with ranks in both Intermediate and Final examinations of ICAI. He holds a **B.Com (Hons.)** and **M.Com** from the prestigious **Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC)**, Delhi University, and earned his **Ph.D.** from the **Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University**, in 2009.

With over five decades of experience, Dr. Ahuja has consistently practiced in the field of **Direct Taxes**. He was nominated by the **Government of India** as a member of the **Task Force to redraft the Income Tax Act**, where he played a key role in shaping contemporary tax policy. He has also served as:

- **Independent Director** on the **Central Board of Directors of State Bank of India (two terms)**
- Board Member of **UNITECH Ltd.** (nominated with Supreme Court approval)
- Independent Director on boards of **Patanjali Foods Ltd., Amber Enterprises, and Devyani International Ltd.**

He was also a part of a **High-Powered Committee under Justice A.P. Shah** to review issues related to MAT provisions for foreign companies and FII's, reflecting his policy-level contributions to the nation's tax framework.

A prolific author, Dr. Ahuja has written **over 25 books** on Direct Taxation, including widely used titles like:

- *Direct Taxes Law and Practice*
- *Direct Taxes Ready Reckoner*
- *Taxation of Capital Gains*
- *Guide to TDS*

He has delivered over **4,100 lectures** across ICAI, ICSI, chambers of commerce, and management institutes—all on an honorary basis, underlining his lifelong commitment to knowledge sharing and nation building.

Dr. Ahuja is also the **President of the SRCC Alumni Association** (for over 30 years) and **Patron of the Tax Law Educare Society**, a nonprofit promoting legal and tax literacy.

A mentor, educator, and changemaker, **CA. (Dr.) Girish Ahuja** is widely admired for his clarity, ethics, and vision in India's taxation and professional education landscape.



Speaker's Profile

Mr. Kunal Saraogi

Technical Analyst | Market Commentator |
Investment Trainer | Founder – Equityrush



Mr. Kunal Saraogi is a leading **Technical Analyst** and **Specialist Trader**, widely recognized for his pioneering contributions to technical analysis in India. With extensive experience as a **fund manager, trainer, and market commentator**, he has dedicated his career to demystifying financial markets and empowering investors with practical tools to make informed decisions.

He is credited with **developing and testing technical analysis-based trading setups**, and was one of the **first professionals in India** to offer **structured education in technical analysis**—a field that blends historical price data and chart patterns to interpret market movements.

Mr. Saraogi is a regular face on India's top business news channels such as **CNBC TV18, CNBC Awaaz, Zee Business, ET Now, and Doordarshan**, where he shares sharp insights on markets, the economy, and trading strategies. His commentaries are appreciated for their clarity, technical depth, and relevance to both novice and seasoned investors.

As the **founder of Equityrush**, he offers a range of educational and research products tailored to investors' needs. His **short-term courses** on technical analysis have benefitted **hundreds of participants**—including professional traders, analysts, brokers, investment advisors, financial journalists, and retail investors. These courses are aimed at **risk management, maximizing rewards**, and helping participants decode market behavior using proven technical tools.

In addition to training, Mr. Saraogi also produces **research reports** that provide actionable insights into Indian equity and commodity markets. These reports feature **buy/sell recommendations** based on his proprietary technical setups and in-depth market analysis. His research is known for its accuracy and practical utility, making it a valuable tool for decision-making.

He is also a sought-after speaker at **workshops and seminars** across the country, where he continues to **promote the use of technical analysis** and advocate for its rightful place as a cornerstone of modern investing. His sessions are known to inspire confidence among traders by showcasing how disciplined, data-driven strategies can yield consistent results.

Mr. Kunal Saraogi's mission is to make the science of technical analysis accessible, respected, and widely adopted—bridging the gap between market complexity and investor clarity.

Speaker's Profile

Mr. Sumeet Bagadia

Executive Director & Head of Technical
Research – Choice Broking Investor | Market
Analyst | Financial Strategist



Mr. Sumeet Bagadia is a seasoned market expert with over 15 years of in-depth experience in the Indian financial markets. He currently serves as the **Executive Director and Head of Technical Research at Choice Broking**, one of India's prominent stock broking firms. Sumeet's journey in the capital markets began at Sharekhan, where he developed a strong foundation in commodities and currency trading before moving into senior research roles across top financial institutions.

A postgraduate in Finance (MBA) from Tilak Maharashtra University, Mr. Bagadia brings analytical rigor and practical insights to market forecasting, investment strategy, and technical research. His deep knowledge spans equities, commodities, and currencies. He has held pivotal roles at firms like **CD Equisearch** and **Destimoney Securities**, demonstrating a consistent record of market leadership and strategic direction.

Known for his sharp market commentary and tactical investment calls, Mr. Bagadia is a regular contributor to financial media — both print and digital. His insights on market trends are often featured by leading financial news platforms. He has recently recommended stocks like **CDSL**, highlighting his ability to spot promising investment opportunities.

In addition to his leadership at Choice Broking, he actively educates investors and traders through his strong social media presence and YouTube channel. His digital platforms are dedicated to simplifying technical analysis and market movements for retail investors. [YouTube](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Telegram](#).

A thought leader, mentor, and lifelong learner, Mr. Sumeet Bagadia is passionate about building financial literacy and empowering individuals to take informed investment decisions.



Speaker's Profile

CA. Nikunj Saraf

Chief Executive Officer – Choice Wealth
Chartered Accountant | Wealth Strategist |
Market Commentator



CA. Nikunj Saraf is a forward-thinking Chartered Accountant and accomplished financial leader, currently serving as the **CEO of Choice Wealth Pvt. Ltd.** Under his dynamic leadership, Choice Wealth has transformed into a full-spectrum investment ecosystem, offering bespoke solutions across **wealth management, mutual funds, fixed income instruments, and alternative assets.**

A strategic thinker with deep market insight, CA. Saraf drives the firm's mission to provide tailored, client-centric portfolio strategies that deliver superior investment outcomes. He has successfully elevated the firm's **High Net-Worth Individual (HNI) Desk**, enabling seamless access to diversified asset classes backed by robust research and premium advisory services.

Since assuming the CEO role in 2022, CA. Saraf has:

- Positioned Choice Wealth as a **comprehensive, one-stop investment platform**
- Built a **high-performing team** of qualified advisors, nurturing a culture of professionalism and client-first advisory
- Developed an **end-to-end digital ecosystem** ensuring seamless portfolio execution and personalized experiences
- Shared thought leadership through contributions to **Mint, Moneycontrol, and Business Standard**
- Featured on **Aaj Tak**, offering expert views on market trends, investment strategies, and wealth creation
- Monitors real-time global and domestic markets to align portfolios with evolving investor needs

His core strengths lie in:

- **Portfolio Engineering:** Combining strategic foresight and financial discipline to optimize risk-adjusted returns
- **Market Intelligence:** Using data-driven insights to uncover investment opportunities
- **Client-Centric Advisory:** Building lasting relationships through transparency and personalized solutions
- **Operational Efficiency:** Leveraging technology to enhance scale, governance, and execution excellence
- **Leadership in Strategy:** Driving sustainable growth while reinforcing the firm's position as a market leader

With a vision anchored in **financial empowerment**, CA. Nikunj Saraf is committed to democratizing wealth management for new-age investors. His ability to blend deep financial acumen with innovation continues to redefine how investment services are delivered in India.

Speaker's Profile

Mr. Deepak Vohra

Renowned Diplomat | Strategic Advisor |
Global Thought Leader | Speaker



Mr. **Deepak Vohra** is a distinguished Indian diplomat, strategic advisor, and educator with a remarkable career spanning more than four decades. A member of the **Indian Foreign Service (IFS) 1973 batch**, he has served India with distinction in diplomatic, policy, and advisory roles across multiple continents, making him one of the country's most respected voices on international relations and global governance.

Mr. Vohra's academic journey reflects a strong foundation in liberal arts and international affairs. He studied at **St. Columba's School**, followed by graduation from **St. Stephen's College, Delhi University**. He further honed his expertise through advanced studies at the **National Defence College, India**, and earned a diploma from **Sorbonne University, Paris**—qualifications that prepared him for the complexities of global diplomacy and strategic engagement.

During his illustrious diplomatic career, Mr. Vohra served as **India's Ambassador to Armenia, Sudan, South Sudan, and Poland**, among other countries, significantly strengthening bilateral ties and advancing India's interests abroad. His postings spanned Africa, Europe, and Asia, and he was frequently entrusted with challenging assignments—including advisory roles to foreign governments and senior leadership positions within Indian missions.

His work has been recognized internationally. In 2013, the Government of **Sudan awarded him the Order of the Two Niles**, the nation's highest civilian honor, in acknowledgment of his contributions to diplomacy and bilateral engagement.

Beyond traditional diplomacy, Mr. Vohra has played a prominent role in **policy advocacy, education, and global thought leadership**. He is a member of the **Advisory Board at FairGaze**, an educational engagement ecosystem where he guides strategic direction, fosters global partnerships, and helps shape educational policy and innovation. His deep insight into international affairs and inclusive education enhances FairGaze's efforts in global outreach, intercultural engagement, and equitable access to quality learning.

Mr. Vohra is also known for his **engaging public speaking**—addressing national and international audiences on topics such as *global megatrends, diplomacy, socio-economic development, education, and future leadership*. His unique blend of diplomatic experience and strategic foresight makes him a sought-after speaker at global forums, universities, and leadership events.

A lifelong learner and communicator, Mr. Deepak Vohra continues to contribute to **global dialogue**, inspiring a generation of leaders, policymakers, and changemakers through his vision of collaborative and inclusive progress.

With best compliments from:

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The Four Labour Codes 2025: Practical Compliance



CA. Prabeen Maskara, Guwahati

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Overview

India's four Labour Codes—Code on Wages 2019 (CoW), Industrial Relations Code 2020 (IR Code), Code on Social Security 2020 (SS Code), and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code 2020 (OSH Code)—consolidated 29 laws and took effect from November 21, 2025 at the central level. However, on-ground implementation will still depend on how and when each State notifies its own rules under these Codes, so there will be some transitional, state-wise variation in procedures, forms, and practical compliance. They promote single registration, one license, single returns, and digital compliance to ease business while extending benefits to 90% unorganized workers comprising of more than 50 crore workers.

