



ERNAKULAM BRANCH OF  
**SICASA**

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

**RELEVANCE OF CA  
SYLLABUS IN MODERN  
TIMES**

**VARUN SREEDHAR**

**THE CAFE CULTURE**

**RAJAT SANTHOSH**

**SWASTHI**



**E - NEWSLETTER**

**OCTOBER 2021**



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# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."*

*- Mahatma Gandhi.*

Dear students,

Another memorable month has passed, by pulling out the message that the most graceful commitment towards society is to volunteer to act towards the goodness of fellow human beings. In fact, Mahatma Gandhi reveals the pure truth of living life. Being a strong Gandhian follower, we, the SICASA team, could gather on the great day of Gandhi Jayanti and we could create a beautiful backyard in the institute.

We loaded the month of October with functional activities and events. We hope that from the very beginning till the end of the month; the students had manifold intakes and experiences that will assist them in their future endeavours. We were thriving persistently to better the soft skills of the student community by organizing the events like the "Be a better communicator". We could also see the students learn and unlearn their knowledge in the Industrial Visit, which was organized under the banner of SICASA, Ernakulam. We planned the journey as a one-day program to reach the Kannan Devan Hills Plantation to learn the industrial processes involved in the tea manufacturing and processing of the same. Post-trip, the participants were given an opportunity to report as well as to present a video on the Industrial Visit program. The best efforts were awarded a cash prize. Indeed, we were amazed to see the leadership capabilities of our students throughout the journey.

We could also arrange a study circle where the students gather well prepared to take in the lessons under the guidance of another student. The seminar was conducted by Ms Denita Mendez, who was successful in taking an expedient session.



**CA SALIM ABDUL RASHEED**

At the outset of the month, the Debate contest, as well as the PPT competitions, were held at the branch level. The winners of the same have been found and were duly rewarded. We could watch the students perform with great zeal and confidence. We held the debate contest with a topic that is highly relevant in today's Indian economy which was "Faceless Assessment of Income Tax Return-Boon or Bane". The participants were seen well prepared and we are sure enough that it had benefitted the viewers to a great extent.

The PowerPoint Presentation competition was a landmark for the students and the members as each of the competitors were evaluated by resourceful and experienced judges like CA Prasanth Mohan, Mr Narayanan and CA Vijo Varghese. They advised the students about the do's and don'ts of the PowerPoint presentation when they reached the regional level competitors. The SICASA Ernakulam team conveys our sincere greetings for the winners who are going to compete at the regional level. We also applaud all the participants who have taken the efforts to compete in the contest.

Evidently, the exams are nearby and it's pertinent to put in efforts to qualify for the levels of our course. It is advised to reap the benefits of the Board of Studies initiatives, especially the mock test series, and never forget to refer to the Revision Test Series for a better outcome in exams.

Happy reading.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Greetings from SICASA!

The theme for this month's newsletter is Food, in the wake of World Food Day on the 16th. India is a country that ranks too low in poverty levels, with famines blotting even our recent history. It is our responsibility as citizens of the world to ensure food security; that not one more soul starves to death.

With the threat of COVID slowly ebbing away as the vaccination drive moves fast towards achieving its goal, SICASA Ernakulam found it the best time to sign out of the online mode and get back to the good old face-to-face events.

Much to our joy, this month saw a good deal of activity-The second phase of the branch-level National Talent Search Competition was held on the 27th and 28th, the winners of which will represent the branch at the regional level. We also had an Industrial visit to the Kannan Devan Hills Plantation's Tea factory at Munnar on the 14th of October, which was followed by a leisurely trip to the Attukad waterfalls. After 20 long months, Denita Mendez conducted our first physical study circle post-COVID on the Protection of Minority Interest. The article-writing and the book cover designing contests also saw quite a level of excitement, with several entries coming in.

That being said, we are all geared up for the event of the year- Encore is back with a bang! The fete will see CA Students from the length and breadth of the district face off in various cultural events. We are also getting ready to host the CA Students' Conference by late December. Stay tuned!



**SHIMY SHAJI**  
**SRO 0596416**

## VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



**KRISHNA GOPAN**  
**SRO 0491630**

Dear readers,

Besides being involved with income tax filings and related compliances, the SICASA, Ernakulam branch, was occupied with manifold activities and events throughout the month of October. The ambience which was produced was indescribable as a substantial part of programs were conducted offline. The student and the member community appreciated wholeheartedly the range of activities, beginning from Gandhi Jayanti celebrations to the CA students' talent search contests.

As a part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, we could create a backyard at the ICAI Bhawan, Ernakulam. The "Be a better communicator" series was fabulously conducted. The Industrial visit program was an eye-opener for every participant on how much effort is involved in the tea manufacturing process and the allied activities. Thereafter, as a part of the CA student's Talent Search contests, we have conducted the branch level debate and "best presenter" competitions. I would like to use this platform to greet every participant who took efforts to showcase their debating and presenting potential on the ICAI deck. The winners of the said contests are going to represent the branch at the regional level and we wish all the very best to the winners and we are sure that you will enlighten the name of SICASA, Ernakulam Branch.

