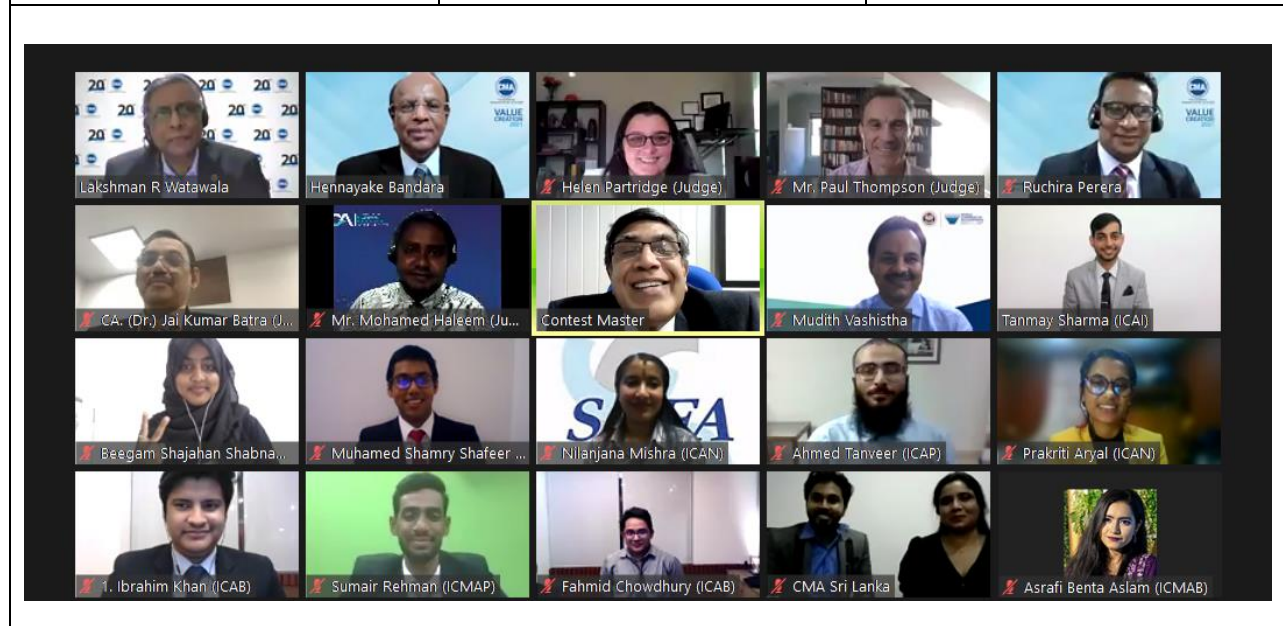


## SAFA Quiz and Elocution Contest 2021

### SAFA Elocution Contest 2021 - 6<sup>th</sup> November 2021 via Online Zoom Platform

		
1st Runner-up Beegam Shajahan Shabnam (ICA India)	Champion Tanmay Sharma (ICA India)	2nd Runner-up Pasan Wijewardena (CMA- Sri Lanka)



The Annual Event of the South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA) Quiz and Elocution Contest 2021 conducted online via zoom was organized amongst the students of SAFA member bodies on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021 hosted by the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka with the fullest support of the SAFA Secretariat with the objective to motive students towards the focused study of financial reporting standards and to develop the future speakers for the profession.

This year to celebrate the International Accounting Day which was falling on 10<sup>th</sup> November the SAFA Quiz and Elocution Contest 2021 was held virtually for the very first time under the guidance and leadership of The Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka with the blessings of the South Asian Federation of Accountants. The contest was a huge success with many awards been bagged by the students of SAFA member bodies and conducted on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2021.

The event comprised of two parts, the first being the elocution contest which was followed by the Quiz contest.

The Elocution Contest which was held on 6th November 2021. 15 students representing the SAFA member bodies of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB), Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB), Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN), Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Pakistan (ICMAP), Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA SL) and Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA SL) took part in the competition speaking on a range of topics such as 'Role of Financial Professionals in Audit Committee', 'Data analytics in the Age of Artificial Intelligence' and 'Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and the Role of Professional Accountants' for the allocated time of 10 minutes followed by one question raised by the judges. The contestants were selected based on national level competitions conducted by each Institute.