Key Consolidation Code	Laws Amalgamated	Focus
COW	4 Laws(Wages, Minimum Wages, Bonus, Equal Remuneration)	Wages, Bonus, and equal remuneration.
OSH	13 laws (including Factories Act, Mines Act, Plantation Labour Act)	safety, health, and working conditions across various sectors and establishments.
SS	9 laws (Including PF, ESI, Gratuity, Maternity Benefits)	Social security for unorganized, gig, and platform workers.
IR	3 laws (including Trade Unions Act, Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, Industrial Disputes Act)	Flexible termination, re-skilling fund

IR Code

- Increased Threshold for Standing Orders** : The requirement for mandatory preparation and certification of Standing Orders (rules defining conditions of employment) now applies only to industrial establishments employing **300 or more workers**.
- Procedure for Standing Orders (Section 30)**: Employers must prepare draft standing orders based on model standing orders within **six months** from the Code's commencement.(Section 30(3)).
- Flexibility in Termination: Higher Threshold for Lay-off/Retrenchment** : The threshold requiring prior government approval for lay-offs, retrenchment, and closures (involuntary termination for non-disciplinary reasons) has been increased from 100 to **300 workers** (Section 78, 79, 80).
- Worker Re-skilling Fund** : Contribute **15 days' wages** to Worker Re-skilling Fund within 10 days of retrenchment (Section 83(3)).

OSH Code

- Mandatory Registration (Section 3)**: Employing **ten or more employees/workers** in manufacturing, trade, business, **occupation** , or certain sectors like mines/docks regardless of size, must register the establishment electronically within sixty days.
- Appointment Letters (Section 6(1)(f))**: Issue appointment letters to all employees within 3 months (if pre-existing)
- Core Employer Duties (Section 6)**: Ensure the workplace is **free from hazards** (Section 6(1)(a)), provide annual health examinations free of cost (Section 6(1)(c)).



4. **Safety Infrastructure (Section 22):** Safety Officers in factories (500+ workers)/mines (100+); Safety Committees mandatory.
5. **Simplified Compliance and Penalties: Inspector-cum-Facilitators (ICF)** must provide the employer an opportunity to comply with relevant provisions within **thirty days** (Section 110(1)).

CoW

1. **National Floor Wage (Section 9):** National Floor Wage set by Centre (states can't go below).
2. **Payment Mode and Period (Section 15, 16):** Wages must be paid via current coin, currency notes, cheque, bank credit, or **electronic mode**. The wage period shall not exceed **one month**.
3. **Restrictions on Deductions (Section 18):** Deductions shall not exceed **fifty per cent** of the employee's wages.
4. **Bonus Payment (Section 39):** Bonus must be paid within **eight months** from the close of the accounting year.

SS Code

1. **Registration and Continuity (Section 3):** Deemed Registration if already registered under any other Central Labour law. Coverage continues post threshold drop.
2. **Gratuity for Fixed Term Employees :** Must pay gratuity to a Fixed Term Employee (FTE) after 1 year of contract (Section 53(2)). Pay within 30 days (Section 56(3)).
3. **Inclusion of Gig and Platform Workers :** Mandates the framing of social welfare schemes for gig and platform workers (Section 109).

Critical Analysis of Important Terms and Provisions

The goal of codification was simplification and uniformity. However, the introduction of new definitions and differing applicability thresholds across the codes necessitates careful scrutiny by employers and professional bodies.

The Codes maintain distinct definitions for 'employee' and the narrower category of 'worker', primarily used for industrial relations and certain benefits.

- **Employee:** Generally defined broadly, covering persons employed on wages to do skilled, semi-skilled, unskilled, manual, operational, supervisory, **managerial**, or **administrative** work

(CoW Section 2(k); OSH Code Section 2(t); SS Code Section 2(26)).

- **Worker:** Defined similarly but explicitly excludes persons employed mainly in a **managerial or administrative capacity** (IR Code Section 2(zr); OSH Code Section 2(zzl)).
- **Supervisory Exclusion:** Workers employed in a supervisory capacity are excluded from the definition of a 'worker' if their wages exceed >Rs 15,000 (CoW) or >Rs 18,000 (OSH)—mismatch risks misclassification for overtime/standing orders

Critical Comment:

Applicability on Establishment (Varying Thresholds)

While the goal was unification, the applicability criteria for "establishment" vary significantly across the Codes:

- **Code on Wages, 2019:** Applies to every establishment employing **one or more employee**. An establishment means any place where any industry, trade, business, manufacture **or occupation** is carried on (Section 2(m)).
- **OSH Code, 2020:** Applies generally to establishments employing **ten or more workers**, though sectors like mines and docks are covered regardless of the number.
- **SS Code, 2020 (First Schedule):** Applicability varies: Employees' Provident Fund applies to establishments with **20 or more employees**; Employees' State Insurance applies to establishments with **10 or more persons** (or even a single employee if hazardous work is carried out).
- **IR Code, 2020 (Standing Orders/Termination):** Applies specifically to industrial establishments employing **300 or more workers** for matters related to Standing Orders (Lay-off, Retrenchment, Closure).

Critical Comment:

The persistence of multiple threshold limits (1, 10, 20, and 300) prevents true regulatory harmonization for employers. A multi-locational employer must maintain complex tracking systems based on headcount to comply with differing obligations under each code, defeating the aim of universal simplicity.

Fixed Term Employees (FTEs)

FTE is defined as an engagement of an employee based on a written contract for a fixed period (SS Code Section 2(34)).



Critical Comment:

The Codes formally recognize Fixed Term Employment as a valid employment model, offering employers enhanced flexibility. A critical provision is that termination resulting from the completion of the fixed term shall **not be included in the definition of "retrenchment"** (IR Code Section 2(zh) explanation). This mitigates the industrial dispute risks associated with termination.

However, the employer must ensure the FTE is eligible for **all statutory benefits available to a permanent worker proportionately** according to the period of service (IR Code Section 2(zp)(b)). Furthermore, FTEs become eligible for **gratuity** after completing service under the contract for a period of **one year** (IR Code Section 2(zp)(c); SS Code Section 53). This requirement is a departure from previous norms, which traditionally required five continuous years of service for gratuity eligibility.

Wage Definition

The uniform definition of 'Wages' across the Codes aims to address calculation complexities and litigation arising from varying definitions in the previous 29 laws. Wages generally include basic pay, dearness allowance (D/A), and retaining allowance.

Critical Comment:

While the definition is standardized, the calculation mechanism includes a crucial complexity:

- Certain components, such as House Rent Allowance (HRA), bonuses, and employer PF contributions, are normally excluded from wages.
- However, if the aggregate of these excluded remuneration components **exceeds one-half (50%)** of the total remuneration (calculated under the relevant clause), the amount in excess of 50% must be added back and deemed part of the wages for calculation of benefits like gratuity, overtime, etc. (OSH/SS Code Section 2(1)(zzk)).

This **50% cap** requires employers to undertake intricate compensation structuring and compliance audits. If an employer provides significant variable pay or allowances (like performance bonuses or high HRA) exceeding this threshold, it leads to an increase in statutory compliance costs (e.g., higher provident fund and gratuity liability bases), potentially impacting the overall compensation structure and increasing costs for organizations.

Penalty Provisions

The Codes introduce stricter penalties for non-compliance while providing mechanisms for conciliation and compliance improvement for minor offenses.

Critical Comment:

The key change is the shift towards **Facilitative Compliance** and **Decriminalization** of certain offenses.

- **Opportunity to Comply:** For first-time or minor non-compliances, the Inspector-cum-Facilitator generally cannot initiate prosecution proceedings without giving the employer a written direction and a period (e.g., **30 days**) to comply (OSH Code Section 110(1); SS Code Section 137). This opportunity is not provided if the violation is repeated within three years.
- **Financial Risk:** Despite the move towards facilitation, the prescribed monetary penalties for contraventions remain high. For general contraventions of the OSH Code, the penalty is not less than **Rs.2 Lakhs**, which may extend up to Rs.3 Lakhs, with continuing offense adding **Rs. 2,000 per day** (OSH Code Section 94). Severe offenses related to Standing Orders, such as failure to submit draft orders, attract a minimum fine of ₹50,000, extending up to **Rs.2 Lakhs** (IR Code Section 86(10)).

Employers must proactively implement comprehensive compliance systems, as the shift from imprisonment to high monetary penalties signals a higher financial cost for non-adherence.

Gig Workers and Platform Workers

The SS Code extends social security coverage to previously unprotected categories: gig workers and platform workers.

- **Definitions:** A **Gig Worker** performs work outside the traditional employer-employee relationship (SS Code Section 2(35)). A **Platform Worker** uses an online platform/digital intermediary (Aggregator) to access work (SS Code Section 2(60), 2(2)).
- **Social Security Mandate:** The Central and State Governments are mandated to frame welfare schemes for these workers, covering areas like life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, and old age protection (SS Code Section 109).
- **Aggregator Liability:** For the welfare scheme fund, the **Aggregator** (the digital intermediary) is required to contribute 1% to 2% of their annual turnover,



subject to a cap of **5%** of the amount paid or payable by the aggregator to the gig workers and platform workers (SS Code Section 109(4)).

Critical Comment:

While the inclusion is revolutionary, it introduces new cost structures for technology companies. More importantly, the precise legal obligations regarding traditional social security instruments (like EPF and ESI) remain complex outside of the mandated aggregator contribution to the specific SS Fund.

It is being highly debated that liability for EPF, ESI, and gratuity from both the independent contractor and the aggregator, are not the responsibility for gig workers who traditionally operate outside the formal employer-employee relationship. The SS Code mandates that **Aggregators** (the digital platforms, like ride-share or food delivery companies) contribute a small percentage (1–2% of annual turnover, capped at 5% of payments to workers) to a new **Social Security Fund** specifically created for gig workers' welfare. This new fund covers life, disability, health, and old-age benefits.

