



ICMAI
THE INSTITUTE OF
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA
भारतीय लागत लेखाकार संस्थान
Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Southern India Regional Council



Chairman's Communiqué

From Day 151 to 300

Excellence | Empowerment | Evolution

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

My Dear Professional Colleagues,

Namaskaar !

The journey from Day 151 to 300 has been marked by purposeful initiatives, professional excellence, and strong member engagement across the Southern India Regional Council (SIRC) of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India. During this period, we continued our efforts towards strengthening the CMA profession through technology-driven learning, professional development, student engagement, and institutional collaboration.

Key Highlights of the Period

Professional Excellence & Practice

- Successful organisation of RCMAC 2026 at Hyderabad on the theme “Reimagining the CMA Profession: Driving Sustainable Value & Strategic Impact.”
- Conduct of programmes on Cost Audit, GST, Union Budget 2026, AI in Cost Accounting, Machine Learning, and Power BI for Finance.
- SIRC CMA Practitioners’ Meet at Visakhapatnam and All Kerala CMA Practitioners’ Meet focused on strengthening professional practice and emerging opportunities.

Technology & Future-Ready Skills

- NextGen Finance AI Summit 2026 at Trivandrum and Next-Gen CMA Technology Series enhanced members’ exposure to AI, analytics, automation, and digital finance transformation.

Students & Career Development

- Successful conduct of Advanced Skill Training Programmes (ASTP) , Convocations, Student Merit Awards, and Campus Placement Programmes for newly qualified CMAs.
- Continued support towards skill development and professional readiness through student-centric initiatives and CAT programmes.

Leadership & Institutional Engagement

- Professional interactions with ROC, CGST, and SGST authorities strengthened collaboration and highlighted the expanding role of CMAs in governance, taxation, and compliance.
- Chapter-led initiatives across the Southern Region continued to contribute significantly towards professional growth and member engagement.

The consistent support and active participation of members, students, chapters, and stakeholders continue to inspire us in building a future-ready, technology-driven, and professionally strong CMA fraternity.

With warm regards,

CMA Vijay Kiran Agastya

Chairman – SIRC of ICMAI

Leadership grows stronger when learning, collaboration, and service move together.



RCMAC – 2026

Regional Cost and Management Accountants' Convention (RCMAC) 2026 | Hyderabad



The SIRC of ICAI successfully organized the Regional Cost and Management Accountants' Convention (RCMAC) 2026 on 20th and 21st February 2026 at Leonia Holistic Destination, Hyderabad under the theme "Reimagining the CMA Profession: Driving Sustainable Value & Strategic Impact."

The two-day Convention featured inaugural, plenary, technical, and valedictory sessions with eminent speakers, industry leaders, and CMA professionals deliberating on ESG, circular economy, AI-driven analytics, governance, digital transformation, and future-ready leadership. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from members, academicians, and industry experts across the country, reaffirming the evolving role of CMAs as strategic partners in sustainable business growth and governance.



Inaugural Session

Dignitaries during the Inaugural Session of RCMAC 2026: CMA Vijay Kiran Agastya, Chairman – SIRC; CMA K V N Lavanya, Treasurer – SIRC ; CMA Dr. KChAVSN Murthy, Council Member – ICAI; CMA TCA Srinivasa Prasad, President – ICAI; CMA A N Raman, Former President – SAFA; CMA Dr. A S Durga Prasad, Former President – ICAI; and CMA Khaja Jalaluddin, Chairman – Hyderabad Chapter.



Plenary Session

Insights during the Plenary Session chaired by CMA M Gopalakrishnan, Former President – ICAI; featuring an engaging panel discussion by CA Parash Gupta, CMA V V Ravi Kumar, and CMA Nanda Kishore. The session concluded with the Vote of Thanks by CMA Divya Abhishek, Former Chairperson – SIRC.



Technical Session 1

Technical Session 1 chaired by CMA Suresh R. Gunjalli, Council Member – ICAI; featuring expert deliberations by Mr. Dheeraj Kumar, CMA Dorairajan, and CMA Raja Mukherjea on value engineering, throughput maximization, AI, Six Sigma, and analytics, followed by Vote of Thanks by CMA Munisekhar, Vice Chairman – SIRC.



