



Afghanistan



Bangladesh



Bhutan



India



Maldives



Nepal



Pakistan



Sri Lanka



SOUTH ASIAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (SAFA)

SAFA E-Newsletter

(January to March, 2026)





Afghanistan



Bangladesh



Bhutan



India



Maldives



Nepal



Pakistan




Sri Lanka


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ABOUT SAFA

South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA), was formed in 1984 for promoting the accounting profession in the countries in South Asia and internationally with a mission to bring the accounting bodies in the region together at a common forum and facilitate professional cooperation in the areas of education, training, technical and ethical standards. SAFA, an IFAC network partner, has been playing a pivotal role for the harmonization of professional standards in the areas of accounting, auditing, ethics, education and sustainability and is committed to raise the level of profession in the Region.

SAFA provides special impetus to cooperation amongst its member bodies for the overall growth of the accountancy profession in the SAARC region and explores means in which, it as a representative forum, could play prolific role in the development of the accountancy profession.

The role being played by SAFA for the development of the accountancy profession in the SAARC Region and for the economic development of the Region as a whole has been exemplified through the innovative work being carried through its various technical Committees working in the areas of Education, Accounting Standards, Auditing Standards and Quality Control, Information Technology, Government Accounting, Ethics, Sustainability, Economic Advisory and many other emerging areas of accountancy profession.



Office Bearers

President (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh)	Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir
Vice President (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal)	CA. Prabin Kumar Jha
Advisor (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan)	Mr. Ashfaq Yousuf Tola
Permanent Secretary (Institute of Chartered Accountants of India)	CA. (Dr.) Jai Kumar Batra
Executive Secretary (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh)	Mr. Mahbub Ahmed Siddique
Assistant Executive Secretary (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal)	Mr. Binod Neupane

SAFA Board

SAFA Member Body	Board Member	Technical Advisor
ICA Bangladesh	Mr. N K A Mobin	Mr. Sabbir Ahmed
ICMA Bangladesh	Mr. Md. Kausar Alam	Mr. Mahtab Uddin Ahmed
ICA India	CA. Prasanna Kumar D	CA. Mangesh Kinare
Institute of Cost Accountants of India	CMA TCA Srinivasa Prasad	CMA Neeraj Dhananjay Joshi
CA Maldives	Mr. Mohamed Haleem Abdulla	Mr. Ali Faris Mohamed
ICA Nepal	CA. Nil Bahadur Saru Magar	CA. Anand Raj Sharma Wagle
ICA Pakistan	Mr. M. Samiullah Siddiqui	Mr. Zeeshan Ijaz
ICMA Pakistan	Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Qazi	Mr. Azeem Hussain Siddiqui
CA Sri Lanka	Mr. Tishan Subasinghe	Ms. Anoji de Silva
CMA Sri Lanka	Prof. Lakshman R Watawala	Mr. Ruchira Perera

Heads of SAFA Member bodies

ICA Bangladesh	Mr. N K A Mobin
ICMA Bangladesh	Mr. Md. Kausar Alam
ICA India	CA. Prasanna Kumar D
Institute of Cost Accountants of India	CMA TCA Srinivasa Prasad
CA Maldives	Mr. Mohamed Haleem Abdulla
ICA Nepal	CA. Nil Bahadur Saru Magar
ICA Pakistan	Mr. Muhammad Samiullah Siddiqui
ICMA Pakistan	Mr. Azeem Hussain Siddiqui
CA Sri Lanka	Mr. Tishan Subasinghe
CMA Sri Lanka	Prof. Lakshman R Watawala



Profile of New President, SAFA

Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir President, SAFA

Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB), with over 45 years of professional experience. He worked at a CA firm from February 1981 to January 1985, at a financial institution from February 1985 to June 1988, and thereafter served the business and industry in senior positions.

Mr Kabir was awarded poribesh podok (environment award) by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), GoB in 2010 and recognised as commercially important person (CIP) export for 9 times for the years 2007, 2011-2015, 2017, 2021 and 2022 by Ministry of Commerce, GoB.

He was involved with the National Board of Revenue (NBR) as a Facilitator of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) from March 2012 to June 2025. He was nominated by the Government to its different Committees for the evaluation of the performance of state owned entities, for reviewing Corporate/Taxation Laws and for evaluating proposals for investment/EOI/ consultant hiring/ procurement bids, etc.

He was associated with different chambers and business associations as Director (elected) namely Bangladesh-German Chamber of Commerce & Industry (2021-2023), Shippers Council of Bangladesh (2009-11), Bangladesh Jute Spinners Association (2015-17) and a Vice-Chairman of Bangladesh Jute Goods Association (2007-09). He sat in the Board of Directors of Monno Ceramics Limited (1986-1987), West Zone Power Distribution Company Ltd (2005-06), Bangladesh Telecommunication Company Ltd (2008), Dhaka Stock Exchange Ltd (2008), Shadharan Bima Corporation (2008-2013) and Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd (2016-19) as a nominated/Independent Director. He was also involved with the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industries (1996-2024) as a member of panel of advisers, Chairman/Convener of different standing and non-standing committees.

He served as an elected Council Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) for eight consecutive terms from 2001 to 2024. He was Vice President in 2002 & President in 2008 of ICAB. He was the Chairman of Editorial Board (2003-2004), Information of Technology Committee (2005-2006), Taxation & Corporate Law Committee – TCLC (2013-2024) and Review committee for Published Accounts & Reports - RCPAR (2019-2024) of ICAB.

He was Member of Accounting & Auditing standards Committee (2009-2018) and Improvement of Transparency Accountability and Governance Committee (2019-2024) of South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA). He was also technical advisor to SAFA Board (2019-2024) and Vice President of the SAFA in the year 2025.

He participated in general assembly meetings of International Federation of Accountants – IFAC held in 2010 (New York, USA), in 2014 (Rome, Italy), and in 2018 (Sydney, Australia). He participated IFAC council meeting in February, PAODAG meeting in March in New York 2025 and IFAC Council & Assembly Meetings held in Mexico City, Mexico in November 2025.

Mr. Kabir is well known for his expertise in fiscal laws, financial management, business strategies, corporate governance and macroeconomic issues. His analyses and suggestions are being accepted by the policy framers, decision makers and entrepreneurs with high esteem and value. Mr. Kabir is a regular participant in TV talk shows on banking, capital market, fiscal matters and issues relating to trade and investment. He has delivered lectures, presented papers and chaired seminars at home and abroad on topics relating to business & accountancy profession.



Profile of New Vice President, SAFA

CA. Prabin Kumar Jha

Vice-President, SAFA

CA. Prabin Kumar Jha, Immediate Past President (2024-25) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) has served (and has been serving) under various standing, non-standing committees and Board of ICAN for several years. He has been the Council member of ICAN since 2020-21 and has also served under various SAFA committees as a member. He is also a member of Audit and Compliance Committee of All Nepal Football Association (FIFA/AFC Recognized) since 2019. He was a Board Member of Security Board of Nepal (Regulator of Capital Markets in Nepal) for 2023-24.

He is a senior partner of Joshi & Bhandary, a Chartered Accountant firm registered in Nepal, and has been associated with the firm for more than 25 years in various capacities. He is a qualified Chartered Accountant who has led and collaborated in providing clients with a range of services including due diligence reviews, internal audits, statutory and tax audits. He also engaged in offering strategic and value-added advice from a business and process risk assessment perspective to clients that also include serving as a financial advisor to boards of corporate clients of the firm. He is also responsible for looking after maintaining firm's Quality Control Standards in service delivery including statutory audits.





Message from

President, SAFA

It is with great honour and a deep sense of responsibility that I assume office as the President of the South Asian Federation of Accountants. I sincerely thank the member bodies of SAFA and my host body ICA Bangladesh for the trust and confidence reposed in me. I also acknowledge the significant contributions of the Mr. Ashfaq Yousuf Tola, Immediate Past President, SAFA in strengthening regional cooperation and advancing the accountancy profession across South Asia.

In an increasingly dynamic and technology-driven environment, the accountancy profession continues to evolve beyond its traditional role. Professional accountants today are expected to demonstrate adaptability, strategic thinking, and a commitment to continuous learning in order to remain relevant and create greater value for society and the economy. In this context, SAFA, as the regional forum of professional accountancy bodies in South Asia, continues to play an important role in fostering collaboration, facilitating knowledge sharing, and supporting the professional development of members across the region. Through its various committees, programmes, and regional initiatives, SAFA remains committed to strengthening the profession and equipping members to effectively navigate emerging opportunities and challenges in an evolving global environment.

The beginning of the year has been both productive and encouraging for SAFA. The SAFA Board Meeting held in Bangladesh on January 16, 2026 and the Strategy Meeting of the Board convened in India on January 29, 2026 provided an important platform for deliberations on the future roadmap and strategic priorities of the SAFA.

I am pleased to note that SAFA Committees have remained actively engaged during the quarter through various professional and knowledge-sharing initiatives, reflecting SAFA's continued commitment towards capacity building, professional excellence, leadership development, and regional collaboration.

The active participation and support received from member bodies, professionals, and stakeholders across the region continue to strengthen SAFA's collective vision and objectives. Such collaborative efforts are instrumental in addressing emerging opportunities and challenges before the profession and in enhancing the role of professional accountants in economic and social development.

As we move forward, SAFA shall continue to focus on strengthening regional cooperation, encouraging innovation and knowledge exchange, and creating meaningful opportunities for the growth and advancement of the profession in South Asia.

I convey my sincere appreciation to the Board members, Technical Advisors, Committee Chairpersons and members, SAFA member bodies and all stakeholders for their continued support and contribution towards SAFA initiatives.

I look forward to working closely with all stakeholders in further advancing the vision and mission of SAFA.