Contract Labour

The Codes provide greater clarity and restrictions regarding the deployment and welfare of contract labour.

- **Definition:** Contract labour means a worker hired through a contractor, including inter-State migrant workers, but excludes workers regularly employed by the contractor whose employment includes periodical increment, social security coverage, and other welfare benefits.

- **Prohibition in Core Activities:** Employment of

contract labour is **prohibited in the core activities** of any establishment, except in specified conditions (OSH Code Section 57). Core activity means the activity for which the establishment is set up.

- **Principal Employer Responsibility:** The principal employer bears secondary liability. If the contractor fails to pay wages within the prescribed period or makes short payment, the principal employer is liable to pay the full wages or the unpaid balance due (OSH Code Section 55(3)). Furthermore, employers engaging contract labour must ensure the contractor provides the necessary statutory benefits, including payment of wages through bank transfer or electronic mode (OSH Code Section 55(2)).

Critical Comment:

Employers engaging contract labour must thoroughly analyze whether the work falls under "core activity" to avoid prohibition under the OSH Code. Furthermore, the clear, non-negotiable secondary liability of the principal employer for wage defaults necessitates strict due diligence and monitoring of contractors, ensuring payments are made electronically and all statutory benefits are extended.

Supporting rules under central and state jurisdictions are still awaited and will follow; During transition, relevant provisions of existing laws, rules, schemes, etc. will continue until replaced

I am ending this with a quote of our Hon'ble Prime minister Narendra Modi on 16th October 2014 that the power of **"Shramev Jayate"** for the growth of the country was equal to that of **"Satyamev Jayate"** and he termed the workers as **"Nation Builders"**.



Hallucination in the Age of AI: Implications and Responsibilities for Chartered Accountants



CA. Aditya Kumar Maheshwari
Treasurer, EIRC of ICAI

Abstract

As Artificial Intelligence (AI) becomes increasingly embedded in audit, finance, taxation, and decision-support systems, the risk of hallucination—where AI generates confident but incorrect information—has become a significant professional concern. While today's hallucinations arise primarily from gaps or ambiguities in data, future AI systems will face a more severe challenge: learning from an internet ecosystem increasingly polluted by AI-generated errors. This article explores hallucination risks, their relevance to Chartered Accountants, and the emerging threats that demand proactive safeguards.

1. Introduction

Generative AI tools today assist Chartered Accountants with tasks ranging from reconciliations to drafting reports, identifying patterns, reviewing documents, and summarizing legal provisions. Their speed and linguistic fluency are transforming workflows across the profession.

However, these systems operate on probability and not on factual certainty. This leads to AI hallucination, where the model produces fabricated details, misquoted sections of law, incorrect financial interpretations, or entirely imaginary references. For a profession built on accuracy and credibility, this risk is not merely technical—it is ethical.

2. What is “Hallucination” in AI?

AI tools predict the most likely answer, not always the correct one.

This leads to a phenomenon known as *AI Hallucination*, where the system outputs incorrect facts, misinterpreted data, fabricated citations, imaginary accounting standards, or non-existent legal provisions. In a profession dependent on precision, such errors

pose significant risks.

Hallucination occurs when an AI system:

- Generates content not grounded in its training data
- Misinterprets or invents information
- Produces realistic but false facts, figures or citations
- Fills knowledge gaps with statistically likely but incorrect guesses

3. Why Hallucination Matters to Chartered Accountants

• Impact on Audit Integrity

Audit relies on evidence. An AI tool that supplies incorrect accounting interpretations or fabricated audit procedures can compromise working papers and conclusions.

• Compliance Risk

Misquoted references to the Companies Act, Income-tax Act, Ind AS, IFRS, or GST law can lead to incorrect advice, potential non-compliance, and exposure under ICAI's Code of Ethics.

• Reduction of Professional Skepticism

AI's polished language can create an illusion of accuracy, causing auditors or article trainees to overlook inconsistencies.

• Poor Financial Decision-Making

In management advisory, hallucinated data or insights can distort forecasting, budgeting, valuation models, and risk assessments.

4. Causes of Hallucination

• Probabilistic Text Generation

Models predict the next likely word, not necessarily the



“true” one.

- Training Data Limitations

If data is outdated, incomplete, or inconsistent, models confidently fill in the gaps.

- Ambiguous User Prompts

Poorly specified queries generate speculative answers.

- General-Purpose Training

Most AI is not trained exclusively on authenticated accounting and regulatory sources.

5. The Larger Threat: Hallucination in the Future

While hallucinations today occur in an online world where humans still create most high-quality content, the future will be more dangerous.

- The Data Pollution Problem

As AI-generated content becomes ubiquitous, incorrect or hallucinated information will increasingly circulate online—and be indexed by search engines.

Future models will be trained not only on verified information but also on

- ✓ AI-generated hallucinations
- ✓ Synthetic data
- ✓ Repeated, amplified inaccuracies

This creates a feedback loop where hallucinations feed future hallucinations.

- The Risk of "Model Collapse"

Researchers warn of a phenomenon called model collapse, where new AI models trained on old AI outputs progressively degrade in accuracy.

This could lead to:

- ✓ Compounding errors
- ✓ Distorted interpretations of accounting standards
- ✓ Misleading financial logic
- ✓ Corrupted legal or tax references

For the accounting profession, this is a serious systemic risk.

- Difficulty Identifying Truth from Noise

If authoritative-sounding but incorrect AI-generated explanations dominate online spaces, distinguishing reliable sources becomes harder even for experts.

- Greater Risk for Regulators and Audit Processes

Regulators rely on clarity and consistency. But in a future where incorrect interpretations propagate widely, auditors and regulators may face:

- ✓ Increased disputes over legal meaning
- ✓ Misinterpretation of compliance requirements
- ✓ Difficulty establishing authoritative references

6. Conclusion

Hallucination is not a temporary flaw that will disappear as AI improves; it is a structural challenge that will intensify as AI-generated content increasingly fills the digital world. Future AI models may unknowingly train on prior hallucinations, amplifying errors into systemic distortions.

For Chartered Accountants, the path forward requires vigilance, verification, and more responsible adoption. AI will empower professionals who understand its limitations—and expose those who blindly depend on it.



GST Assessment Based on Entries Found in Loose Slips, Notebook & Diary



CA Manoj Nahata, FCA, DISA (ICAI)
Guwahati

I. Introduction:

In India, many businesses still follow traditional methods of record-keeping in the form of loose slips, carbon copies, rough estimates, or handwritten diaries, note pads, notebooks, which may contain rough calculations, vague noting, scribbling and jottings, etc. (collectively referred to as "slips" hereafter). These records are generally informal, unstandardized, and lack essential details such as the name, address, stamp, signature, etc. The continued use of such methods in the digital era is largely due to convenience, as they can be maintained with ease without requiring technical knowledge or external assistance.

During search and seizure operations, tax authorities often treat handwritten or printed slips as evidence of tax evasion. These slips may be found either at the taxpayer's own premises or at a third party's place, especially if the taxpayer's name appears on them. In both situations, the entries in these slips can result in higher tax assessments and demands.

This article examines the legal rules and court decisions that govern how tax authorities utilise such slips as evidence when making assessments.

II. Legal provisions under GST:

Section 67 empowers the GST officer to search and seize such goods, documents or books or things. The legal provision of the section 67(2) is reproduced below:

(2) Where the proper officer, not below the rank of Joint Commissioner, either pursuant to an inspection carried out under sub-section (1) or otherwise, has reasons to believe that any goods liable to confiscation or any documents or books or things, which in his opinion shall be useful for or relevant to any proceedings under this Act, are secreted in any place, he may authorise in writing any other officer

*of central tax to search and seize or may himself search and seize such **goods, documents or books or things**:*

Provided that where it is not practicable to seize any such goods, the proper officer, or any officer authorised by him, may serve on the owner or the custodian of the goods an order that he shall not remove, part with, or otherwise deal with the goods except with the previous permission of such officer:

Provided further that the documents or books or things so seized shall be retained by such officer only for so long as may be necessary for their examination and for any inquiry or proceedings under this Act.

Thus, loose slips, carbon copies, rough estimates, or handwritten diaries, note pads, etc., are seized on the pretext of being covered under the 'books' or 'documents' by the tax department.

Further, **Section 144** of the CGST Act, 2017 states a presumption as to documents in certain cases. The legal provisions are reproduced as under:

Where any document—

(i) is produced by any person under this Act or any other law for the time being in force; or

(ii) has been seized from the custody or control of any person under this Act or any other law for the time being in force; or

(iii) has been received from any place outside India in the course of any proceedings under this Act or any other law for the time being in force,

***and such document is tendered by the prosecution in evidence against him** or any other person who is tried jointly with him, the court shall—*

(a) unless the contrary is proved by such person, presume—



(i) the truth of the contents of such document;

(ii) that the signature and every other part of such document which purports to be in the handwriting of any particular person or which the court may reasonably assume to have been signed by, or to be in the handwriting of, any particular person, is in that person's handwriting, and in the case of a document executed or attested, that it was executed or attested by the person by whom it purports to have been so executed or attested;

(b) admit the document in evidence notwithstanding that it is not duly stamped, if such document is otherwise admissible in evidence.

Thus, Section 144 of the CGST Act, 2017, presumes that documents produced, seized, or received in GST proceedings are genuine and their contents true, including signatures and handwriting, unless the contrary is proved. Such documents are admissible even if not duly stamped. The burden lies on the person concerned to disprove this presumption. This aids tax authorities in relying on documents as evidence during assessments and investigations.

III. Legal provisions under the erstwhile Indian Evidence Act, 1872:

3. "Document" –

"Document" means any matter expressed or described upon any substance by means of letters, figures or marks, or by more than one of those means, intended to be used, or which may be used, for the purpose of recording that matter.