Technical Session 2

Technical Session 2 chaired by CMA V. Murali, Council Member – ICAI; with insightful presentations by CMA Keerthilal, CMA Rameesh Kailasam, and CMA Sunil Chacko on business impact reporting and circular economy practices, followed by Vote of Thanks by CMA Girish Kambadaraya, RCM – SIRC and CMA Vishwanath Bhat, Former Chairman – SIRC.



Technical Session 3

Technical Session 3 chaired by CMA Vinay Ranjan, Council Member – ICAI; featuring thought-provoking sessions by CS Shujath Bin Ali and CMA Nilanjan Majumdar on governance, ethics, and future-ready leadership, followed by Vote of Thanks by CMA K. Gomathisankar, RCM – SIRC & CMA Praveen Kumar, RCM & PD Committee Chairman – SIRC.



Valedictory Session

Glimpses of the Valedictory Session of RCMAC 2026, where CMA A.N. Raman, Former President – SAFA; presented the Expert Review, followed by leadership addresses by CMA Dr. KChAVSN Murthy, Council Member – ICAI; and CMA TCA Srinivasa Prasad, President – ICAI; reaffirming the strategic role of CMAs in sustainable growth and governance excellence.

RCMAC 2026 reflected the evolving CMA profession in sustainable growth, strategic leadership, and digital excellence. My sincere thanks to all for making the Convention a grand success.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION & PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Empowering CMAs through technology, analytics, and future-ready professional capabilities

Next-Gen CMA Technology Series – Hands-on Power BI for Finance | Chennai & Hyderabad



On 10th & 11th March 2026 at CMA Bhawan, Chennai, and on 24th & 25th March 2026 at CMA Bhawan, Hyderabad, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organised Two-Day Professional Development Programmes on “Next-Gen CMA Technology Series – Hands-on Power BI for Finance,” including a programme in association with the Hyderabad Chapter of ICMAI.

The workshops were conducted by Ms. Bharathi M, who provided hands-on training on Power BI, data visualization, DAX, data modelling, AI features, and business intelligence tools, enhancing data-driven decision-making capabilities for finance professionals.



Generative & Agentic AI in Cost Accounting | Chennai | 20th March 2026



On 20th March 2026, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organised a Professional Development Programme on “Generative & Agentic AI in Cost Accounting” at CMA Bhawan, Egmore, Chennai.

The session was delivered by Shri Ganapathy Shankar, who shared insights on the role of Generative and Agentic AI in automation, analytics, and AI-driven transformation in cost accounting practices.



Machine Learning for Cost and Management Accountants | Chennai | 16th April 2026



On 16th April 2026, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organised a Professional Development Programme on “Machine Learning for Cost and Management Accountants” at CMA Bhawan, Egmore, Chennai.

The session by Er. CMA T. D. Baskaran highlighted the role of AI, machine learning, and data analytics in intelligent decision-making and digital transformation within the CMA profession.



WOMEN LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL EMPOWERMENT

Inspiring personal branding, career growth, and professional excellence



International Women's Day Celebration | Chennai | 7th March 2026



On 7th March 2026, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organised a special programme on "Building Personal Brand & Leadership as a Woman CMA" at Ambassador Pallava, Egmore, Chennai.



The programme featured an engaging panel discussion with CMA Divya Abhishek, CMA M.L. Karuna Vishnubohtla, and CMA Ramya Seetharama, who shared insights on leadership, personal branding, career growth, and continuous learning for women professionals in the CMA fraternity.



Interactive Session on Union Budget 2026 | Chennai | 3rd February 2026



On 3rd February 2026, SIRC of ICAI organised an "Interactive Session on Union Budget 2026" at CMA Bhawan, Chennai, offering 2 CPE hours and attracting participation from over 100 members. The programme focused on analysing the economic and tax implications of the Union Budget 2026.



The session featured insightful presentations by CMA V. Pattabhi Ram on the State of the Indian Economy and CA T. G. Suresh on the Direct Tax Proposals of Union Budget 2026. I was pleased to witness the active engagement of members, with the programme reaffirming SIRC's commitment to professional development and knowledge sharing.



PD Programme on Goods and Services Tax | Chennai | 23rd March 2026



On 23rd March 2026, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organised a Professional Development Programme under the Practitioner's Forum on "Goods and Services Tax" at CMA Bhawan, Egmore, Chennai.



The technical session was delivered by Dr. Balamurugan K, who shared practical insights on GST Tribunal procedures, inverted duty structure, and ITC refunds, followed by an interactive discussion with members on key GST-related issues and recent developments.