With warm regards,

Mohammed Humayun Kabir
President, SAFA

Brief Report on **Activities of SAFA**



During
January to March
2026



91st Meeting of SAFA Board

The 91st Board meeting was held on January 16, 2026 in Dhaka, Bangladesh which was hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh. Mr. Jean Bouquot, President, International Federation of Accountants and Ms. Jennifer Lopez Chief Executive, Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA) (virtually) addressed at the meeting. The following items were discussed in the Board meeting:

- Appointment of New President and Vice-President, SAFA for the year 2026
- Appointment of Executive Secretary and Assistant Executive Secretary for the year 2026
- Survey Report on Sustainability and ESG Aspects was approved.
- Status of Audited Accounts of FSAFA for the year 2024
- Call for subscription for 2026
- Collaboration with CAPA on Public Sector Initiatives
- Determination of Institute(s) to Host Vice-Chairpersonship of SAFA Committees
- Budget of Activities of SAFA for the year 2026
- Strategic Action Plan of SAFA for the year 2026
- Draft annual activity report of SAFA for the year 2025
- Finalisation of SAFA events for the year 2026



Strategy Meeting of SAFA Board

The Strategy meeting of SAFA Board was held on January 29, 2026 in Greater Noida, UP, India which was hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India wherein the SAFA Committee Chairpersons presented their Action Plan for the year 2026 aligned with the SAFA Strategic Plan. Mr. Lee White, CEO, International Federation of Accountants, Ms. Jennifer Lopez Chief Executive, Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA) and CA. Rajendra Kumar P, Chairman, Edinburgh Group also addressed at the meeting.



SAFA Committee Meetings

During the first quarter of 2026, SAFA convened a series of committee meetings aimed at advancing professional standards and addressing key challenges within the accounting profession. The following committees met during this period:

Name of Committee	Date
Women Leadership Committee	January 16, 2026
Committee on Accounting Standards	January 16, 2026
Committee to study fiscal regimes and other statutory requirements of business in SAARC countries	January 16, 2026
Committee on Anti Money Laundering	January 16, 2026
Committee for Improvement in Transparency, Accountability & Governance (ITAG)	January 16, 2026
Economic Advisory Committee	January 16, 2026
International Relations Committee	January 16, 2026 and January 29, 2026
Committee on Professional Ethics and Independence	January 16, 2026 and January 29, 2026
Committee for Co-Operatives and NPO Sector	January 16, 2026
Committee on Governmental and Public Sector Enterprises Accounting	January 29, 2026
Committee on Insolvency	January 29, 2026
Committee on Education, Training and CPD	January 29, 2026
SMP Committee	January 29, 2026
Committee on Information Technology	January 29, 2026

Through these committee meetings, SAFA emphasized its dedication to advancing excellence, integrity, and transparency in accounting practices across the region. Moreover, it actively engaged with the evolving needs and challenges of the profession in today's dynamic global landscape.

SAFA Events

SAFA International Conference, 2026 on January 17, 2026

The SAFA International Conference 2026 was hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh in Dhaka on January 17, 2026. The conference, organised on the theme “Next Generation Profession: Converging Ethical AI and Sustainability Reporting,” reflected the transformative changes taking place within the global accountancy profession amid rapid technological advancements and increasing emphasis on sustainable and responsible business practices. The conference highlighted how emerging technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), are reshaping the landscape of accounting, auditing, assurance, governance, and financial decision-making. It also highlighted the importance of ensuring that technological advancement is guided by ethics, transparency, accountability, and professional integrity so as to maintain public trust in the profession.

The event attracted over 500 professionals, regulators, academicians, policymakers, and thought leaders from Bangladesh and across the region, providing a vibrant platform for deliberations on the future of the profession. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Md Touhid Hossain, Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs along with Mr. Jean Bouquot, President of IFAC, as the Guest of Honour.



SAFA Weekly Webinars on the theme Bridging the Mindset Gap

The SAFA SMP Committee has been actively organizing a series of weekly webinars on the theme “Bridging the Mindset Gap.” The initiative commenced with its first webinar held on February 9, 2026, and has successfully conducted 9 webinars till March 30, 2026.

The theme “Bridging the Mindset Gap” focuses on addressing the evolving challenges faced by professionals in adapting to rapid changes in the business and regulatory environment. It emphasizes the need to transition from traditional approaches to more forward-thinking, innovative, and technology-driven mindsets.

The sessions were graced by the presence of Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir, President, SAFA, and CA Prabin Kumar Jha, Vice President, SAFA both of whom have participated in all sessions and delivered insightful keynote addresses, adding significant value to the discussions.

S. No.	Name of the Series	Name of the webinar Topic	Date
1	Bridging the Mindset Gap	Empower Your Journey-Vision to Victory and The 1% Advantage	09th February 2026
2	Bridging the Mindset Gap	Unlearning the Old Ways towards Scalability and Growth	16th February 2026
3	Bridging the Mindset Gap	"The Courage Mindset" & "Does good quality work mean good quality service to Clients?"	23rd February 2026
4	Bridging the Mindset Gap	Capacity Building Through Sharing	2nd March 2026
5	Bridging the Mindset Gap	Professionalism & The Psychology of the Trusted Advisor — Mastering the Shift from Compliance to Advisory"	09th March 2026
6	Bridging the Mindset Gap	Stay Curious, Stay Relevant: A Growth Mindset for Building and Scaling CA Practices & Creating Mentorship Led Learning Cultures in CA Firms	16th March 2026
7	Bridging the Mindset Gap	Me vs Me, The Battle Within and The Role of Humility in Professional Excellence and Leadership	23rd March 2026
8	Bridging the Mindset Gap	'Knowing yourself is the Beginning of all Wisdom & "Judgement Under Fire: How to Make High-Stakes Decisions When Rules Are Not Enough"	30th March 2026

The series has received encouraging engagement, with active promotion across SAFA member bodies. Members have shown strong participation, reflecting the relevance and impact of the theme and the discussions being conducted.



SAFA Webinar on “Innovative Social Stock Exchanges and NPO Financing: Emerging Models and the Role of Professional Accountants”

The SAFA Committee for Co-operative and NPO Sectors organized an international webinar on “**Innovative Social Stock Exchanges and NPO Financing: Emerging Models and the Role of Professional Accountants**” on **28 March 2026**, with participation from over 500 professionals across the region.

The event witnessed active engagement from stakeholders, with the President and Vice-President of SAFA delivering keynote addresses and emphasizing the growing importance of social finance and the role of the accountancy profession in strengthening the NPO ecosystem.

CMA S. K. Gupta (MD, RVO–ICMAI & CEO, ICMAI Social Auditors Organization) delivered the keynote address, sharing insights on evolving social stock exchange frameworks and emerging opportunities. The session was effectively moderated by CMA Rakesh Khandelwal, facilitating discussions on innovative financing models and capacity building for NPOs.



SAFA Webinar on “Understanding Mental Wellness for Leaders”

The SAFA Women Leadership Committee organized a webinar on “Understanding Mental Wellness for Leaders” on 26 March 2026, marking the launch of its Mental Wellness & Resilience Program, with participation from over 100 professionals.

President and Vice-President, SAFA, addressed the participants, emphasizing the importance of mental well-being and resilience in the accounting profession.

SAFA

MENTAL WELLNESS & RESILIENCE PROGRAM

UNDERSTANDING MENTAL WELLNESS FOR LEADERS

An Initiative of the SAFA Women Leadership Committee

Opening Remarks

MOHAMMED HUMAYUN KABIR (President, SAFA)
CA PRABIN KUMAR JHA (Vice-President, SAFA)
CHAMILA COORAY (Chairperson, SAFA Women Leadership Committee)

Presenter: Dilmi Weerasinghe
 Founder, Safety Well-Being, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Practitioner, Certified Professional Transformational Coach

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_W49g8vJVR2ua43e12WbNA

Registration on a first-come first-served basis

ON OR BEFORE 25 MARCH 2026

Date: 26 March 2026
 Time: 05:00 pm - 06:30 pm (IST)

Platform: **zoom**

FREE OF CHARGE

For enquiries, contact Hasara via hasara.muwanwella@casrilanka.org

SAFA-CAPA Women’s Day celebrations

SAFA | **CAPA**

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2026

GIVE TO GAIN

Joint initiative of SAFA Women Leadership Committee and CAPA

KEYNOTE

BY TARYN RULTON
 Deputy President, IFAC

REMARKS

MOHAMMED HUMAYUN KABIR (President, SAFA)
YONG SOK JHUN (President, CAPA)
CA PRABIN KUMAR JHA (Vice-President, SAFA)

PANELLISTS

JENNIFER LOPEZ (Chief Executive, CAPA)
CHAMILA COORAY (Chairperson, SAFA Women Leadership Committee)
REBECCA KEPPEL-JONES (CPA Australia)
TISHAN SUBASINGHE (President, CA Sri Lanka)

Date: 12 MARCH 2026 | Mode: VIRTUAL | Time: 10:30 AM - 12:00 NOON (GMT+05:30)

For registrations, please click here
 Registration link: <https://live.icai.org/12032026>

SAFA | **CAPA**

The SAFA Women Leadership Committee (WLC), in collaboration with the Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA), successfully organized the SAFA–CAPA International Women’s Day Celebration 2026 on 12 March 2026 in virtual mode. The event, aligned with the theme “Give to Gain”, witnessed participation from over 400 professionals across South Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The programme featured addresses by Ms. Chamila Cooray, Chairperson, SAFA WLC, Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir, President, SAFA, Mr. Yong Sok Jhun, President, CAPA and CA. Prabin Kumar Jha, Vice-President, SAFA reaffirming commitment to gender inclusion and leadership development. The keynote address by Ms. Taryn Rulton (Deputy President, IFAC) highlighted the value of empowering women for collective growth.

The panel discussion, moderated by Ms. Dinali Jayasinghe, included Ms. Jennifer Lopez (Chief Executive, CAPA), Ms. Rebecca Keppel-Jones (CPA Australia), and Mr. Tishan Subasinghe (President, CA Sri Lanka), focusing on mentorship, collaboration, and inclusive leadership.

The event reinforced the importance of advancing women in the profession and strengthening regional collaboration.