34. Entries in books of account when relevant-

Entries in the books of account, including those maintained in an electronic form, regularly kept in the course of business, are relevant whenever they refer to a matter into which the Court has to inquire, but such statements shall not alone be sufficient evidence to charge any person with liability.

The definition of 'document' as prescribed under section 2(1)(d) of the new law Bharatiya Sakhya Adhiniyam 2023 (BNS) is also somewhat in a similar line with the inclusion of electronic and digital records. Further, section 28 of BNS is pari-materia to the above provision of section 34 of the Evidence Act.

IV. Whether loose slips are 'books':

The first point that needs discussion is whether

such loose slips are the 'books' of the taxpayer?

Loose slips or sheets are not considered "books of account" under taxation laws. Books of account must be regular, systematic records, like ledgers or cash books. Loose slips are mere auxiliary notes or "dumb documents" that lack evidentiary value without corroboration. If such loose slips suggest transactions not recorded in proper books, they must be disregarded for assessment purposes. This well-established law prevents assessments based solely on unverified or non-speaking documents without corroborative evidence. In short, loose slips do not qualify as formal books of account and cannot form the sole basis for tax assessments.

It is worthwhile to mention that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in case of *CBI v. V.C. Shukla 1998 taxmann. com 2155 (SC)* popularly known as Jain Hawala Case wherein it was held that any presumption of transaction on some vague, tenuous and dubious entries in a sheet of paper is not rational and hence legal unless there is corroboration by corresponding entry in regular accounts of both the parties to the transaction. In this case, it was held that entries in Jain Notebooks, based on facts admissible under Section 34, are admissible. However, **a file containing loose sheets of paper is not a "book," and hence, entries therein are not admissible under Section 34.** Further, it was also held in this case that entries in books of account shall not alone be sufficient evidence to charge any person with liability. Entries, even if relevant, are only corroborative evidence. Independent evidence as to the trustworthiness of those entries is necessary to fasten the liability. In view of these facts, it was held by the Honourable Supreme Court that entries made in the Jain Hawala diaries are under Section 34, but truthfulness thereof was not proved by any independent evidence.

It was also held in this case that "books" ordinarily mean a collection of sheets of paper or other material, blank, written, printed, fastened or bound together so as to form a material whole. Loose sheets or scraps of paper cannot be termed as "book" for they can be easily detached and replaced. The Supreme Court further went on to state that even correct and authentic entries in books of account cannot, without independent evidence of their trustworthiness, fix a liability upon a person.

The above view further gathers reinforcement from



the latter judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *Common Cause (A registered society) and others Vs. UOI*, [2017] 77 taxmann.com 245-11.01.2017 popularly known Sahara dairies and Aditya Birla dairies case. In this case, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, following the judgment rendered in the case of *V.C. Shukla (supra)*, laid down the following principles:

- (i) Entries in loose papers/sheets are irrelevant and not admissible under Section 34 of the Evidence Act. It is only where the entries are in the books of account regularly kept, depending on the nature of the occupation, that those are admissible;
- (ii) As to the value of entries in the books of account, such statement shall not alone be sufficient evidence to charge any person with liability, even if they are relevant and admissible, and that they are only corroborative evidence. Even then, independent evidence is necessary as to the trustworthiness of those entries, which is a requirement to fasten the liability.
- (iii) The meaning of an account book would be a spiral notebook/pad, but not loose sheets;
- (iv) Entries in books of account are not by themselves sufficient to charge any person with liability, the reason being that a man cannot be allowed to make evidence for himself by what he chooses to write in his own books behind the back of the parties. There must be independent evidence of the transaction to which the entries relate, and in the absence of such evidence, no relief can be given to the party who relies upon such entries to support his claim against another.
- (v) Even if books of account are regularly kept in the ordinary course of business, the entries therein shall not alone be sufficient evidence to charge any person with liability. It is not enough merely to prove that the books have been regularly kept in the course of business and the entries therein are

correct. It is further incumbent upon the person relying upon those entries to prove that they were in accordance with facts;

- (vi) The Court has to be on guard while ordering an investigation against any important Constitutional functionary, officers or any person in the absence of some cogent legally cognizable material. When the material on the basis of which the investigation is sought is itself irrelevant to constitute evidence, it is not admissible in evidence.

Thus, it is clear that the loose slips are not the 'books' and not admissible u/s 34 of the Evidence Act, 1872 (now u/s 28 of the new law of BSA, 2023)

V. **GST is a levy on 'Supply':**

The taxable event under GST is the supply of goods or services made in the course or furtherance of business for a consideration, which triggers the liability to pay GST. Further, section 9 prescribes the mechanism for the levy and collection of the GST. **Thus, until and unless a transaction qualifies to be a supply and falls within the four walls of sections 7 and 9, no GST can be levied.**

Entries found in loose slips, note pads, handwritten diaries, etc., are not admissible u/s 34 because they are not books of accounts. However, even if it is presumed to be admissible evidence, such transactions must also be corroborated by relevant supporting materials. While the tax department may initiate proceedings based on such documents but the final conclusion depends on the entirety of the material evidence gathered.

For example, let us assume the tax department seized some handwritten loose slips/estimate slips from the business premises of a taxpayer on account of sales transactions executed. Now, to conclude such slips as a supply transaction under GST, it needs to be first established who was the author of such slips, how the goods mentioned in such slips were transported/delivered/dispatched, what was the source of goods supplied, to whom such goods were delivered, how the sales consideration was derived, how the transactions stated were actually executed, etc. etc. In this process, it is compulsory to examine all the parties to the purported transactions, viz., the person maintaining such slips, the recipient, transporter,



staff, etc. Thus, until and unless such an examination is done, mere such slips or admission by the owner in his statement *per se* cannot be grounds to consider the transaction as a supply. Further admission, if any, made by the owner/staff in their statement is also subject to the relevancy test laid down u/s 136 of the CGST Act, 2017. Thus, unlike the Income Tax law, under GST, a mere receipt cannot be considered as 'supply' until and unless clinching evidence of actual supply is placed on record in the assessment.

VI. **Judicial precedents:**

It is a settled legal position that a non-speaking document, which lacks any supporting evidence or corroboration and does not clearly show transactions leading to taxable supplies not recorded in the regular books of account, must be disregarded in assessments following search and seizure. Such non-explanatory seized documents are commonly called "Dumb Documents" from a search and seizure standpoint. Simply finding these documents cannot by itself justify any tax additions unless supported by additional evidence proving their connection to undisclosed transactions or supply. There is a catena of judgments under the Income Tax law where an assessment based on such loose slips was completely disregarded by the Courts and Tribunals. Let us analyse some of the judgements:

- The Mumbai ITAT, in the case of **S.P. Goyal v. Dy. CIT [2002] 82 ITD 85 (Mum.) (TM)** held as under:

"..... loose papers cannot be termed as books of an assessee maintained for any previous year. Loose sheet of paper torn out of a diary could not be construed as books for the purpose of section 68. Addition could not be made simply on the basis of certain notings on loose sheets of a diary without any corroborative evidence in the form of extra cash, jewellery or investment outside the books. The loose papers appear to be part of a 1992 diary. However, these loose papers consist of pages torn out from March, April, November and December. There are no closing balances or opening balances, and there is no reconciliation of these entries. Therefore, it cannot be termed as books maintained by the assessee during the previous year. . . . The loose paper in itself has got no intrinsic value. ...When it is a mere entry on a loose sheet of paper, and if the assessee claims that it was only a planning, not supported by actual

cash, then there has to be circumstantial evidence to support that this entry really represents cash of Rs. 60 lakhs. There is no such evidence found by the Revenue in the form of extra cash, jewellery or investment outside the books."

- On the similar lines, the Mumbai ITAT in the case of **Amarjit Singh Bakshi (HUF) v. Asstt. CIT [2003] 86 ITD 13 (Delhi) (TM)** held that any noting in the loose sheet is no evidence by itself. An entry in the books of account maintained in the regular course of business is relevant for purposes of considering the nature and impact of a transaction, but noting on slips of paper or loose sheets of paper cannot fall in this category. Notings on loose sheets of paper are required to be supported/corroborated by other evidence, which may include the statement of a person who admittedly is a party to the notings. It was further observed in that case that the provisions of the Indian Evidence Act are not strictly applicable to the proceedings under the IT Act, but the broad principles of law of evidence do apply to such proceedings.

- The Hon'ble Supreme Court has held in **Ramji Dayawala & Sons(P) Ltd. Vs. Invert Import AIR 1981 SC 2085** that the:

"Mere proof of the handwriting of a document is not tantamount to a proof of all the contents or the facts stated in the document, if the truth of the contents stated in a document is in issue, mere proof of the handwriting and execution of the document would not furnish evidence of the truth of the fact or contents of the document. The truth or otherwise of the fact or contents so stated would have to be proved by admissible evidence, i.e., by the evidence of those persons who can vouch for the truth of the fact in issue."

- The Hon'ble Apex court held in **Mohd. Yusuf (Sir) Vs. D FAIR 1968 Bom 1121**,

The contents contained in the document are hearsay evidence unless the writer is examined before the court. The Hon'ble Court, thereof, held that the attempt to prove the contents of the document by proving the signatures of the handwriting of the author thereof is to set at nought the well-recognised rule that hearsay evidence cannot be admitted. If we consider the said piece of paper seized during the search in light of definition of the word "Document" as given in the Indian Evidence Act and General Clauses Act and truthfulness of the contents thereof in



the light of the aforesaid decision of the Hon'ble SC, we find that said paper contains jottings of certain figures by the same dose not describe or express the substance of any transaction and even if the said paper has been seized from the possession of the assessee the contents thereof are not capable of describing the transactions the way AO has deciphered them without support of corroborative evidence of the parties attributed to alleged transaction. The said paper, therefore, does not come within the compass of the definition of "Document", to be used as evidence. The papers seized have no evidential value and hence cannot be a basis to tax undisclosed income."