Continuous learning drives professional excellence and leadership in the CMA profession

BUILDING BRIDGES WITH STUDENTS

The Future of the Profession



Advanced Skill Training Programs at various locations



The Convocation Ceremony for the Advanced Skill Training Programme (ASTP) was held on 22nd March 2026 at Dr. N.G.P. College of Arts and Science. I had the opportunity to address and motivate the students along with Dr. S. Saravanan, Principal, and certificates were distributed to the participants on successful completion of the programme.

On 31st March 2026, I participated in the ASTP Programme held at The Institution of Engineers (India) along with distinguished dignitaries and professional leaders. The event concluded with the CMA Student Merit Awards Function, where meritorious students were honoured with Gold Medals.



The Valedictory Session of the Advanced Skill Training Programme (ASTP) for the Newly Qualified CMAs – December 2025 Term was held on 2nd April 2026 at Vani Mahal.

I had the privilege of addressing the participants along with CMA TCA Srinivasa Prasad, President of ICAI, CMA Dr. V. Murali, CCM ICAI and SIRC Office Bearers, encouraging them to uphold ethical leadership, continuous learning, and professional excellence in their careers.

The Convocation Ceremony held in Thrissur on 27th March 2026 marked yet another defining chapter in the journey of the Cost and Management Accounting profession. The grand occasion witnessed 223 newly qualified CMAs proudly receiving their certificates, symbolizing years of perseverance, discipline, and professional rigor. The event was graced by an august gathering of over 1000 attendees.



CMA Campus Placement Drive | Chennai | 27th Apr to 30th Apr 2026



The Campus Placement Programme for the December 2025 qualified CMA batch was successfully conducted from 27th to 30th April 2026 at Hotel Ambassador Pallava and CMA Bhawan, Chennai.

The programme witnessed participation from several reputed organisations across diverse sectors, providing excellent career opportunities to newly qualified CMAs through offline and online interview modes.



Our students are the torchbearers of the profession's future. Their passion and potential inspire us to create platforms that nurture competence, confidence, and character.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP

Advancing excellence through knowledge and nation-building initiatives



20th S. Ganapathisubramanian Memorial Lecture | Chennai | 6th January 2026



On 6th January 2026, the Southern India Regional Council (SIRC) of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India, in association with the S. Ganapathisubramanian Memorial Fund Committee, organized the 20th S. Ganapathisubramanian Memorial Lecture at CMA Bhawan, Egmore, Chennai.

The Memorial Lecture on “From Clarity to Sustainability: Lessons from GS for the Next Frontier of Cost Management – A Reflective and Forward Approach” was delivered by CMA M. Hariharan, who shared valuable insights on sustainable cost management, strategic clarity, and the evolving role of CMAs in business decision-making.



77th Republic Day Celebration | Chennai | 26th January 2026



On 26th January 2026, the Southern India Regional Council (SIRC) of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India commemorated the 77th Republic Day of India at CMA Bhawan, Egmore, Chennai.

I had the honour of unfurling the National Flag in the presence of esteemed CMA Members, faculty members, staff, and stakeholders. The programme was also graced by CMA Praveen Kumar. The celebration reflected the spirit of patriotism, unity, and the profession’s commitment towards ethical leadership and nation-building.



Valedictory Session of the CAT Course | Chennai | 10th April 2026



The Valedictory Session of the Certificate in Accounting Technicians (CAT) Course was conducted by the Southern India Regional Council (SIRC) of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India on 10th April 2026 at CMA Bhawan, Chennai, under the aegis of the Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence.

The session was graced by Col Krishna Sundaresh, who encouraged the participants to utilise their newly acquired skills and pursue professional excellence with dedication and integrity. The programme also featured certificate distribution to the successful candidates, recognising their commitment and successful completion of the CAT course.



CHAPTER-LED INITIATIVES

Strong Chapters create a stronger profession.



NextGen Finance AI Summit 2026 | Trivandrum | 14th & 15th February 2026



The NextGen Finance AI Summit 2026 was organised on 14th & 15th February 2026 by the Trivandrum Chapter of ICAI in association with SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India & Technopark, Trivandrum.

The summit was inaugurated by Honorable MP Shri N. K. Premachandran, and presided over by CMA TCA Sreenivasa Prasad, President – ICAI; under the theme “Transforming Finance with AI: From Automation to Insight.”