Brief Report on
Activities of SAFA
Member Bodies



During
January to March
2026



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh

Press Conference on SAFA Int'l Conference 2026

ICAB organized a Press Conference of the SAFA Int'l Conference 2026 on 14 January 2026 at ICAB Council Hall. Against this backdrop, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) is hosting the SAFA International Conference titled "Next Generation Profession: Converging Ethical AI and Sustainability Reporting" on 17 January 2026 at Hotel Le Méridien, Dhaka.

IFAC President Visit: A historic convergence

Mr. Jean Bouquot, President, IFAC meets South Asian Profession in Dhaka, visited in Bangladesh for the first time upon ICAB's invitation.

Key meetings, conference, events, during his visit

- SAFA Conference
- ICAB, IFAC strategic discussion: Professional Advancement
- 'ICAB Reform Strategy 2025-30' handed over to IFAC President
- ICAB President's Dinner



ICAB-IFAC Leadership Strategic Discussion on Professional Advancements

Key Highlights of the Discussion

- Strengthening collaboration between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) and the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) to advance the profession at both regional and global levels.
- Exchange of views on evolving professional issues, including the rapid pace of technological change and its impact on the accounting and auditing profession.
- Discussion on ICAB's strategic reforms focused on enhancing professional standards, capacity building, and audit quality in line with international best practices.
- Emphasis on preparing accounting professionals for future challenges arising from digital



transformation and sustainability-related reporting requirements.

- Reaffirmation of the profession's commitment to serving the public interest as the foundation of trust, credibility, and global recognition.
- Recognition of sustainability reporting as a critical area for the profession, despite growing global challenges and criticism.
- Focus on the importance of supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Small and Medium Practices (SMPs) as a key responsibility of the global accountancy profession.
- Acknowledgement of the profession's essential role in addressing global challenges while maintaining integrity, quality, and ethical standards.

IFAC President's Visit Key Highlights of ICAB President's Dinner



- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) hosted a President's Dinner at Olea, Le Meridien, Dhaka, in honor of IFAC President Mr. Jean Bouquot and delegates from SAFA member bodies. ICAB council members, past presidents, and foreign delegates attended, celebrating international partnership and cooperation.
- The evening began with a reception, followed by a ceremonial welcome from the ICAB President, highlighting shared professional values and strategic engagements.
- Guests enjoyed traditional Bangladeshi music and cuisine, reflecting the country's culture and hospitality.
- The dinner concluded with handing over the Booklet on 'ICAB Reform Strategy 2025-30' & souvenir exchanges and toasts to the foreign guests, symbolizing friendship and future collaboration.
- The event provided a platform to strengthen international relationships and underscore Bangladesh's commitment to global professional cooperation.

Building Bridges, Uniting Voices: A Strategic Consultation Between ICAB and ICMAB

In a landmark step toward strengthening the accountancy profession in Bangladesh, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) and the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) convened a high-level strategic consultation led by ICAB President NKA Mobin FCA and ICMAB President Md. Kausar Alam FCMA, aimed at narrowing down all differences and work effectively to serve the national interest, advance the professional standing of our members, and constructively influence public policy and regulatory reforms. The meeting was held on 9 February 2026 at Council Hall, CA Bhaban, Dhaka.



ICAB Ascend: Mentorship for Professional Growth Launched, Strengthen Pathways for Professional Development.

On 16 February 2026, ICAB launched ICAB Ascend, a mentorship initiative led by the Gender Inclusion & Leadership Committee (GILC). The programme aims to foster meaningful mentorship, strengthen professional networks, and support the development of future leaders within the profession.

ICAB Ascend reflects ICAB's continued commitment to inclusive leadership and structured pathways for professional growth.



Webinar on 'AI's Applicability in Accounting & Auditing'

Artificial Intelligence (AI), particularly Generative AI (GenAI), is rapidly transforming professional services. Businesses worldwide are moving beyond experimentation toward the deployment and scaling of AI technologies to improve efficiency, decision-making, and operational performance.

For accounting and auditing professionals, it is increasingly important to demonstrate leadership in the

responsible use of AI. Firms must effectively integrate AI across their practices to enhance quality, productivity, and operational excellence while maintaining professional standards and ethical obligations. Experts forwarded these views at the webinar titled ‘AI’s Applicability in Accounting & Auditing’ organized by ICAB on 16 February 2026.



CRC-ICAB Celebrated International Mother Language Day

ICAB-Chattogram Regional Committee (CRC) observed International Mother Language Day on February 21, 2026, along with articulated students from different firms of the Chattogram Region.



CA Stall at Ekushey Boi Mela 2026

Creating awareness about the Chartered Accountant (CA) qualification and building networking opportunities with prospective students is the prime objective of the CA Stall set up at the Ekushey Boi Mela 2026 on the Bangla Academy premises. Mr. NKA Mobin FCA, President-ICAB and Mr. Mohammad Moin Uddin Riad FCA, Council Member-ICAB, along with Chief Executive Officer Mr. Shubhashish Bose and Chief Operating Officer Mr. Mahbub Ahmed Siddique FCA, visited the CA Stall. Every day, hundreds of students and their families visited the stall and enquired about the Chartered Accountancy Course.



Ramadan Celebration & Islamic Cultural Festival 2026

The much-anticipated Grand Show of the DRC-ICAB Ramadan Celebration & Islamic Cultural Festival 2026 took place, marking a successful conclusion to the Flagship Program containing the highly competitive events, i.e., Recitation of the Holy Quran, Hamd-Naat-Islamic Song, and Sirat & Islamic Quiz.



The distinguished Islamic Scholar and Social Reformer, Shayekh Ahmadullah, graced the Program as the Chief Guest.

Hon'ble President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh, Mr. N.K.A. Mobin, together with the esteemed Vice Presidents and Council Members were in presence in the Program. The event was successfully hosted under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Mahmudur Rahman FCA, DRC Chairman, Mr. Md. Akizur Rahman FCA, DRC Secretary and Mr. Rashidul Islam FCA, Event Chairman with the dedicated support of other DRC Members, Committee Members, and Convener Mr. Md. Shariful Islam FCA. A large number of distinguished members of CA Bangladesh along with 250 Contestants (Members' Children and Current CA Students) were present to witness the intellectual Islamic Show on the occasion of Ramadan Kareem.

Heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Chief Guest, Shayekh Ahmadullah and our hon'ble President of ICAB, Mr. N.K.A. Mobin FCA, other distinguished Guests, ICAB Members, participating Contestants, Judges and all other stakeholders whose contributions made this event a remarkable success.

The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh

IFAC President's Visit and Strategic Engagement

Mr. Jean Bouquot, President of IFAC, visited ICMAB on 15 January 2026 and held a strategic meeting with its leadership. During the session, the Institute's education system, reform initiatives, and professional development activities were highlighted. Mr. Mahtab Uddin Ahmed FCMA, then President of ICMAB, along with Council Members and senior officials, participated in the discussion. The meeting emphasized regional collaboration, a stronger focus on ESG, and enhanced engagement with IFAC.



ICMAB's 25th Convocation–2026

The 25th Convocation of ICMAB was held on 15 January 2026 at Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka. Honorable Advisor Syeda Rizwana Hasan attended as Chief Guest, and IFAC President Mr. Jean Bouquot delivered the convocation speech. The program was presided over by Mr. Mahtab Uddin Ahmed FCMA, then President, alongside distinguished guests including Mr. Md. Abdur Rahman Khan FCMA, Dr. Md. Sajjad Hossain Bhuiyan, and Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir FCA, President, South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA). Around 300 Associate and Fellow members received certificates in a ceremony attended by Council Members, Past Presidents, and professionals.



Election of Office Bearers 2026

ICMAB elected its new office bearers on 15 January 2026, with Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA as President; Mr. Abdul Matin Patwary FCMA and Mr. S. M. Zahir Uddin Haider FCMA as Vice Presidents; Mr. Monjur Md. Shaiful Azam FCMA as Secretary; and Prof. Dr. Md. Musfiqur Rahman FCMA as Treasurer.



Participation in SAFA Board and Committee Meetings (Dhaka)

ICMAB actively participated in the 91st SAFA Board and 98th Assembly Meetings held on 16 January 2026 at Le Méridien Dhaka. The meetings were further enriched by the presence of Mr. Jean Bouquot, President of IFAC, along with distinguished delegates from SAFA member bodies across the SAARC region. Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA, President, represented ICMAB along with Immediate Past President Mr. Mahtab Uddin Ahmed FCMA. ICMAB representatives also made active contributions across several SAFA committees, including Accounting Standards, Professional Ethics, Anti-Money Laundering (AML), and Economic Advisory.



SAFA International Conference 2026

ICMAB delegates, led by President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA, participated as resource persons. The President delivered a presentation titled "Professional Landscape: Reshaped by Ethics and Technology." Mr. Mahtab Uddin Ahmed FCMA spoke on "Beyond Numbers: Professional Accountants' Evolving Role." Other ICMAB representatives-including Past President Prof. Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed FCMA, Vice President Mr. S. M. Zahir Uddin Haider FCMA, and Secretary Mr. Monjur Md. Shaiful Azam FCMA-were also present.



ICMA Pakistan Delegation Visit

A delegation led by Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Qazi, FCMA, Past President ICMA Pakistan visited ICMAB on 18 January 2026. The meeting focused on collaboration, education systems, and professional development. ICMAB officials present at the meeting included Mr. Abdul Matin Patwary, FCMA-Vice President, Mr. Monjur Md. Saiful Azam, FCMA, Secretary; Professor Dr. Md. Musfiqur Rahman, FCMA, Treasurer; Past President Professor Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed, FCMA; Mr. Md. Mahbub-UI-Alam, FCMA, Executive Director; and Mr. Md. Shafiqul Islam Talukder, FCMA, Director.



Professional Induction Program

ICMAB organized a Professional Induction Program on 23 January 2026 for newly qualified CMAs. The program was inaugurated by President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA. Key speakers included Mr. Jamal Ahmed Choudhury FCMA, Ms. Akhtar Sanjida Kasem FCA, FCMA, Prof. Dr. Nikhil Chandra Shil CGMA, FCMA, and Mr. Arif Khan CFA, FCMA. Other members of the Institute—including Vice President Mr. S. M. Zahir Uddin Haider FCMA and Past President Mr. Mohammed Salim FCMA—along with the newly qualified CMAs, were also present.