- It shall not be out of place to mention that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *K.P. Varghese v. ITO [1981] 24 CTR (SC)358/[1981] 131 ITR 597 (SC)* held that the fictional receipt cannot be deemed to be a receipt in the absence of any cogent material to support the factum of actual receipt.

- It is held in *PCIT Vs. Deico (India) Pvt. Ltd. (2016) 67 Taxmann.Com 357 (Del)*, "no addition could be made under Section 68 on the basis of loose papers found during search in this case indicating assessee's transaction with a company, when assessee not only denied having any dealings with the said company but also produced all necessary details for AO to make necessary inquiries and a letter from director of that company confirming that the said company did not have any transaction with assessee".

- In *D.A. Patel Vs. Dy. CIT 2000 72 ITD 340 Mumbai* held that simply because a sheet of paper was found during the search at the premises of an assessee, he could not be saddled with a tax liability unless it could conceivably be reasonably related to the assessee.

- *The Hyderabad bench of ITAT in the case of Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd., Vs. Dy. CIT 2012 (23) Taxmann.com 239.* The basis for addition is only loose slips. These notebooks, loose slips are unsigned documents not establishing a nexus between the loose slips and with actual receipt of interest. The loose slips seized during the course of the search are a dump document having no evidentiary value; no addition can be made as material.

- The Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Madras in *Commissioner of Income Tax, Salem Vs. M/s.S. Khader Khan Son - DB, dt.. 04.07.2007* -Para 5.1, followed the decision in *Pullankode Rubber Produce Co. Ltd., Vs. State of Keraia 1973 (91) ITR 18*, the Apex court held

that an admission is extreme to an important piece of evidence, but it cannot be said that it is conclusive, and it is open to the person who made the admission to show that it is incorrect.

- In *Dy. CIT v. Kroral Aggarwal [1994] 50 TTJ (Jab.) 393*, a diary seized during a search contained certain jottings. The Tribunal held that the jottings in the diary neither represented books of account nor any document, and, therefore, the presumption under section 132 (4A) was not available, and the addition made on the basis of the said jottings was deleted

- The Mumbai ITAT in the case of *ACIT V Layer Exports P. Ltd. [2017]184 TTJ 469 (MUM)* held that additions are to be made based on tangible evidence and not solely on the basis of estimations and extrapolation theory. Additions could not be sustained merely on the basis of rough notings made on a few loose sheets of paper unless the AO brought on record some independent and corroborative materials to prove irrefutably that the notings revealed either unaccounted income or unaccounted investment, or unaccounted expenditure of the assessee. Additions could not be made simply on the basis of rough scribbles made by some unidentified person on a few loose sheets of paper. Since these sized papers were undated, had no acceptable narration and did not bear the signature of the assessee or any other party, they were in the nature of dumb documents having no evidentiary value and could not be taken as the sole basis for determination of undisclosed income of the assessee, thus, no addition can be made by AO on grossly inadequate material or rather no material at all and as such deserved to be deleted.

Therefore, the well-settled legal position is that a non-document referred to as a 'Dumb Document' without any corroborative material, evidence on record and finding that such document has materialized into transactions giving rise to income or supply made by the assessee which had not been disclosed in the regular books of account by such assessee, has to be disregarded for the purposes of assessments to be framed under a taxing statute. The same principle will hold goods for the purpose of GST assessments too.

VII. Concluding remarks:

It is thus evident that loose papers or slips detected during a search proceedings should be properly arranged, authenticated, and backed by independent evidence like books of account, bank



records, or a voluntary and reliable statement before any addition to be sustained. In income-tax cases, courts and tribunals have repeatedly held that loose sheets or diary notes are merely “dumb documents” unless supported by corroboration.

Under GST, although the statutory framework is different, the same principle will be applicable. Seizure of documents by itself does not automatically justify a tax demand. The department must establish a clear legal and factual nexus between the seized material and the supply actually made by the taxpayer. Further, the GST law contains specific provisions for making available copies of seized documents, thereby ensuring that the taxpayer can effectively defend their case using

the very material relied upon by the authorities. Thus, the taxpayer in such cases should seek copies of the seized records to defend their case properly.

Disclaimer: The above views are compiled by the author based on the study of various legal provisions, judicial pronouncements, etc. There may be some other views also on this subject matter. So, the readers are requested to refer to facts of each case, relevant provisions of the statute, latest judicial pronouncements, circulars, clarifications, etc., of the respective law and obtain legal opinion before acting on the above write-up.

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Navigating from Books to Bytes: Understanding the Digital Personal Data Protection Act for the CA Profession



CA. (Dr.) Kamal Mour

Introduction

In today's increasingly digital economy—marked by cloud-based accounting, online transactions, remote work, and widespread use of mobile devices—personal data has emerged as a critical asset for both individuals and organisations. With this growing value comes a heightened responsibility to protect it. Acknowledging the need to safeguard individual privacy while supporting India's digital growth ambitions, the Parliament of India enacted the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (DPDP Act) on 11 August 2023.

The DPDP Act is India's first comprehensive statutory framework focused on the protection, processing, and governance of digital personal data. With its recent implementation—alongside the newly notified Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025 (DPDP Rules 2025)—the law now has direct implications for CA firms, auditors, corporate accountants, and all professionals who handle client or employee data.

This article seeks to explain the key contours of the Act and Rules, reflect on implications for chartered accountants and corporate India, and suggest the way forward — an approach that balances compliance, data-governance and leveraging data-driven growth responsibly.

The Need for Data Protection

The explosion of digital transactions, online services, e-commerce, fintech, digital banking, remote working, and cloud-based operations has massively increased the collection, storage, sharing and processing of individuals' personal data. This data ranges from basic identifiers (name, contact, address) to sensitive information such as financial history, income,

transaction records, identity proofs, location data, employment history, etc.

In 2017, in the landmark case of *Puttaswamy v. Union of India*, the Supreme Court recognised the right to privacy as a fundamental right, laying the foundation for stronger legal safeguards for personal data.

Before DPDP, India's data-protection regime under the IT Act and various rules (especially for "sensitive personal data or information — SPDI") was fragmented and inadequate to address emerging risks such as large-scale profiling, targeted marketing, cross-border data transfers, data breaches, identity theft, and misuse of personal/financial data.

The DPDP Act thus emerged at a critical juncture: it recognises individuals' right to privacy while seeking to balance it with India's aspirations for digital growth, data-driven services, fintech innovation, and global business expansion.

Key Features of the DPDP Act (and Rules)

- The DPDP Act is restricted to digital personal data. This includes data that is collected directly in digital format, as well as data first obtained in physical form but later converted into digital records. Personal data that is never digitized remains outside the applicability of the DPDP Act.
- The Act extends to the entire territory of India. It also has extra-territorial application, meaning that it applies to processing of digital personal data carried out outside India, where such processing is in connection with offering goods or services to individuals (Data Principals) located within India.
- Key defined roles:



- ✓ **Data Principal** – The natural person to whom the personal data relates and who is the subject of such data.
- ✓ **Data Fiduciary** – The person, company, or entity that determines the purpose and means of processing personal data, and therefore holds primary responsibility for compliance.
- ✓ **Data Processor** – A person or organisation that processes personal data on behalf of a Data Fiduciary. Importantly, while processing activities may be outsourced, the legal accountability for compliance continues to rest with the Data Fiduciary.

Thus, for CA firms, audit firms, corporate clients — if you handle digital personal data of clients/employees — you are likely to be Data Fiduciaries (or act as Data Processors under engagements) under DPDP.

Principles and Rights under the Act

The DPDP Act is founded on a set of fundamental data protection principles.

Key among them:

- **Consent & Transparency** – Processing should generally rely on free, informed, specific, and unambiguous consent from the Data Principal. Consent must be obtained separately and not bundled with other terms.
- **Purpose Limitation & Data Minimisation** – Personal data may be collected only for a lawful, specific purpose, and only to the extent necessary for that purpose.
- **Storage Limitation & Erasure** – Data should not be retained longer than required. Once the purpose is achieved or consent is withdrawn, it must be deleted, unless a law requires continued retention.
- **Accuracy, Security & Accountability** – Data must be accurate and kept up to date; appropriate security measures must be adopted; and Data Fiduciaries remain responsible even when data is processed by third parties.
- **Children and Vulnerable Persons** – Special safeguards apply to processing the data of minors and persons lacking capacity, including requirements such as parental or guardian consent.

The Act also confers key rights on Data Principals: to access their personal data, review it, seek correction or erasure, withdraw consent, and file grievances. In addition, an individual may appoint a “consent manager” to manage their data-related requests on their behalf,

including in situations such as death or incapacity.

Institutional Mechanism & Enforcement

A central feature of the DPDP Act is the creation of a dedicated regulatory and adjudicatory body—the Data Protection Board of India (DPBI). The DPBI is responsible for handling grievances, monitoring compliance, and imposing penalties for non-compliance.

In the event of a breach or data leak, Data Fiduciaries must notify the DPBI, disclosing the nature, extent, timing, causes, consequences, and the remedial steps taken.

The penalties prescribed are significant. For serious violations and large-scale data breaches, fines can go up to ₹250 crore, and even less severe contraventions may result in substantial monetary penalties.

Accordingly, for organisations and professional firms that process large volumes of client or employee data, compliance is not merely advisable—it is essential.

What DPDP Means for Chartered Accountants & CA-Firms

As Chartered Accountants, audit firms, tax consultants, corporate advisors — we hold a unique position: we deal with sensitive financial, identity and transaction data of clients, employees, directors, vendors, etc. With the DPDP Act now in force, and its Rules operationalised, the following implications arise:

1. Data Inventory & Mapping Becomes Imperative

We will need to know — in clear detail — what personal data we collect, when, and why:

- Client onboarding data (KYC documents, PAN, address proofs, bank account details)
- Employee records (name, address, contact, salary, bank account, PAN, possibly biometric data)
- Correspondence, email addresses, phone numbers, digital records of communication
- Financial transaction data, audit trails, vendors’ data

A proper data-inventory and data-flow mapping becomes the first step towards compliance. Many firms may need to draw data flow diagrams, categorise data collection, storage, processing, sharing, deletion points — besides documenting purposes, consent, retention periods.