The summit brought together finance professionals, industry leaders, academicians, and policymakers for discussions on AI-driven transformation, automation, analytics, and digital finance. Through technical sessions and live demonstrations, the programme highlighted the growing importance of technology, innovation, and data-driven decision-making, while reinforcing the evolving role of the CMA profession in the future-ready digital finance ecosystem.



All Kerala CMA Practitioners' Meet 2026 | Kottayam | 21st & 22nd March 2026



I had the privilege of attending the All Kerala CMA Practitioners' Meet 2026 at Ceaser Palace, Kottayam, organised by the Kottayam Chapter of ICAI in association with various Kerala Chapters. The programme provided valuable insights on professional practice, compliance, client management, and practice development for young and newly qualified practitioners



SAMATVA – 2026 Students' Summit | Kozhikode–Malappuram | 28th March 2026



The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Mehaboob M A, Vice President – South, CREDAI National. I had the privilege of addressing the gathering along with CMA Syamly C M, Chairperson of the Chapter, and CMA Praveen Kumar, PD Committee Chairman – SIRC. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by CMA Salmanul Faris K, Secretary of the Chapter.

SAMATVA – 2026, the Students' Summit of Kerala Chapters, was hosted by the Kozhikode–Malappuram Chapter of ICAI on 28th March 2026 at Meenoz Auditorium. The summit witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, members, and academicians, providing a dynamic platform for learning, interaction, and professional development.



Leadership at the grassroots creates impact at scale



SIRC CMA PRACTITIONERS' MEET – 2026

Strengthening CMA practice through emerging technologies and specialized expertise



On 1st and 2nd May 2026, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organized the SIRC CMA Practitioners' Meet – 2026 at Ratan Tata Innovation Hub, hosted by the Visakhapatnam Chapter of ICAI under the theme "Future-Ready CMA Practice: Embracing Technology, Specialization, and Advisory Excellence."

The programme featured keynote sessions, technical deliberations, and interactive discussions on AI, cloud computing, data analytics, MSME advisory services, virtual CFO practices, and niche professional specializations. Hon' President, Vice President & Eminent Council Members of ICAI, industry experts, and practitioners shared insights on strengthening the role of CMAs in a rapidly evolving digital and advisory-driven business environment. Empowering CMAs to lead the future of technology-enabled professional practice and strategic business advisory.



GLIMPSES OF SIRC CMA PRACTITIONERS' MEET - 2026



Driving the future of CMA practice through technology, innovation, and strategic expertise.

COST AUDIT & COMPLIANCE INITIATIVES

Building institutional collaboration and advancing the CMA profession



Cost Audit Programmes | Chennai | 21st & 28th March 2026

On 21st and 28th March 2026, SIRC of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India organised professional programmes on Cost Audit at CMA Bhawan, Egmore, Chennai, focusing on practical challenges, compliance requirements, and emerging issues in cost audit practices.

The sessions included interactive discussions on cost audit, related party transactions, and transfer pricing challenges. CMA Dr. Gopal Krishna Raju shared practical insights and professional perspectives, reinforcing the role of CMAs in governance, compliance, and strategic cost management.



Study Circle Meeting on the topic "Discussion on Cost Audit"



Cost Audit: Challenges in Related Party Transactions and Transfer Pricing



Delegation Meetings with ROC & GST Authorities | Hyderabad & Kerala



Cordial interaction with Shri Satya Pal Singh, Registrar of Companies, Telangana, at Hyderabad on 25th February 2026.



Professional Development Meeting with Smt. Sreelakshmi R (IAS), Additional Commissioner, SGST Kerala, on strengthening the role of CMAs in taxation, compliance, and public finance administration.



Interaction with Shri Jitendra Kumar Tiwari, Additional Commissioner, CGST Kerala, on professional collaboration and opportunities for the CMA profession.

Moving Ahead with Purpose

As we continue this journey of progress and transformation, our commitment remains focused on strengthening the CMA profession through professional excellence, technology adoption, leadership development, and collaborative growth.

In the coming months, we will continue to:

- Promote future-ready learning and digital competencies
- Strengthen professional practice and industry engagement
- Support students, members, and chapter-led initiatives across the region

The energy, participation, and commitment shown by our members and stakeholders continue to inspire us. Together, we will further elevate the visibility, relevance, and impact of the CMA profession.

I look forward to your continued support and active participation in the forthcoming initiatives of SIRC.

With warm regards and gratitude,

CMA Vijay Kiran Agastya

Chairman – SIRC of ICAI