MoU with Khulna University

The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Khulna University on 25 January 2026 to strengthen academic collaboration. The agreement was signed by Mr. S. M. Zahir Uddin Haider FCMA, Vice President of ICMAB, and Dr. Md. Noor Un Nabi, Treasurer of Khulna University. The agreement enables student exemptions, scholarships, and joint research initiatives.



SAFA Strategy Meeting (India)

ICMAB participated virtually in SAFA Strategy and Committee Meetings held in India on 29 January 2026. President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA and Mr. Md. Abdur Rahman Khan FCMA represented the Institute.



Students' Orientation Program

ICMAB organized an Orientation Program on 7 February 2026 for newly admitted students. The program featured academic briefings and motivational sessions. President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA delivered an inspiring address, emphasizing professionalism and global competitiveness. The session included presentations by Prof. Dr. Nikhil Chandra Shil CGMA, FCMA; Prof. Dr. Mohammad Zakaria Masud FCMA; Mr. S. M. Zahir Uddin Haider FCMA; and Prof. Dr. Md. Musfiqur Rahman FCMA.



ICMAB–FRC Strategic Meeting

An ICMAB delegation, led by President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA, met with the Chairman of the FRC on 8 February 2026. The discussion focused on key issues, including Cost Accounting Standards, corporate governance, and financial reporting reforms.



ICMAB–ICAB Strategic Dialogue

ICMAB met ICAB leadership on 9 February 2026 to strengthen collaboration. The delegation led by President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA discussed joint initiatives, governance, and professional standards.



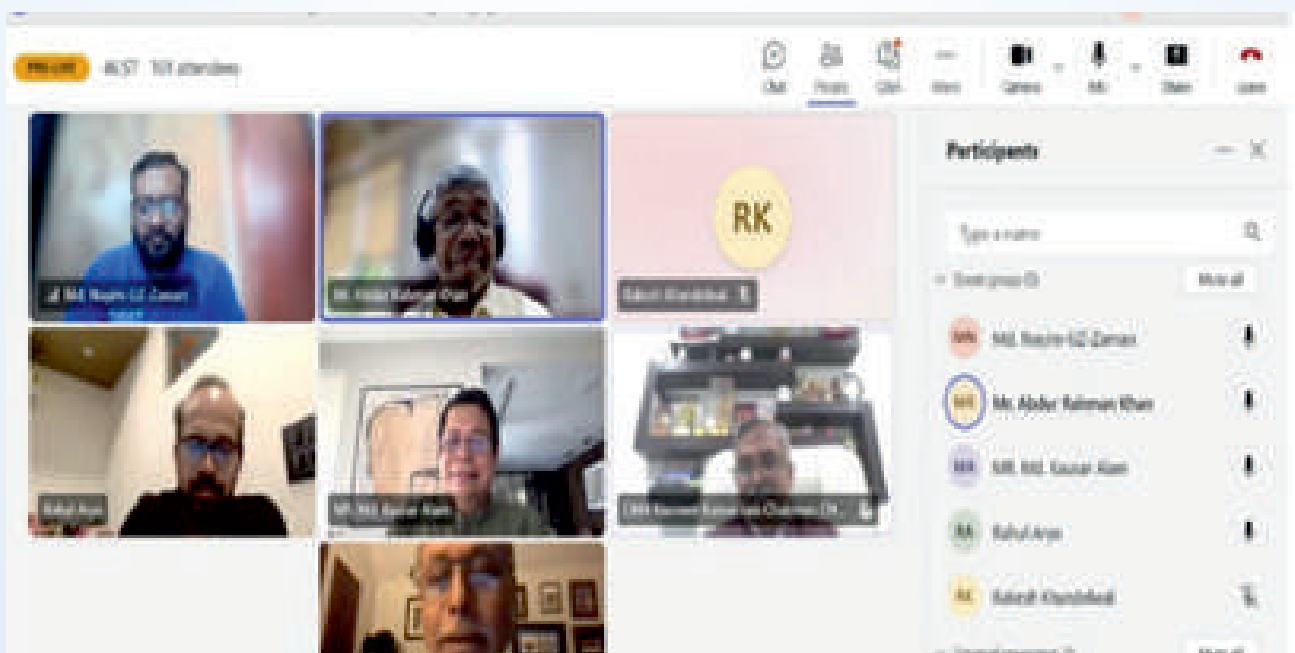
“Meet the Members” Program

ICMAB held a “Meet the Members” program on 28 February 2026 to enhance engagement and strategic dialogue. President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA addressed members and shared the vision of the 19th Council. Vice Presidents and senior members also participated actively.



International Webinar on Social Finance

ICMAB, in collaboration with SAFA and ICAI, organized a regional webinar on Social Stock Exchanges and NPO financing. President Mr. Md. Kausar Alam FCMA attended as the Special Guest. Key participants included Mr. Mohammed Humayun Kabir (SAFA President), Mr. Md. Abdur Rahman Khan FCMA, and CMA Navneet Kumar Jain. The session drew participation from over 500 attendees across SAARC countries.



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

A. Institutional Developments

Election of New President and Vice President, ICAI

The Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), at its 449th meeting held on 12th February 2026 at New Delhi, has elected CA. Prasanna Kumar D as the President and CA. Mangesh Kinare as the Vice President of ICAI for a period of one year.



Revision in Code of Ethics

The Council of ICAI has approved the revised 13th Edition of the Code of Ethics. The new Code will be applicable from April 1, 2026, and a major highlight of the reform is the amendment to the advertisement guidelines. This long-awaited move opens new possibilities for Indian CA firms, especially emerging and mid-sized practices, to enhance visibility, expand their reach, and compete confidently at a global level.

With this revision, ICAI has now converged its Code of Ethics with the 2024 edition of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) Code of Ethics.

New Ethical Standards for Sustainability Assurance, which are based on the International Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance (including International Independence Standards) issued by IESBA, have been incorporated into the Code of Ethics. Further, under the revised Code of Ethics, the list of Management Consultancy and Other Services (MCS) that a Chartered Accountant may provide has been further expanded to include a wider range of contemporary, digital-age services.

ICAI (Global Networking) Guidelines, 2025

The Council also approved the ICAI (Global Networking) Guidelines, 2025, a milestone that unlocks a new era of global alliance for Indian CA firms. These guidelines provide a structured, transparent, and compliant framework for Indian CA firms, domestic networks, and ICAI-registered consultancy companies to forge international affiliations and access opportunities across global markets.

B. International Activities

Renewal of MoU with College of Banking & Financial Studies (CBFS), Oman

The Council of ICAI has approved the renewal of MoU with CBFS, Oman. ICAI & CBFS Oman have a long-standing MoU since March 2008, and the MoU was last renewed in March 2022 for a period of 5 years.

The fundamental purpose of the MoU is for CBFS to act as the official sponsor and facilitator for the Muscat Chapter of ICAI, establishing a partnership designed to conduct training, seminars, and workshops for finance professionals and Omani nationals. To support these activities, CBFS provides the Chapter with space for seminars and workshops at no cost. In return, the Chapter provides faculty

support to CBFS for their own training programs and professional courses. Ultimately, both bodies agree to collaborate closely on professional education, faculty development, and various research initiatives.

MRA with CA Ireland

ICAI had a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with CPA Ireland, which lapsed following the merger of CPA Ireland with Chartered Accountants Ireland in September 2024. The proposal for entering into MRA with CA Ireland has been approved by the ICAI Council and submitted to Government of India for approval.

Meeting with the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), United Kingdom

In alignment with the UK-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) commitments to encourage professional bodies to initiate negotiations in the accounting and auditing sectors, the ICAI met the delegation led by Mr. Nathan Walker, Department of Business Trade, Government of UK and Mr. Dhruve Shah, Director, Professional Bodies Supervision from FRC, an independent regulator in the United Kingdom and Ireland responsible for promoting transparency and integrity in business.

World Forum of Accountants (WOFA 2.0)

ICAI organized the World Forum of Accountants WOFA 2.0 on the theme Nation Building to Global Collaboration: Strengthening Trust, Enabling Growth from January 30th – February 1st 2026, at India Expo Mart & Centre, Greater Noida.



With 200 plus distinguished speakers, 50 plus technical sessions, and 100 plus exhibitions, the forum witnessed more than 10000 participants from 16 plus countries including India. The event was inaugurated by Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry and Shri Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman, Aditya Birla Group. Mr. Jean Bouquot, President, IFAC; Prof. Dale Pinto, President, CPA Australia; Mr. Lee White CEO, IFAC; Mr. David Franklin, CFO, ICAEW; Ms. Jennifer Lopez, Chief Executive Officer, CAPA; Mr. Mohamed Haleem Abdulla, President, CA Maldives; CA. Tishan Subasinghe, President, CA Sri Lanka; Mr. Hussain Niyazy, Auditor General of Maldives; Mr. Mohammed Sh. A. M. Shuaib, Committee Member of the Kuwait Accountants and Auditors Association (KAAA); and Dr. Rajesh Nayak, Director (Training) CBFS, Oman are some names of the speakers among others.

C. National Activities

Cooperative Chintan Shivir- Strengthen India's Cooperative Ecosystem

The Institute organised the Cooperative Chintan Shivir under the theme 'Transforming India's Economic Future through the Expanding Role of Chartered Accountants', to organise in-depth deliberations on the growing role of Chartered Accountants in strengthening the cooperative sector and reinforcing its contribution to India's economic development.

The event was inaugurated by Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, along with Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Cooperation and Shri Suresh Prabhu, Founding Chancellor of Rishihood University.

During the event, a Concept Paper on strengthening India's cooperative ecosystem was also launched, outlining the strategic role of Chartered Accountants in enhancing governance, financial transparency, audit quality and capacity building within cooperative institutions. The Chintan Shivir concluded with actionable insights and policy-oriented suggestions for strengthening India's cooperative ecosystem, and fortify the vision for a resilient, transparent, and professionally governed cooperative sector.