2. Consent, Privacy Notice & Client Communication

Where we collect personal data (e.g. from clients,



employees), we must obtain explicit, informed consent — which must be separate, clear, and unambiguous. Bundled standard consent (e.g. “I also authorize you to process my data for other purposes”) may no longer suffice.

Our firm will need to have clear privacy-notices — describing what data is collected, why, how it will be used, stored, any sharing, retention and deletion periods — in clear language.

Given CA firms’ professional reputation, transparent communication about data-privacy may well become a differentiator and competitive advantage.

3. Data Retention & Deletion Policies

Once the specific purpose is fulfilled — e.g. completion of assignment, storage no longer required — the personal data must be erased (unless there is a statutory or regulatory requirement to retain it).

This has consequences for how long audit/engagement files are retained, how backups are maintained, how old client records are archived or deleted. Firms may need to review their data-management lifecycle and align with retention/deletion obligations under DPDP.

4. Vendor & Outsourced Services Compliance

CA firms frequently outsource functions such as payroll processing, bookkeeping, data entry, IT hosting, cloud storage, backups, and AR/AP management. Under the DPDP Act, however, even when data is handled by third-party vendors (data processors), ultimate legal responsibility continues to rest with the Data Fiduciary — namely, the CA firm or its client.

Hence, outsourcing agreements must be re-examined — firms may need to enter into proper “Data Processing Agreements (DPAs)”, ensure vendor compliance, due diligence, audit trails, data-security safeguards, contractual commitments, and oversight.

5. Reporting Obligations & Risk Management

Given the stringent penalties — and reputational risk — firms must prepare for the possibility of data breaches, accidental leaks, ransomware attacks, or insider misuse.

A robust internal data-privacy policy, breach-reporting mechanism, role of a Data Protection Officer (if required), periodic data audits, access control, encryption, secure backups — all these become essential.

Further, with the DPDP Rules having been notified recently (November 2025), firms should treat this as

an opportune time to proactively prepare, rather than waiting until compliance deadlines approach.

Challenges, Concerns and Critiques

While the DPDP Act–Rules mark a landmark advance, certain features (and omissions) raise challenges, especially for businesses and professional firms.

- **No distinction between “sensitive personal data” and “ordinary personal data”:** Unlike certain other data-protection laws (like EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)), the DPDP Act treats all personal data uniformly — there is no higher obligation for more sensitive data. This may limit the protection for highly sensitive financial or identity data, unless interpreted stringently.
- **Heavy compliance burden:** Especially for small and mid-sized CA firms or SMEs — collecting consent separately, maintaining data-inventory, encryption, audits, deletion, vendor compliance — the costs and administrative burden may be substantial.
- **Enforcement clarity & capacity:** While the DPBI is envisaged as the enforcement body, practical capacity, timelines, clarity on adjudication process, appeals, and consistency remain to evolve.
- **Cross-border operations, data transfers:** For multinational clients, global audit firms, or off-shore outsourcing, navigating cross-border transfer requirements (including government-approved jurisdictions, adequate safeguards) may complicate workflows.
- **Awareness & readiness:** Many professionals, small firms may not yet be fully aware of obligations or lack a structured compliance mindset. Awareness campaigns and capacity building will be needed.

The Way Forward: What Should Chartered Accountants & Firms Do Now

Given the importance and the challenges, here is a roadmap — a set of practical steps that CA-firms, corporate finance teams, accounting and audit professionals should consider in the coming months to comply, adapt and leverage the DPDP regime:

1. Conduct a Data Audit / Data Inventory

- Map all personal data collected, processed, stored, shared.
- Categorise data (clients, employees, vendors, third parties).
- Understand the lifecycle: collection → processing → storage → retention → deletion.



2. Draft or Update Privacy Policies & Consent Mechanisms

- o Prepare a clear privacy notice describing data collection, purpose, usage, retention, third-party sharing, deletion.
- o Ensure consent forms are separate, clear, unambiguous (no bundled consent).
- o Provide mechanisms for clients/employees to withdraw consent, ask for deletion / correction / grievance.

3. Establish Data Governance & Security Framework

- o Adopt suitable security safeguards: encryption, access control, role-based access, secure storage/backups.
- o Where required—particularly if the firm is classified as a “Significant Data Fiduciary” (SDF)—it should consider appointing a Data Protection Officer (DPO), engaging independent auditors, and carrying out Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs).
- o Introduce internal policies for breach reporting, data breach response, retention & deletion schedule.

4. Re-examine Vendor Contracts & Outsourcing Agreements

- o For any outsourced services (payroll, bookkeeping, IT, cloud services), execute Data Processing Agreements (DPAs).
- o Ensure the vendor is compliant with DPDP obligations; the firm remains legally accountable.

5. Capacity Building & Awareness

- o Train partners, staff, associates about data-privacy obligations under DPDP — what constitutes personal data, what is consent, how to manage data securely.
- o Sensitise clients about the law and obtain proper consent.

6. Leverage Compliance as a Value Proposition

- o For corporate clients or high-net-worth clients increasingly aware of data privacy risks, positioning compliance as a sign of professional integrity can be a differentiator.
- o Adoption of robust data-governance can improve trust, client confidence, and reduce compliance/legal risk — thereby protecting reputation and long-term viability.

Broader Implications for Indian Economy & Profession

The DPDP Act signals a shift in India’s regulatory framework: from fragmented, piecemeal rules towards a comprehensive, principles-based law that aims to balance privacy, individual rights and economic growth. With digital transactions, fintech, cloud computing, data analytics, AI/ML-based services, regulatory compliance will now become part of the foundational infrastructure for doing business in India.

For the accounting profession, this law offers an opportunity: to lead by example. CA-firms can become pioneers of data-governance professionalism, advising clients on data compliance, privacy audits, data-risk management, and internal controls. This can open new service lines — data-privacy consulting, compliance audits, vendor assessments, data-protection certifications, etc.

At a macro level, robust data-protection builds trust — for consumers, customers, investors — which can support growth in digital services, fintech, financial inclusion, remote services, and cross-border business.

Conclusion — Towards a Responsible & Trusted Digital Future

The enactment and operationalisation of the DPDP Act and its accompanying Rules mark a watershed moment in India’s journey towards building a digital economy grounded in respect for individual privacy, transparency and accountability. For chartered accountants, audit firms, corporate financial professionals and businesses, the new regime calls for conscious transformation — from treating personal data as an incidental by-product to managing it as a critical asset with legal, ethical, and reputational consequences.

While compliance will demand effort — in terms of data audits, policy implementation, vendor management, security controls — the benefits are equally significant: reduced legal risk, enhanced client trust, strengthened corporate governance, and opportunity to offer new services in data governance and compliance.

In this sense, the DPDP Act is not just a compliance burden — it is an opportunity. An opportunity for the accounting profession to evolve, a chance to lead in building trustworthy systems, and a step towards a digital future where growth and privacy go hand in hand.

As India moves ahead, digital data will continue to be central to business, finance, governance, and public services. The way forward lies not only in navigating rules — but in embedding a culture of data responsibility, ethics and respect for individual privacy. In that endeavor, chartered accountants have a crucial role to play.



ESI Applicability to Chartered Accountancy Firms: A Legal, Practical and Emerging Framework Review



CA. Mohan Agarwal
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1. Introduction

The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 (ESI Act) is one of India's foundational social-security legislations. While its application to factories and notified establishments is well-known, the question of whether Chartered Accountancy (CA) firms fall within its ambit has gained prominence in recent years, especially with the wider expansion of the ESI scheme by various State Governments and the planned implementation of the Code on Social Security, 2020.

For practising Chartered Accountants who employ staff, often in significant numbers and performing critical functions, the issue is not merely academic. It has direct implications on compliance exposure, employee benefits strategy, and the evolving duty of care in a professional environment.

This article examines the statutory framework, judicial interpretation, State-level position (with emphasis on Assam), and emerging trends to answer a practical question: Can a Chartered Accountancy firm be covered under the ESI Act?

2. Statutory Background of the ESI Act

The ESI Act originally applied only to factories. Over time, under Section 1(5), State Governments have issued notifications extending its coverage to additional "classes of establishments", often including:

- Shops
- Commercial establishments
- Hotels and restaurants
- Road transport undertakings

- Educational institutions
- Medical institutions, and others

In most States, including Assam, the practical threshold applied is 10 or more employees for mandatory ESI coverage (subject to wage-limit eligibility for benefits). The Act applies only to employees earning up to the ESI wage ceiling (₹21,000 per month).

3. Are Chartered Accountancy Firms "Establishments" under ESI?

This question revolves around whether a CA firm can be categorised as a shop or commercial establishment, the two classifications most commonly used in State notifications.

The Gujarat High Court has held that a Chartered Accountancy firm is not a "shop" or "commercial establishment" for the purposes of ESI. The Court noted that CA firms are professional establishments, governed by the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, rendering specialised services dependent on professional skill, judgement and statutory recognition. Therefore, merely issuing a notification covering "shops and commercial establishments" does not automatically bring CA firms within ESI's ambit.

This decision, although not from Assam, is persuasive and consistent with earlier jurisprudence involving other professions (e.g., law firms).

The judicial interpretation rests on the inherent distinction between professional activity and commercial enterprise. Chartered Accountancy practice is fundamentally centred on intellectual judgement, specialised knowledge, statutory responsibilities, and client-specific professional



engagements, rather than the sale of goods or routine commercial transactions. Further, a CA firm operates as a regulated profession governed by the Chartered Accountants Act and the strict standards prescribed by the ICAI, which impose professional norms and ethical obligations not applicable to ordinary commercial establishments. Additionally, the nature of service delivery in a CA practice extends far beyond the office premises, with substantial work being carried out at client locations, during audits, inspections, hearings, and other statutory or field-based assignments. These characteristics collectively support the judicial view that CA firms constitute professional establishments rather than shops or commercial entities for the purposes of ESI applicability.