The programme was initiated with the address by Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala, Founder President, CMA Sri Lanka and Past President SAFA who gave a warm welcome to all the distinguished invitees, judges, participating students and representatives from the SAFA institutes. He also revived past memories on the formation of SAFA which resulted in the accounting profession of the South Asian countries coming together. Further he stated that despite the COVID 19 pandemic SAFA has brought together the students in the South Asian region and given them an opportunity via the virtual platform to conduct the contest. He was followed by a speech from CA. Jay Chhaira, Chairman, Committee on Education, Training and CPD who emphasized that to become a good professional accountant two main skills ought to be developed: technical skills and good management skills and that such competitions would inculcate such skills to mold current students to be better leaders taking up the responsibilities of the accounting world. Mr. A K M Delwer Hussain, President SAFA the Chief Guest at the contest spoke on the role of SAFA and thanked CMA Sri Lanka for hosting this great event. He also spoke on the increasing competition in the job market and that the SAFA Elocution and Quiz contest will enable students to acquire skills to face challenges and achieve excellence.



Ms. Helen Partridge Director, Accountancy Education, International Federation of Accountants chaired the elocution contest judges panel with the other members Mr. Paul Thompson Director, European Federation of Accountants and Auditors for Small and Medium Enterprises (EFAA), Dr. Jai Kumar Batra Permanent Secretary of South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA) and Mr. Mohamed Haleem Chairman of Academic Committee, CA Maldives.

The Champion of the elocution contest was Tanmay Sharma who spoke on 'Data Analytics in the Age of Artificial Intelligence' representing the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). The same institute also bagged the first runner-up of the competition featuring Beegam Shajahan Shabnam who spoke on 'Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and Role of professional accountants'. The 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up was

Pasan Wijewardena from CMA Sri Lanka who spoke on 'Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and Role of professional accountants'.

The first day of the event ended with the announcement of the elocution contest results. All participating students were of high praise for the conduct of the contest and hailed CMA Sri Lanka for taking the initiative to organize the event virtually. They applauded all the efforts taken by the entire staff of CMA Sri Lanka headed by the mastermind Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala and the Organising Committee Chairman Mr Ruchira Perera. The contest was conducted by 'Contest Master' Mr. Dian Abeyewardene a Senior Toastmaster of Colombo Toastmasters Club who at the start briefed the students on the rules and regulations and guided them. The day ended with the thanksgiving speech of Mr. Hennayaka Bandara, Vice President CMA Sri Lanka and Vice President SAFA.

### SAFA Quiz Contest 2021 - 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021 via Online Zoom Platform

	
<p align="center"><b>Winner</b> Dilani Marian Jayatilake and Mohanpirabu Bavan (CMA Sri Lanka)</p>	<p align="center"><b>Runner-up</b> Bhim Bahadur Kunwar and Asmita Sitaula (ICA Nepal)</p>

Lakshman R Watawala	Hennayake Bandara	CA (Dr) Jai Kumar Batra	Jayasekera	Ruchira Perera
GajendraPuvendran	Mr Mohamed Haleem	SAFA	Kosala Dissanayake	Team 1 - CMA Sri Lanka
Team 6 (ICAN)	Team 3 - ICMAIndia	Team 8 (ICAP)	Team 7 (ICAI) Ritik Chopra	Team 5 ICMAP
Team 3 - ICMAIndia	Team 8 (ICAP Pak)	Team 4 (ICMAB)	Team 2 (ICAB)	TEAM 7 (ICAI)

The second day of the programme was the Quiz competition that proceeded on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The questions were based on three main areas: Base erosion and profit shifting, IFRS 7 & 9 and Revised Audit Report with special emphasis on SA 700 & 701.

The quiz competition held among 9 teams representing of SAFA member bodies of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB), Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB), Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN), Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Pakistan (ICMAP), Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA SL) and Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA SL). It was overwhelming to see the competitiveness and go to spirit of each team till the very end of the competition.

The Judges panel was chaired by Mr. Jai kumar Batra, Permanent Secretary of the South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA) and assisted by Mr. Mohamed Haleem, Chairman of Academic Committee, CA Maldives and 2 council members of CMA Sri Lanka, Mr. J.M.U.B Jayasekera and Mr. Puvendran Gajendra

The Winner of the quiz competition were Ms Dilani Marian Jayatilake and Mohanpirabu Bavan of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA Sri Lanka). The runner-up was the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN) represented by Bhim Bahadur Kunwar and Ms Asmita Sitaula. The winners and participants were lorded for the immense effort put in to make the event a success and for making it one of the most competitive quiz competition held by SAFA. Participants views on the programme included comments that it was rather the first time such an opportunity was awarded to them via an online platform, and they applauded CMA Sri Lanka for all the efforts put it.