Statutory Central Auditors' Meet

The Statutory Central Auditors' (SCA) Meet held on March 24th 2026 in Mumbai was graced by Shri Rohit Jain, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India, who commended the proactive role played by auditors and appreciated the initiatives taken by ICAI towards strengthening audit quality, capacity building, and enhancing the overall effectiveness of the audit ecosystem.

The meet, attended by 130 participants, served as an important platform for deliberations on key issues impacting bank audits in a rapidly evolving financial and regulatory landscape. The discussions focused on the expanding role and responsibilities of Statutory Central Auditors' (SCA) in ensuring high audit quality, strengthening financial reporting, and addressing emerging risks in a technology-driven environment.

Past Presidents' Meet

With a forward-looking vision to continuously strengthen and evolve the profession, the Past Presidents' Meet 2026 was held on March 5-6, 2026, bringing together 29 distinguished former Presidents of ICAI who have played a defining role in shaping the Institute's journey over the decades.

The deliberations during the Meet covered a wide range of important matters related to students, members, professional development, brand building, and other strategic priorities. The valuable perspectives and suggestions shared during the meet were further deliberated in the Council Strategic meet towards shaping the vision for the profession. Building on these insights, a progressive roadmap will be developed to position the profession as a key enabler in India's growth story.

ITEC Training -Supporting Global Capacity Building

ICAI, under the aegis of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, successfully organized two Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Professional Training Programs during the Council Year 2025–26.

The forum aims at strengthening India's commitment to global capacity building in the accounting profession. Building on the success of the inaugural initiative, ICAI conducted the Second ITEC Training Program on the theme 'Frontiers of Global Accounting: Mastering Digital Transformation' from 15th to



26th September, 2025, at the Centre of Excellence (CoE), Hyderabad. Further expanding its global outreach, ICAI organized the Third ITEC Training Program at COE, Hyderabad on the theme 'Engaging the Public Accountants in the 21st Century' from January 12th – 23rd, 2026.

Advancing GST Thought Leadership and Cooperative Governance

The ICAI successfully convened the 4th National GST Symposium from January 8-9, 2026 in Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram. The symposium reinforced the Institute's role as a catalyst for dialogue and development in the GST ecosystem.

The platform had brought together 97 senior officers from 24 States and key institutions, including GSTN, CAG, the GST Council Secretariat, and GSTAT, enabling meaningful exchange on policy, administration, and implementation challenges.

Eminent former CBIC leaders shared valuable insights, while focused technical sessions addressed critical areas such as the GST Appellate Tribunal, next generation audits, adjudication quality, GST–Customs interface, data analytics, and inter-tax coordination, collectively advancing the vision of GST as a good and simple tax.

GES-CA 2026: Transform Commerce Education into Future Leadership

ICAI organised a two-day Global Education Summit in Commerce and Accountancy (GES-CA) 2026. Themed 'Rising Together - Transforming Commerce Learning into Leadership' in New Delhi, the summit aimed at strengthening the ecosystem for commerce education in the country, towards positioning India as the Global Talent Hub.

The summit was inaugurated by Shri Suresh Prabhu, Founding Chancellor of Rishihood University. The second day of the conference featured a special address by Shri Arun Singh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament. There were also Vice Chancellors, Policy makers, Industry Leaders, Directors, Principals, Deans, Professors and distinguished professionals from 24 States and 2 Union Territories from across the country.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) were also signed with 15 universities/colleges. Further, to bridge the gap between academic curricula and professional requirements, ICAI launched the ICAI Model Curriculum for Commerce and Accountancy Education in alignment with the transformative vision of the National Education Policy 2020.

Project Vanijya' to Strengthen India's Economic Foundations

In alignment with the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047, the Institute launched 'Project Vanijya' on December 19th 2025. The visionary national initiative aimed at strengthening commerce education from the early stages of schooling. The project aims to empower young students with early exposure to commerce, trade, banking, money management, taxation, and ethical business practices, making education more practical, relevant, and future-oriented.

The initiative is aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which in turn emphasizes on holistic, multidisciplinary, skill-based, and experiential learning.

Senior leaders and representatives of education boards from 17 states across India participated in the event. ICAI has also signed an MoU with the Punjab State Education Board on December 22nd 2025, in Mohali to promote Commerce Education and career guidance about the Chartered Accountancy Course amongst the students of Punjab State.

Managing Committee Members Meet -2026

Over the years, ICAI, with its strong institutional structure, has built a legacy of excellence for its members and students across 186 branches in India. To carry forward the legacy ahead, the RBA Directorate has successfully conducted the Regional Level Managing Committee Members Meet 2026 across all 5 regions, with the objective of providing structured orientation to the elected Managing Committee Members of Branches and Regional Council Members.

These meets emerged as a strong platform for deliberation, strategic planning, and developing a forward-looking roadmap to take the Institute to newer heights. It also played a crucial role in strengthening internal governance by familiarizing the managing committee members with the Institute's regulations, policies, and best practices, thereby reinforcing the objective of balanced regulation with development. These meets reflected a strong spirit of collaboration and a shared commitment to positioning ICAI and the profession as key partners in realising the vision of Viksit Bharat. The response to these regional meets has been highly encouraging. A total of 1095 Managing Committee Members out of 1206, along with 62 Regional Council Members out of 64, participated in these programmes.

Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Maldives

KEY UPDATES

5th January 2026 - OECD Model Tax Convention

CA Maldives has published the Tax Alert - 2025 updates to the OECD Model Tax Convention.

8th February 2026 - Regulation for Registration of Accounts in Business

CA Maldives is pleased to announce the publication of the Regulation for Registration of Accountants in the Government Gazette on 8 February 2026.

CA MALDIVES HAS PUBLISHED:
TAX ALERT - 2025 UPDATES TO
THE OECD MODEL TAX
CONVENTION

8th February 2026

CA MALDIVES HAS PUBLISHED THE
REGULATION FOR REGISTRATION
OF ACCOUNTANTS IN BUSINESS

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

29th January 2026

WOFA 2026

CA Maldives President, Mr. Mohamed Haleem Abdulla, along with Council Members Mr. Ibrahim Fazeel and Mr. Ali Muaz, Participated in the strategy meeting of SAFA Board on January 29, 2026, at 04.00 pm (IST) at India, New Delhi



CA Maldives President delivered his insights on Building Global Accountants - Enhancing Collaboration and knowledge Sharing at the World Forum of Accountants 2026.

The delegates of CA Maldives proudly represented the Institute at the World Forum of Accountants (WOFA), held in New Delhi, India, from 30th Jan - 1st Feb 2026. Delegates from the Auditor General's Office also participated in the Forum.



MEMBERS FORUM 2026

On 14th February 2026, CA Maldives successfully concluded Members Forum 2026, bringing together our valued members for open dialogue and meaningful engagement. The forum focused on sharing key updates on recent regulations and major activities of the Institute, while warmly welcoming constructive recommendations and suggestions to further strengthen both the Institute and the profession.



Inspirational Connection

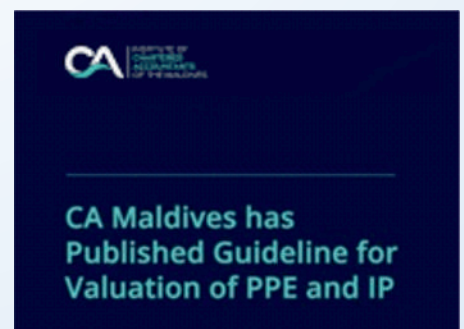
The forum commenced with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Ms. Aminath Nasha from CA Maldives, setting a respectful and meaningful tone for the discussions that followed.

PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE

04th March 2026 – Guideline for Valuation of PPE and IP

CA Maldives presents the official Guideline for Valuation of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE) and Investment Property (IP) for financial reporting purposes.

Promoting accuracy, transparency, and international-standard compliance in fair value measurement.



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal

ICAN celebrated 29th Anniversary Celebration

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal celebrated its 29th anniversary on 31st January 2026, in the gracious presence of Finance Minister, Mr. Rameshwore Prasad Khanal as Chief Guest of the program. The program was chaired by CA Nil Bahadur Saru Magar, President, ICAN whereby Hon'ble Auditor General Mr. Toyam Raya and Financial Comptroller General Mr. Shobha Kanta Poudel addressed the program as Special Guest.

ICAN becomes a member of Chartered Accountants Worldwide

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) has obtained Associate Membership of Chartered Accountants Worldwide (CAW). ICAN is the 16th Member Institute of CAW. ICAN is pleased to be part of this global network and looks forward to contributing to CAW's mission of strengthening collaboration and unity within the chartered accountancy profession across borders.

ICAN organized 1st Campus Placement Program

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) successfully organized Campus Placement Program, first time in its history, on 20 March 2026, providing a structured platform for organizations to recruit newly qualified Chartered Accountants. The program catered to diverse sectors including Banking & Financial Institutions, Corporate & Manufacturing Industries, Audit & Consulting Firms, Startups & FinTechs, Insurance Companies, and Development Organizations (NGOs/INGOs).

ICAN organized Conference on Global Accounting and Finance Outsourcing

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) successfully hosted a specialized one-day conference in Kathmandu titled Global Accounting and Finance Outsourcing on January 31, 2026. The initiative addressed the critical need for local stakeholders to align with global shifts in business process management and offshore financial services. The central objective of the conference was to provide delegates with an extensive understanding of modern trends in international finance workflows, alongside a deep dive into successful case studies from regional and global outsourcing markets. Key sessions analyzed the emerging opportunities brought forward by digital transformation, while addressing systemic challenges such as data security, regulatory compliance, and talent retention. Crucially, the forum highlighted Nepal's robust potential in this sector, outlining how the country's growing pool of qualified accounting professionals can effectively capture international market share.

Participation in South Asian Federation of SAFA Board Meeting and World Forum of Accountants (WOFA)

CA Prabin Kumar Jha, Vice President, SAFA and Council Member, ICAN attended the SAFA Board Meeting hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on 29th January 2026 in Greater Noida, India.