Thus, under traditional interpretation, CA firms are not automatically considered “establishments” for ESI applicability unless a specific notification includes professional firms.

4. Assam-Specific Position

While Assam has indeed expanded the scope of ESI coverage, most notably by bringing educational institutions with 20 or more employees under the Act through a specific State notification, the Government has not issued any similar notification extending ESI to professional firms such as Chartered Accountants, Lawyers, Architects, Company Secretaries, or Consultants. Consequently, a CA firm in Assam is not presently regarded as a compulsorily covered establishment, and even where the number of employees exceeds ten, ESI authorities would still require a distinct State notification to formally include CA firms within the ambit of the Act. For a typical Chartered Accountancy practice employing between five and twenty individuals, the prevailing legal position therefore indicates no mandatory requirement for ESI registration, unless future notifications alter the landscape or ESIC implements a uniform national approach under the new labour code framework.

5. Practical Implications for CA Firms

A. Mandatory Registration

A CA firm is not presently required to obtain ESI registration unless specifically notified by the State Government or unless ESIC reclassifies professional offices under a broader definition of “establishment”.

B. Voluntary Registration

Under the Code on Social Security, 2020, which is yet to be fully implemented across all States, establishments employing fewer than ten persons may opt for voluntary coverage under the ESI framework. However, the acceptance of such applications rests entirely at the

discretion of the ESIC, and the approach taken varies among regional offices. Consequently, while firms seeking to extend statutory medical and social security benefits to their employees may consider applying for voluntary registration, they should do so with the understanding that approval is not assured.

C. Employee Welfare Strategy

In the absence of mandatory ESI coverage, Chartered Accountancy firms may consider alternative avenues for employee welfare, such as group health insurance, accidental and term insurance policies, OPD and wellness plans, or professional indemnity-linked employee protection schemes. These benefit structures often provide broader and more customised coverage than the ESI scheme and can significantly enhance the firm’s employer value proposition in an increasingly competitive talent market.

6. Key Takeaways

For practicing Chartered Accountants, several key considerations emerge regarding ESI applicability. A CA firm is generally treated as a professional establishment rather than a commercial one, and judicial precedent, most notably from the Gujarat High Court, supports the view that such firms are not automatically covered under the ESI framework. In Assam, the position is even clearer, as no specific State notification currently extends ESI coverage to CA firms. Practices employing fewer than ten individuals remain outside the scope of mandatory ESI compliance under all prevailing interpretations. While voluntary coverage may be available under the forthcoming Social Security Code, its acceptance is subject to ESIC’s discretion. Accordingly, CA firms should proactively maintain robust employee-welfare measures independent of ESI requirements.

7. Conclusion

The applicability of the ESI Act to Chartered Accountancy firms continues to be shaped by judicial interpretation, administrative policy, and evolving labour reforms. As of now, a CA firm, whether in Assam or many other States, does not fall under mandatory ESI coverage unless specifically notified.

However, with the gradual implementation of the Code on Social Security, 2020, and the increasing emphasis on universal social protection, firms may soon find themselves within a broader, harmonised compliance framework.

For practising Chartered Accountants, proactive awareness, employee-centric policies, and periodic legal review remain essential to staying prepared for future regulatory shifts.



Working Capital – Understanding, Importance, Optimal Utilisation & Funding Options (Including Promoter's Margin)



CA. ANKIT JAIN (M No. 300601)

Working capital is widely regarded as the lifeblood of any business. Regardless of whether a company operates in manufacturing, trading, or services, its ability to manage day-to-day operations efficiently depends on the adequacy of its working capital. A business may appear profitable on paper, yet without sufficient liquidity even large organisations can struggle with operational delays, financial stress, and in extreme situations, insolvency. This article aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of working capital, its importance, optimal utilisation techniques, and various sources of funding, including the contribution required from promoters.

Working capital essentially refers to the funds needed to meet a business's short-term operational requirements. It may be viewed in terms of **Gross Working Capital**, which comprises all current assets such as inventory, receivables, cash & bank balances, and short-term advances; or **Net Working Capital**, which is the difference between current assets and current liabilities and represents the liquidity cushion available to the business. Equally important is the **Working Capital Cycle**, which measures the time taken to convert cash into inventory, then into receivables, and finally back into cash. A shorter cycle generally indicates stronger liquidity and better operational efficiency.

The importance of working capital cannot be overstated. Adequate working capital ensures smooth day-to-day functioning, enabling timely procurement of raw materials, payment of salaries, utility costs, logistics charges and other operating expenses. It also plays a

crucial role in enhancing the creditworthiness of the organisation, as banks, vendors and investors closely monitor a company's liquidity position to assess its financial stability. A robust working capital base supports revenue growth, since expanding sales often requires higher inventory and longer credit periods. Additionally, adequate liquidity provides a buffer during adverse business conditions such as market slowdowns, supply chain disruptions or delays in customer payments. From a banking perspective, working capital levels are central to determining drawing power, limit assessments and promoter's contribution requirements.

Optimal utilisation of working capital does not simply mean increasing or reducing it; rather, it involves balancing liquidity with operational efficiency. Companies must focus on efficient inventory management through techniques such as JIT, ABC analysis and EOQ, while avoiding excess stocking. Receivables must be controlled through strict credit policies, timely reconciliation and adoption of digital invoicing and payment systems. Similarly, better management of payables, including negotiating favourable credit terms and leveraging supplier financing, can significantly ease liquidity pressures. Regular preparation of cash flow statements, close monitoring of variances and adoption of technology-driven solutions such as ERP systems, automated reconciliations and AI-based forecasting tools are essential components of efficient working capital management. Companies should also remain vigilant about cost control, optimising procurement, logistics and reducing non-essential expenses. Ultimately, efficient utilisation results in lower reliance



on borrowings and reduced interest costs, directly improving profitability.

Working capital funding is available from both internal and external sources. Internal sources include retained profits, depreciation (as a non-cash expense), improved collections, faster inventory turnover and extended payables within ethical limits. These reduce dependence on external borrowing. External sources, on the other hand, include traditional bank finance such as cash credit, overdraft facilities, working capital demand loans, short-term loans, bill discounting, invoice financing, packing credit, and non-fund based instruments like letters of credit and bank guarantees. Other avenues include trade credit from suppliers, factoring or invoice discounting arrangements with banks or NBFCs, commercial papers for highly rated companies, inter-corporate deposits and, in select cases, external commercial borrowings under regulatory guidelines.

A critical component of any working capital sanction is the **promoter's margin**, representing the contribution made by the promoters from their own funds. Banks insist on promoter's margin to ensure commitment, risk-sharing and to prevent excessive dependence on borrowed funds. For instance, if the total working capital requirement is ₹10 crore and the bank funds 75%, then promoters must bring in the remaining ₹2.5 crore.

Promoters typically meet this requirement through capital infusion, internal accruals, subordinated unsecured loans (sometimes treated as quasi-equity) or retained earnings. This margin plays a pivotal role in strengthening the company's liquidity foundation and earning the trust of lenders.

For businesses aiming to maintain financial discipline, certain best practices are essential. These include maintaining a healthy current ratio (often around 1.25:1 as per banking norms), ensuring updated and reconciled stock records, conducting periodic ageing analysis of receivables and payables, preparing quarterly projected financial statements, avoiding diversion of working capital to long-term assets, and establishing a dedicated working capital management committee—especially in larger organisations.

In conclusion, working capital management is far more than an accounting or finance function; it is a strategic pillar essential to the sustainable growth of any enterprise. By understanding its components and implementing strong monitoring and optimisation practices, companies can significantly improve operational efficiency and overall profitability. Organisations that excel in working capital management reduce dependence on external funding, enhance credit ratings, and build stronger foundations for long-term growth.



'Lake' of Patience or 'Lack' of Patience



CA. Saurav Somani
Membership no. 306991

Having watched a local theatre show, one of my friends remarked: "How passionate the performers were! Contagious! Really, it's the passion that keeps you on the track!" To this, another friend quipped, "Passion is needed, I agree. But what really keeps you moving till the end is patience." His words made an impact and got me into thinking.

Think. How do you feel when you do what you really love to do? Your adrenaline pumps up, a glowing smile lights your face, you throw yourself completely in the throes of creation, and no matter how much you toil hour by hour, day and night, you aren't exhausted in the least. In short, you are passionate about your passion, your dreams, aren't you? Your passion is what wakes you up early in the morning, it is the fuel that lets you burn the midnight oil, it is the impetus that ignites you to take the plunge. Passion, undoubtedly, is the prerequisite for any success.

Speaking of success, however, sometimes, despite passionately sowing your efforts, the result does not reap the way you've expected it to reap. You are putting up your best efforts, doing everything that needs to be done, sailing in the right direction, and yet, the horizon of success seems still far away. Despair and desperation, as obvious consequences, dive in and douse the fire of your passion. Well, this happens to the best of us. And that is when the element of

patience comes to the rescue.

Patience is the much-needed pause – the need to halt, to look around, reflect on the past, learn from the mistakes, take a respite, enjoy the 'now' and accept what 'is' – so as to begin again afresh, with passion! Remember: With Passion, you begin to climb the mountain. And with patience, you can continue to climb the mountain and reach the top.

We live in a rapidly-changing era: a fast-changing economy, digitalization, Internet of Things, nanotech inventions, et al. In fact, with the abundance of technological resources that are globally accessible, one can literally achieve anything at the click of a mouse. Today's youngsters are resorting to social media like YouTube, Wattpad, Facebook and Twitter to share their creative skills, reach millions of people and make millions in the process. The youth's passion is indeed praiseworthy. Nevertheless, in this age of cut-throat competition and materialism, there is an ill-induced essence of rush: the desperate pursuit of wealth, unstoppable desire to attain goals in short time, unhealthy comparisons and unwieldy expectations. In short, this essence of rush and urgency can be put as 'lack of patience.'