CA Prabin Kumar Jha, Vice-President, SAFA and Council Member ICAN along with Council Members RA Pradeep Kumar Yadav and Mr. Than Prasad Pangyani, and Executive Director CA Bimal Dangol attended SAFA Board and various SAFA Committee Meetings held on 16th and 17th January 2026 in Dhaka, Bangladesh hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh.

Delegation from ICAN comprising of CA Prabin Kumar Jha, SAFA Vice-President and Council Member along with ICAN two officials participated in World Forum of Accountants (WOFA) organized by ICAI from 30th January to 1st February 2026 in India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, India.

ICAN granted Scholarship for Fiscal Year 2025/26

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) has provided NPR 4,195,750 in multi-category scholarships to 184 deserving CA students, advancing its mission to ensure equal opportunity within professional accounting education by systematically lowering economic barriers across the various levels, this institutional investment not only safeguards the academic progression of high-potential candidates but also reinforces the strategic pipeline of qualified financial leadership for the nation.

ICAN entered into Bursary Agreement with ICAEW Foundation

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) entered into a Bursary Agreement with the ICAEW Foundation on March 2026. Under this agreement, the Institute will receive funding to provide bursary for 15 students who are financially disadvantaged and shall not be able to pursue professional qualification if such bursary is not available. The funds are designated to support bursaries for students pursuing Chartered Accountancy education, specifically benefiting 10 students at the Foundation level and 5 students at the Application level.

ICAN conducted 11th Batch of Pre-Articleship Orientation Program

The Institute organized 10th batch of Pre-Articleship Orientation Program for the students who have qualified in CAP II level examination of December 2025 on 21st February. The purpose of this orientation program was to enhance the skills and capabilities of students going to pursue three years articleship training by providing proper orientation and training on personality development, communication skills, professional behavior and culture at audit firms and clients' offices.

ICAN conducted CA Membership Examination March 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) successfully conducted the CA Membership Examination March 2026 on March 21 and 22, facilitating the rigorous assessment of candidates qualified from other recognized professional accounting organizations. This examination serves as a critical statutory mechanism for reciprocal professional integration, ensuring that globally credentialed accounting professionals satisfy local regulatory, taxation, and legal benchmarks before entering the domestic financial market.

ICAN conducted AT Examination March 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) conducted Accounting Technician (AT) Examination of March 2026 from 21 to 24 March 2026 in Kathmandu. The Accounting Technician (AT) program is a specialized technical education framework designed by the Institute to produce competent mid-level accounting professionals equipped with practical skills to support financial operations across the corporate, public, and banking sectors.

ICAN conducted training on Standardized Financial Format and Audit Manual for Community Schools

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) organized two days training on Standardized Financial Format and Audit Manual for Community Schools from 10 to 25 March 2026. The Training was

conducted under the project “Supporting Public Financial Management Facility for British Embassy Kathmandu (BEK)”. The objective of this training is to enhance the professional capacity of auditors involved in school audits. The program aims to strengthen audit quality, ensure uniformity in reporting practices, and promote transparency, accountability, and improved public financial management at the school and local government levels.

ICAN held Meeting with Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSC) Team

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) delegation led by President CA Nil Bahadur Saru Magar held a meeting with ROSC team led by Mr. Tanuj Mathur, Senior Financial Management Specialist, World Bank on February 2026 in ICAN premises. The discussion focused on various aspects of the accounting profession, audit regulation, and accounting frameworks to support the preparation of the Nepal - Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSC) – Accounting & Auditing Assessment 2025 jointly conducted by the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

ICAN published Result of Chartered Accountancy (CA) and CA Membership Examination for ACCAs December 2025

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) has published the results of the Chartered Accountancy Examinations held in December 2025 on 15 December 2025.

ICAN conducted 28th Batch of General Management and Communication Skill (GMCS) Training

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) has organized 28th Batch of GMCS training in February 2026. This training aims to enhance communication, presentation, and interpersonal skills while providing an understanding of the contemporary business environment and career opportunities. The program is designed to help students prepare for professional careers by equipping them with the necessary skills to adapt to a competitive business environment. Participation in this training is mandatory for obtaining ICAN membership.

ICAN organized 8th Chartered Accountants’ Convocation Ceremony

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) organized the 8th Chartered Accountants’ convocation on 30th January 2026 in Kathmandu. The objective of the program was to distribute Convocation Certificate to recently qualified Chartered Accountants from ICAN who have obtained ICAN membership after 19th January 2025. In the program, new Chartered Accountants members participating in the Convocation Ceremony were distributed Convocation Certificate along with oath taking by the Chief Guest Hon’ble Auditor General Mr. Toyam Raya.

ICAN Quiz and Public Speaking Contest 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) organized ICAN Quiz and Public Speaking Contest 2026 for CAP III level students on 28th January 2026 at the ICAN Head Office, Satdobato, Lalitpur. Prize and certificate has been awarded to winners of the contest in the 8th Convocation Ceremony held on 30th January, 2026.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan

ICAP Elections 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) successfully conducted the 18th Elections for the ICAP Council and Regional committees (Northern and Southern) on January 09 - 10, 2026. One of the key features of Elections was the introduction of an additional seat of Islamabad in the Northern Region Zone A. The elections were conducted through E-Voting and the voting process commenced from 5:00 pm on January 9, 2026 till 5:00 pm on January 10, 2026. The overall turnout of voters was around 69% reflecting active participation of members in the elections.

City Wise results are also available on ICAP website and can be accessed by visiting the members' area at <https://member.icap.org.pk>

ICAP Elects Office Bearers for 2026 - 2027

The Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) unanimously elected its new Office Bearers for the year 2026-2027 in its 410th meeting held in Karachi on January 28, 2026. The Council unanimously elected Mr. Muhammad Samiullah Siddiqui, FCA as President, Mr. Ahmed Raza, FCA and Mr. Jehan Zeb Amin, FCA as Vice Presidents of the Institute.



The National Finance Olympiad 2025 Marks a Milestone with Historic Overseas Victory

The National Finance Olympiad (NFO) 2025 marked a defining moment in ICAP's flagship talent development platform, underscoring its evolution from a national competition into a regional stage for identifying and shaping future finance leaders. Designed to simulate real-world complexity, NFO continues to strengthen the profession's readiness for board-level judgment and leadership in increasingly technology-enabled business environments. Featuring 40 teams from Pakistan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the competition advanced six finalists to a Boardroom-style Grand Finale judged by industry experts. Alpha Analysts were crowned National Finance Champion 2025, becoming the first overseas team to win the title.



ICAP Holds Members' Convocation Ceremony to Honor Summer 2025 Graduates and Fellow Members

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) organized the Members' Convocation Ceremony on January 20, 2026, at PAF, Karachi, to recognize newly qualified Chartered Accountants from the Summer 2025 academic session and to honor Fellow Chartered Accountants (FCAs) on the completion of their 10 years of continuous association with the Institute.

ICAP Hosts High-Level Roundtable on AI Integration Across Pakistan's Financial Sector

The Digital Assurance & Accounting Board of ICAP recently convened a high-level roundtable titled "Innovate, Automate, Prosper - AI for Pakistan." This strategic think-tank was established to develop a practical roadmap for Artificial Intelligence integration across Pakistan's financial and corporate sectors, moving beyond general awareness toward actionable policy outcomes. The session addressed key pillars required for a digital-ready ecosystem, beginning with the need for robust governance and ethical frameworks to address the "confidence gap" among senior leadership around data integrity and trust.

ICAP Conducts Hands-On Workshop on IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards

ICAP hosted a two-day workshop titled "Implementing and Demonstrating Compliance with IFRS S1 and IFRS S2 through Sustainability-related Financial Disclosures" on 14–15 January 2026 at ICAP House, Lahore. The workshop was designed to strengthen the practical understanding of finance, risk, audit, and sustainability professionals on implementing the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards recently adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), with a focus on translating regulatory requirements into effective, decision-useful disclosures.

Strengthening Bonds Beyond the Profession: ICAP Members Family Get-Together

The Northern Regional Committee (NRC) of ICAP brought members and their families together for a memorable ICAP Members Family Get-Together in Islamabad, on Saturday, January 31, 2026. The event was organized to promote interaction and strengthen bonds among members and their families. The occasion was graced by Mr. Jehan Zeb Amin, Vice President ICAP, along with Mr. Zeeshan Ijaz, Mr. Shahid Iqbal Khattak, and Mr. Rana Muhammad Usman Khan, Council Members of ICAP.

ICAP Nationwide Outreach Activities: Inspiring the Next Generation of Business & Finance Professionals

The Outreach division of the Marketing & Communications Department, ICAP, continued its nationwide mission in January 2026 to guide, inspire, and empower the next generation of business and finance professionals. A total of 25+ outreach activities were organized, covering key cities including Abbottabad, Gilgit, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Lahore, Mirpur (AJK), Peshawar, Hyderabad and Karachi.



Month: February

ICAP Strategy Conclave Sets Direction for 2026 – 2030 Reform Agenda

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) convened its two-day Strategy Conclave 2026–2030 on 11–12 February 2026 in Karachi, bringing together Council Members, Regional Committees and senior management to shape the Institute’s strategic direction for the next five years. Discussions focused on governance reforms, education modernization, digital transformation, member



value enhancement, and strengthening quality and public interest safeguards in response to evolving regulatory and technological challenges. This Strategy will serve as ICAP’s institutional roadmap for the next five years, supported by structured implementation and periodic review mechanisms.

ICAP Honours Outgoing Council and Regional Committee Members (2022–2026 Term)

ICAP hosted an Appreciation Dinner in Karachi on 11th February, 2026 to honor the outgoing Council Members and Regional Committee Members for the term 2022–2026. The event acknowledged their dedicated service, leadership and valuable contribution to strengthening the Institute and the profession during their tenure.

Building Boardroom Excellence: ICAP Holds 82nd Directors’ Training Program in Islamabad

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) successfully conducted its 82nd Directors’ Training Program (DTP) in Islamabad from January 20–22 and February 3–4, 2026, at the Marriott Hotel. The program brought together professionals from diverse sectors for an intensive learning experience designed to strengthen boardroom leadership and governance practices. Guided by a distinguished panel of seasoned experts, the program proved to be a resounding success, having brought together a diverse cohort of 32 individuals hailing from various professional backgrounds.

Nationwide Outreach Activities: Advancing Financial Literacy by Empowering Future Leaders



In February 2026, the Outreach Division of the Marketing & Communications Department (MARCOM) of ICAP further advanced its commitment by cultivating future leaders in business and finance across Pakistan. The outreach team conducted 28 Career Counseling and Awareness Sessions across leading educational institutes reaching students in Lahore, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Karachi, Hyderabad, and Sukkur.

Month: March

ICAP Reinforces Commitment to a People-First Culture through Nationwide Town Hall Meetings.

ICAP successfully concluded a series of Town Hall meetings across Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad, reaffirming its commitment to a people-first culture rooted in transparency, inclusivity, and



collaboration. The sessions provided a valuable platform for open dialogue, encouraging employees to share insights and contribute towards the “One ICAP” vision. The Town Halls were attended by Mr. Muhammad Sami Ullah Siddiqui, President ICAP; Mr. Ahmad Raza, Vice President (South); Mr. Jehanzeb Amin, Vice President (North); and Mr. Omair Jamal, Secretary & COO, whose presence underscored leadership’s commitment to engaging directly with teams across the country.

Celebrating Strength and Inclusion: International Women’s Day at ICAP

In recognition of International Women's Day 2026, ICAP took a moment to celebrate the remarkable women who contribute to the Institute’s ongoing success. The occasion was marked by appreciation, reflection, and a renewed commitment to inclusion and diversity. The celebration highlighted the strength, resilience, and professional excellence of female employees across all levels of the organization.

High Achievers Scholarship 2025

ICAP awarded scholarships to 75 high-performing students based on merit and inclusivity criteria. The initiative provides financial support and encourages academic excellence in aspiring Chartered Accountants. It reflects ICAP’s commitment to nurturing future leaders of the profession.



ICAP Nationwide Outreach Activities: Inspiring the Next Generation of Business & Finance Professionals

ICAP continued its outreach efforts in the month of March in Lahore, conducting career counseling sessions. Students gained insights into Chartered Accountancy and future career pathways.

Selected ICMA News Items for SAFA Newsletter Coverage

1. ICMA Leadership Participated as Panelists at SAFA International Conference in Bangladesh Date: January 17, 2026

ICMA leadership participated as panelists at the SAFA International Conference in Bangladesh, contributing to regional dialogue on emerging trends reshaping the accountancy profession. Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Qazi, FCMA, Former President ICMA, spoke in Technical Session III on sustainability reporting maturity, assurance readiness and regional collaboration. Mr. Aamir Ijaz Khan, Executive Director ICMA, joined Technical Session I on the professional landscape reshaped by ethics and technology.



2. ICMA Delegation Attended SAFA Committee & Board Meetings and Visited ICMA Bangladesh Date: January 15-18, 2026

ICMA delegates attended SAFA Committee and Board meetings in Bangladesh on January 16, 2026. The Institute was represented by Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Qazi, FCMA, Former President ICMA; Mr. Muhammad Kamran Shahzad, FCMA, National Council Member; and Mr. Aamir Ijaz Khan, FCMA, Executive Director ICMA. During the same visit, the delegation also engaged with ICMA Bangladesh to strengthen professional collaboration, knowledge sharing and regional initiatives.



3. ICMA Engaged with OICCI Leadership

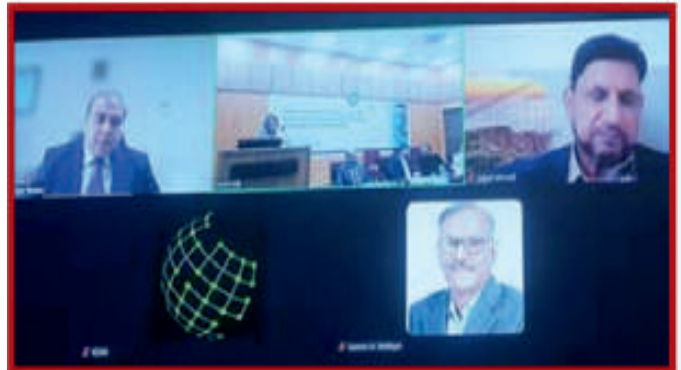
Date: January 21 and 26, 2026

ICMA leadership held a strategic meeting with the Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OICCI) on January 26, 2026 at Karachi. The discussions focused on collaboration, professional pathways, member development, employer engagement and wider opportunities for professional accountants.



4. Quality Assurance Board Held Seminar on Company Incorporation, Audit, SECP Compliance and AI, Date: January 30, 2026

The Quality Assurance Board of ICMA organized a seminar at Islamabad on company incorporation procedures, audit and SECP compliance frameworks, and the role of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, in firm operations. Senior ICMA representatives and SECP officials contributed insights on regulatory compliance, evolving audit practices and the impact of AI on audit processes and Quality Control Reviews.



**5. ICMA Launched Book on Fertilizer Manufacturing Sector and Sugar Sector Deregulation Report
Date: February 16, 2026**

The ICMA Research and Publications Committee launched two important knowledge products at ICMA Head Office, Karachi: "Pakistan's Fertilizer Manufacturing Sector" authored by Mr. Muhammad Bashir Khan, FCMA, and "ICMA's Sugar Sector Deregulation Plan for Pakistan" prepared by the ICMA Research and Publications Department. The event included presentations and professional discussion on sectoral policy and economic reform.



6. ICMA Lahore Campus Organized Seminar on Women's Role in Building an Inclusive and Resilient Economy Date: March 31, 2026

ICMA Lahore Campus organized a seminar on women's role in building an inclusive and resilient economy, bringing together professionals, academics and female members of the Institute. The session emphasized women's contribution to economic stability, skills development, financial literacy and professional growth, and included a panel discussion on workplace challenges and opportunities. Why suitable for SAFA Newsletter: Recommended as a March 2026 item because it aligns with inclusive development, economic resilience and women empowerment - themes relevant for South Asian professional communities.



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka)

Induction Ceremony of CA Sri Lanka's 28th President

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) formally inducted Mr. Tishan Subasinghe as its 28th President on 20 January 2026 at the Shangri-La Hotel, Colombo.

The event brought together leaders from the profession, business, and judiciary. Outgoing President Mr. Heshana Kuruppu handed over office, with Mr. Jean Bouquot, President of IFAC, attending as Chief Guest, and Hon. Justice Yasantha Kodagoda as Guest of Honour.

In his address, Mr. Subasinghe emphasised the importance of strengthening ties with stakeholders and positioning Chartered Accountants as strategic business leaders, technology-driven professionals, and ethical communicators.

Ms. Anoji De Silva, Senior Partner at Ernst & Young, was elected Vice President.



CA Sri Lanka Celebrated the Diamond Chapter of the Prestigious TAGS Awards

The prestigious TAGS Awards marked its 60th anniversary with a grand finale that recognised organisations ranging from top corporates to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) for their exceptional corporate reporting.



The Diamond Chapter of the TAGS Awards, held in February at the Shangri-La, Colombo, celebrated six decades of championing transparency, accountability, governance, and sustainability in both financial and non-financial reporting.

The event was graced by Esteemed Guest Labour Minister and Finance Deputy Minister Dr. Anil Jayantha Fernando, Chief Guest Central Bank of Sri Lanka Governor Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, and Guest of Honour Treasury Secretary Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma.



CA Sri Lanka Best Annual Reports and Accounts (BARA) Awards Ceremony

CA Sri Lanka successfully hosted the Ninth Best Annual Reports & Accounts (BARA) Awards Ceremony on 5 February 2026 at BMICH, celebrating excellence in public sector financial reporting, transparency, and governance. The event drew over 600 public sector finance professionals and saw participation from 260 public entities. A total of 45 entities were recognised as winners, while 187 institutions received Compliance Certificates.

CA Sri Lanka holds APFASL 14th Annual General Meeting

CA Sri Lanka hosted the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Public Finance Accountants of Sri Lanka (APFASL) on 31 March 2026 at its premises, with the participation of members, Board members, and distinguished guests.

The AGM reviewed APFASL's progress and financial performance for 2025, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening public financial management in Sri Lanka. A key highlight of the meeting was the induction of Ms. K. V. C. Dilrukshi as the new President of APFASL, succeeding Mr. V. Kanagasabapathy, whose 14 years of dedicated service were warmly appreciated and recognised.

CA Sri Lanka Strengthens Ties with CPA Australia

In a continued commitment to advancing the accounting profession, CA Sri Lanka President Tishan Subasinghe together with Chief Executive Officer Lakmali Priyangika hosted a delegation from CPA Australia for a constructive discussion on deepening professional collaboration.

The delegation included Professor Dale Pinto, President and Chair of CPA Australia, Don Poh, Business Development Manager – Emerging Markets, and representatives from the CPA Australia Liaison Office in Sri Lanka, led by Dinuk Hettiarachchi, Country Representative.

Discussions focused on the ongoing Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and explored future areas of cooperation, reflecting the strong and longstanding relationship between the two institutes.

Women's Day Celebration 2026: Celebrating the power of giving and the strength of collective impact

CA Sri Lanka hosted the Women's Day Celebration 2026 – Let's Give to Gain on 13 March 2026 at CA Sri Lanka. The evening featured an inspiring keynote address titled "Give to Gain: Giving as a Pathway to Personal Growth and Sustainable Leadership" by Azusa Kubota, Resident Representative of UNDP Sri Lanka.

An engaging panel discussion on "The Power of Collective Giving" followed, featuring Dilani Yatawaka, Group Managing Director/CEO of Ideal Motors (Pvt) Ltd; Pyumi Sumanasekara, Partner – ESG, Global Assurance, Family Business & Board Governance at KPMG; and Hiroshini Fernando, Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director of RIL Property PLC.