Consider this example: Shreya, a teenager, is passionate about modern dance. Inspired by



YouTube channels, where teens of her age showcase their dancing skills and earn over a million views, she decided to launch her own channel. But for reasons whatsoever, despite months of hard work, she couldn't garner as many views as expected. As days go by, she begins to doubt her skills, frustration builds up and, finally, her passion dwindles away. What exactly went wrong, one might ponder? She was passionate, no doubt. But along with the ingredient of passion, she mixed the element of unreasonable expectation from the very start. Her 'high expectation' that her channel would be a sure hit intensified her desperation to taste success in a short time. Shreya's example is quite common among us.

We need to understand that it takes time to perfect any skill, just like a caterpillar needs time to transform itself into a beautiful butterfly. In fact, everything in nature is exemplary of patience. The flowers and

the trees take their own time to bloom into fullness. Likewise, we have to take our own time to grow. Some might be ahead of others; some are slower, some need more time to understand, but in the end, it is our patience that makes us reach our destination. To endure and persevere serenely without complaining is the essence of patience. Only with patience, acceptance and equanimity can one overcome the tangy lemons life throws at us, and taste the fruitful lemonades. To put it metaphorically, while passion is the fire within us, patience is the tranquil water that prevents the fire from consuming us.

As a conclusion, passion and patience are two sides of the weighing scale that needs to be balanced. One cannot do without the other. Lack of patience is what is truly needed rather than lack of patience. So be patient, passionate and take the plunge!



Lakshya - Where Dreams Meet Direction

Theme Poem for ICAI National Conference 2025



CA. Ratan Kr. Agarwala (M No. 055488)
Guwahati, Assam

*When the night grows still
And the road loses its form,
It is then that a dream awakens-
Searching for a star to steer by,
A whisper of purpose,
A glimmer of direction.*

*We, the torchbearers of truth in numbers,
Read more than what the pages show.
Between the ledgers and the lines
We hear the quiet pulse of progress,
The unfolding story of a nation
Learning to rise, to build, to believe.*

*Lakshya is not merely an end-
It is a calling,
A rhythm of resolve,
A harmony between vision and will.
It is the sacred meeting place
Where desire bends toward duty,
And hope discovers its horizon.*

*This conference is a river of thought,
Where every idea becomes a ripple
And every dialogue a tide-
Carrying us toward a future
We shape with our own hands.*

*Here, wisdom becomes wind,
Effort becomes fire,
And conviction becomes the compass
That charts tomorrow's India.*

*In Guwahati's vibrant heart,
We gather not just to learn,
But to illuminate-
To lift our profession higher
Than the peaks of our ambition,
To anchor our dreams deeper
Than the roots of our past.*

*For a dream without direction
Is merely a cloud in motion,
And direction without a dream
Is a road without a destination.
But when the two meet-
A miracle happens:
Purpose is born.*

*Let us rise,
With clarity as our guide,
Courage as our companion,
And conscience as our constant star.*

*For this is Lakshya-
Where dreams meet direction,
And direction becomes destiny.*



YOLO and FOMO: The New Generation's Mind-set and Its Impact on Financial Planning



CA. Dipak Kumar Agarwalla, B Com, FCA, DISA
Certified Wealth Management and Financial Planner (ICAI)

“You Only Live Once” and **“Fear of Missing Out”** are no longer just social media buzzwords — they are becoming the financial mantras of the new generation. From high spending on luxury gadgets to chasing quick returns in crypto, today’s youth often prioritize immediate gratification over long-term security. While these acronyms may simply sound like slang, they represent powerful mind-sets that significantly impact financial behaviour, often leading to a complex and sometimes challenging approach to personal finance and long-term planning.

The YOLO Effect: Living in the Moment

The YOLO mind-set encourages people to enjoy life without overthinking about tomorrow. It is characterized by an emphasis on immediate gratification and a justification of experiences or purchases with the belief that life is short and should be enjoyed to the fullest. In practice, this might manifest as splurging on a last-minute, expensive trip, buying the latest gadget or indulging in luxury items, all justified by the sentiment that the experience is worth the expense.

Young earners, particularly in urban India, are spending aggressively on travel, food, premium brands, and experiences. A study by Deloitte revealed that **over 60% of Indian millennials spend more than half their income on lifestyle choices.**

While this lifestyle-driven approach brings happiness and memories, it often leaves little room for savings or investments. The result? Financial stress during

emergencies, dependence on credit cards, and delay in achieving long-term goals like buying a home or retirement planning.

The FOMO Trap: Chasing Trends, Missing Stability

The other side of the coin is FOMO. FOMO weaponizes social comparison, leading individuals to make purchases not based on genuine need or utility but on the anxious need to belong. Amplified by social media, where curated highlights of friends and influencers perfect lives are constantly on display, FOMO generates a pressure to keep up.

This constant comparison fuels financial decisions driven by social image and a desire for social inclusion. People experiencing FOMO may overspend on things like:

- Dining out or attending costly events to maintain their social circle.
- Trendy fashion or luxury items to match online standards.
- Investments in "meme stocks" or volatile cryptocurrencies due to the fear of missing out on massive, quick gains, leading to irrational, high-risk behavior.

Whether it's investing in a trending stock, joining the crypto wave, or buying into speculative start-ups, many young investors enter without due diligence — simply because “everyone else is doing it.”

The accessibility of investment apps and social media influencers amplifies this behavior. But FOMO-driven



decisions often lead to volatile portfolios, panic selling, and avoidable losses. This short-term thrill undermines the principle of disciplined wealth creation.

Impact on Financial Planning

1. **Low Savings Ratio** – Disposable income is directed toward consumption rather than savings, weakening long-term stability. Due to high spending resulted in very low savings or no savings.
2. **High Credit Dependence** – The need to fund a "YOLO lifestyle" or to participate due to FOMO often leads to the overuse of credit. The quick adoption of "**Buy Now, Pay Later**" (BNPL) services among young consumers in India shows a willingness to incur debt for immediate consumption.
3. **Unstructured Investments** – Lack of diversification and chasing trends result in weak portfolios. Instead of adopting a disciplined, long-term approach—like investing through Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs)—FOMO encourages **short-term speculation** and **overtrading**.
4. **Retirement Neglect** – Most young earners underestimate the need for early retirement planning, assuming they can “figure it out later.” **Retirement** is often the first things to be neglected, leaving the individual financially vulnerable in the long run.

Striking the Balance: A Smarter Approach

It's unfair to criticize YOLO and FOMO entirely. The desire to live fully and not miss opportunities is natural. The key lies in **balance**. Here's how the younger generation can align their mindset with financial prudence:

- **Set Financial Priorities Early** – Allocate income into three buckets: **Needs, Wants, and Future**. Even saving **20–30% monthly** can compound significantly.
- **Automate Investments** – By setting up automatic

transfers for savings and investments the moment the salary is credited, the money for the future is secured before the YOLO/FOMO impulse can strike.

- **Educate Before Investing** – Instead of following social media trends, rely on credible financial advisors or platforms.
- **Emergency Fund** – A YOLO lifestyle is more enjoyable when backed by at least 6 months of emergency savings.
- **YOLO Fund** – A modern financial plan must include a dedicated "**YOLO Fund**" or "**Fun Money**" category. By proactively allocating a specific, guilt-free portion of income to discretionary spending and experiences, one can satisfy the immediate gratification impulse without derailing the savings plan.
- **Value Experiences, Not Just Expenses** – Spending on experiences is worthwhile, but balance it with wealth creation for future security. Young adults should ask themselves: "Am I buying this because I genuinely want it, or because I'm afraid of what others will think?"
- **Digital Boundaries** – Limiting social media exposure can significantly reduce FOMO anxiety. Prioritising Digital feeds to include more financially inspiring or educational content and less aspirational lifestyle fluff, individuals can shift from feeling deficient to feeling motivated.

Conclusion: Redefining YOLO & FOMO

If “You Only Live Once” is a mantra, then financial security should be its foundation. And if the “Fear of Missing Out” drives choices, let it be the fear of missing out on financial freedom rather than fleeting trends.

The new generation has unprecedented access to income, information, and investment tools. By rethinking YOLO and FOMO through the lens of smart financial planning, they can enjoy today **without compromising tomorrow**.

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"Dreams are not those which come while we are sleeping, but those that do not let us sleep, when they are guided by a clear purpose."

— A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

"Lakshya – Where Dream Meets Direction" – reminds us that when a goal gives our efforts a clear path, every small contribution turns into a meaningful step towards excellence.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all who have contributed to the creation of this souvenir.

Behind every endeavor are dedicated individuals. We are deeply grateful to the Managing Committee of the ICAI Guwahati Branch (EIRC) for their constant guidance, encouragement and trust in our team. Their mentorship provided the right direction to our aspirations and gave us the confidence to conceptualize, design and bring this publication to fruition.

Our sincere thanks to the esteemed speakers who enriched the conference with their insightful deliberations and for sharing their vast experience with such clarity and passion.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the contributors who have woven literary magic into the pages of this souvenir through their articles and write-ups – spanning technical subjects, literary pieces and creative expressions. Their contributions have made this Souvenir informative yet engaging, reflecting the intellect, talent and artistic flair of our professional community.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our event sponsors and the tireless efforts of the various committees and volunteers of the National Conference 2025. Their support, meticulous planning, seamless coordination and willingness to go the extra mile have been instrumental in making this conference a memorable and well-organized event that truly embodies the spirit of "Lakshya". The success of this endeavor stands as a testament to their unwavering commitment and collective vision.

We, the members of the Souvenir Committee, take a humble bow in gratitude to the Guwahati Branch (EIRC) for entrusting us with this meaningful responsibility. We humbly seek forgiveness for any errors or omissions that may have occurred despite our sincere efforts, and we shall remain thankful for your valuable suggestions and constructive feedback through the feedback form provided.

Thanking you all,

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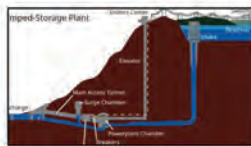


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