CA Sri Lanka Celebrates Four Decades of Membership

CA Sri Lanka proudly hosted "Decades of Distinction" to honour members who have dedicated 40 years of service to the accounting profession and the Institute and the celebration was filled with fellowship, appreciation, and recognition, reflecting CA Sri Lanka's enduring commitment to honouring its members' decades-long contributions to the profession.

CA Sri Lanka Hosts YCAF Bowling Night 2026

The Young Chartered Accountants Forum (YCAF) of CA Sri Lanka brought together members for an energetic evening of fellowship and fun at Excel World, Colombo, with the much-anticipated Bowling Night 2026.

Strikes, spares, and spirited camaraderie defined the evening, as participants enjoyed a perfect blend of sport and fellowship.

CA Sri Lanka Hosts Golf Training Session at The Bay Golf Club

CA Sri Lanka organised an engaging Golf Training Session on 27 March 2026 at The Bay Golf Club, offering members a memorable evening of learning, skill building, networking, and enjoyment.

The session provided a unique blend of sport and fellowship. A large number of golf enthusiasts attended and the event highlighted CA Sri Lanka's commitment to creating diverse opportunities for members to connect beyond the profession, while promoting wellness and camaraderie. The Institute extended sincere appreciation to all participants for making the session a success, with hopes for many more engaging experiences ahead.

CA Sri Lanka Benevolent Society Hosts Free Medical Camp

The Benevolent Society of CA Sri Lanka organised a Free Medical Camp on 19 February 2026, offering members valuable health screenings and medical consultations with the support of Kings Hospital Colombo. The camp also featured an insightful guest lecture by Prof. Thamara Perera on liver health awareness, providing members with practical knowledge on maintaining long-term well-being.

Leading the way in sustainability and ESG excellence

CA Sri Lanka proudly marked a significant milestone with the launch of its Faculty of Sustainability Reporting & ESG Leadership, an initiative designed to develop future-ready professionals and thought

leaders who can drive sustainable transformation in an increasingly complex global landscape.

The Faculty was officially launched by CA Sri Lanka President, Tishan Subasinghe, in the presence of Vice President, Anoji De Silva; Chairman of the Sustainability Disclosure Standards Committee, Ashane Jayasekera; Alternate Chairman, Suranga Indunil; Council Members; and CEO, Lakmali Priyangika, highlighting the Institute's strong commitment to advancing sustainability and ESG practices.

CA Sri Lanka also introduced the Certified Sustainability Reporting & Strategy Advisor (CSRSA) qualification, a structured professional programme focused on building deep expertise in sustainability reporting, the strategic integration of ESG into business, and assurance processes.

CA Sri Lanka Launches the Faculty of Business Law & Regulatory Compliance

CA Sri Lanka launched the Faculty of Business Law & Regulatory Compliance, aimed at developing Chartered Accountants who are legally proficient, compliance-ready, and equipped to navigate complex corporate and regulatory landscapes. The faculty focuses on four key areas: Business Law Integration, Regulatory Compliance Management, Financial Investigations, and Dispute Resolution, helping members expand beyond traditional finance roles to become trusted advisors and strategic guardians of integrity.

The launch was followed by an insightful session on, "Navigating the Alternative Dispute Resolution Landscape: A Strategic Imperative for Corporate Sri Lanka", with insights from Justice Shiranee Thilakawardane, Justice A. H. M. Dilip Nawaz, and Attorney-at-Law Janaka Basuriya.

CA Sri Lanka Conducts Student Awareness Sessions on Curriculum 2025–30

CA Sri Lanka conducted a series of Student Awareness Sessions in March 2026 to provide comprehensive guidance on the new Curriculum 2025. The sessions addressed key aspects of the new framework, including transitional placement arrangements, exemptions, examination structure and processes, and the Professional Experience Requirement (PER).

Another session focused on the Capstone component of the curriculum. Students received an overview of the timeline, work plan, milestones, and prerequisites, along with guidance on the verbal pitch process and expectations for the final Capstone assessment.

CA Sri Lanka Conducts Career Fair

CA Sri Lanka successfully conducted the CA Sri Lanka Career Fair 2026, opening the gateway to world-class career opportunities for aspiring professionals.

The event brought together over 30 leading training partners who engaged with visitors and guided future talent. More than a career fair, it connected ambition with opportunity, helping participants explore pathways, build networks, and take confident steps towards their professional futures.

CA Sri Lanka Continues to Attract A/L Students with Aptitude Test Initiative

CA Sri Lanka conducted a series of aptitude tests from January to March 2026 for GCE A/L 2025 students, enabling early registration with the Institute. This initiative allowed students to commence their studies while awaiting the release of their A/L results. The programme proved effective in expediting the registration process and encouraging proactive engagement among aspiring Chartered Accountants.

A total of 1,001 students were selected through the aptitude tests, reflecting strong interest and participation in the Institute's pathway to professional success.

CA Sri Lanka Offers Professional Development for CBA & CCA Members

CA Sri Lanka organised a series of Professional Development Sessions in early 2026, designed to equip Certified Business Accountants (CBA) and Certified Corporate Accountants (CCA) with relevant technical knowledge and essential professional skills.

On 12 January, a session on the role of AI and automation in accounting explored how emerging technologies are reshaping the profession, highlighting the evolving role of accountants in a digital environment. On 27 February, participants engaged in a deep dive into SLFRS 18, focusing on presentation and disclosures in financial statements. The session covered first-time application and practical approaches to overcoming implementation challenges, enhancing clarity on reporting requirements and best practices. On 20 March, a session on personal branding and digital presence guided finance professionals on building a strong digital footprint, defining their brand, and maintaining digital etiquette and networking, supporting career positioning and professional identity.

CA Sri Lanka Hosts Timely Discussion on Middle East Crisis and Sri Lanka's Strategic Response

CA Sri Lanka organised a high-level session titled "Risk Amid the Middle East Crisis: Economic Shockwaves and Sri Lanka's Strategic Response" on 10 March 2026 at its headquarters. The event explored the global economic implications of evolving geopolitical developments in the Middle East, including their impact on energy prices, trade flows, remittances, inflationary pressures, and macroeconomic stability in Sri Lanka.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Murtaza Jafferjee, Chairman of Advocata Institute and CEO of JB Securities Ltd., who shared valuable perspectives on policy reform and economic resilience. A distinguished panel comprising Arjuna Herath, Roshan Perera, Udeeshan Jonas, Asoka Rupasinghe (joining virtually), and Mr. Jafferjee engaged in a thought-provoking discussion moderated by CA Sri Lanka President Tishan Subasinghe.

CA Sri Lanka Advances Sustainability with GHG Quantification and Reporting Workshop

The CA Sri Lanka hosted the 5th batch of its workshop series titled "Empowering Change: Reducing Emissions for a Sustainable Future", in February 2026. The programme focused on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reporting, climate-related disclosures, and emission reduction strategies, aligned with the new SLFRS S2 – Climate-related Disclosures Standard.

Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka

Integrated Reporting & Sustainability Accounting Standards Workshop

Under the Distinguished Patronage of Jean Bouquot President International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)

The Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka successfully hosted the Integrated Reporting & Sustainability Accounting Standards Workshop on 22 January 2026 at the Cinnamon Grand Colombo under the distinguished patronage of Jean Bouquot, President of IFAC. The workshop brought together regulators, corporate leaders, academia, and professionals to strengthen understanding of Integrated Reporting and Sustainability Accounting Standards, with emphasis on insights from the CMA Excellence in Integrated Reporting Awards 2025 Judges' Report.



Launch of Technical and Judges Panel Report

The event opened with a welcome address by Lakshman R. Watawala, Founder President of CMA Sri Lanka, followed by addresses from key capital market leaders highlighting the importance of transparency, governance, and sustainability in strengthening financial systems. A major highlight was the keynote address by Jean Bouquot, who shared global perspectives on the future of the accounting profession and the growing importance of sustainability and integrated reporting. In recognition of his contribution to the profession, he was conferred Fellow Membership (FCMA) of CMA Sri Lanka.



Address by Mr. Jean Bouquot



FCMA Conferring

The technical sessions formed the core of the workshop, where award-winning corporates showcased excellence in integrated reporting, sharing practical best practices and innovation in corporate reporting. This was followed by a high-level panel discussion featuring leading experts from industry and academia, further enriching dialogue on sustainability accounting and reporting standards. The launch of the CMA Strategic Management Accounting Journal added further value, strengthening CMA Sri Lanka's thought leadership in the profession.

Special feature of the programme was the CMA Students' Dialogue, where students had the rare opportunity to engage directly with Jean Bouquot and gain global insights into the future of the profession. The session also provided a platform for students to demonstrate communication skills and professionalism, concluding with vibrant student performances that added a dynamic and engaging dimension to the event.



Technical Session 01



Technical Session 02



Launch of CMA Strategic Management Account Journal



Speech Contest Students



Musical Event by Students



Q & A Session

Overall, the workshop reflected CMA Sri Lanka's strong commitment to advancing integrated thinking, sustainability reporting, professional excellence, and developing future-ready management accountants.



Group Photograph with students



Group Photograph with CMA Team

International Women's Day Forum 2026 – CMA Sri Lanka

CMA Sri Lanka marked International Women's Day 2026 with a virtual forum organized by its Women Leadership Committee, aligned with the global theme "Rights. Justice. Action. For All Women and Girls." The event brought together a distinguished panel of professionals, economists, and sustainability experts to discuss inclusive leadership and gender equity.

The forum opened with a welcome address by Darshini Watawala, followed by a keynote address from Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya, who highlighted leadership resilience and the importance of increasing women's participation in decision-making roles. The panel discussion, moderated by senior industry leadership, explored breaking barriers, fostering inclusive workplace cultures, and driving practical strategies for gender empowerment.

With contributions from eminent speakers across development, corporate, and sustainability sectors, the dialogue emphasized collaboration as key to achieving meaningful change. The event concluded with a strong call to action, reinforcing CMA Sri Lanka's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and women's empowerment across all spheres of society.



Group Photograph with CMA Team

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SOUTH ASIAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (SAFA)

SAFA E-Newsletter

(January to March, 2026)