The exam dates are approaching closer and being the student community, we would like you to bring the revision phase back and stay tuned for the great Encore events in the coming month.



JOSEPH TIJO



DEVIKA VISWANATHAN



RAJAT SANTHOSH



SIRAJUNNISA T A



ROY JAISON

## EDITORS' NOTE

*"If you can't feed a hundred people, just feed one."  
-Mother Teresa*

Dear readers,

As we move towards the end of the calendar year, it's time to realize the resolutions that were put forth on the first day. If you are nowhere near, remind yourself about that list of unfulfilled dreams. Your resolutions may contain academics and kind, no wonder. Being CA students, we are expected to overcome the hurdle of examinations.

However, being the torchbearers of our profession and humanity, we must make an effort to eradicate poverty and famine to make this world a better place. We observe 16th October as the world food day as this day is the founding day of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Such an initiative by the world emphasizes the significance of nutrition and health for all. It is a fact that when one part of the world lies on the lap of luxury, the other part digs hard for water and nourishment. Hence, raise your voice against the havoc of even a single loaf of bread.

Having geared you up to a nurtured place, we have our current issue of Swasthi, with a theme of food. Besides being a need for survival, food is the symbol of richness in a nation's culture. We have incorporated the technical and non-technical articles in this issue along with the cartoon corner and scrapbook. The article writing competition and book cover design contest, conducted recently by SICASA, Ernakulam, witnessed remarkable participation. As always, we are grateful enough to each participant who has spared their time towards the competition to make it an enormous success.

The most awaited exams are on their way, and we wish you all the very best.

# RELEVANCE OF CA SYLLABUS IN MODERN TIMES

VARUN SREEDHAR | SRO 0633386

ARTICLE WRITING  
COMPETITION  
WINNING ENTRY

## **ABSTRACT**

Changing job roles in accountancy has led to an increase in demand for professionals in this field. Similarly, as the economy is growing rapidly, the career options in Finance and Accounts are expanding as well. Keeping given this dynamic environment, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has revised the existing curriculum and introduced subjects that are in sync with the changes in the finance sector across the globe. This article aims to throw light on the "Relevance of CA Syllabus in Modern Times".

## **ROADMAP TO BE A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**

To become a Chartered Accountant, the candidate has to go through a process of training and exams at various levels. There are various ways of enrolling in this course. However, broadly, the journey to becoming a CA is divided into four major stages.

Foundation | Intermediate | Articleship | Final

## **CA SYLLABUS**

The entire Syllabus is designed in such a way that it promotes innovation and encourages out of the box thinking. During the tenure of this course, a candidate gets exposed to various subjects like : Accounting | Financial Reporting | Auditing | Auditing | Taxation | Law | Costing | Finance | Economics, and so on.

## **RELEVANCE OF CA SYLLABUS**

Having domain knowledge in the Subjects mentioned above, a CA is sought after, as the entire world runs on money, and every business needs someone to manage their finances. Each paper of CA Inter and Final is an opportunity, and each topic of those subjects is an area of specialization. For Chartered Accountants having the right skill sets and the ability, I believe that "Sky is the limit".

The ICAI from time to time has revised the CA Syllabus to make it in line with the changing requirements of the Industry. Some roles that CA can perform are:

Advisory Services | Project Feasibility Studies | Capital Structure Planning | Working Capital Management | Inventory Management | Cost Control | Price Fixation | Cash Flow & Fund Flow Analysis | Valuation | Amalgamation and Mergers | Systems Analysis | Management & Operational Audit | Special Audit | Tax Planning

## **ELECTIVE PAPER IN CA FINAL**

Specialization in a profession compliments the study of broad concepts and helps to focus on a specific area. The Elective paper in CA Final has been introduced to provide students with the opportunity to specialize in subjects ranging from Risk Management to International Taxation. Now, this brings us to a concept called Chartered Difference.

## **THE CHARTERED DIFFERENCE**

It has become the need of the hour for CAs to be familiar with recent technology and also to effectively communicate. Hence, to equip the professionals, ICAI has introduced the Orientation / MCS and ITT / Advanced ITT Courses as part of the CA Curriculum. During these courses, a candidate develops soft skills, interpersonal, and leadership skills and prepares them to be employable. Similarly with Information Technology disrupting the mundane ways of how traditional audit services are carried out, these courses also teach to embrace technology.

Every CA aspirant has to undergo 3 Years of Articleship training before appearing for CA Final Exams. It is during this phase a CA Aspirant learns the practical nuances, and learns how to apply the theory learnt. Well, swimming cannot be learnt just by reading a book on how to swim. One has to jump into the water and swim.

## **CONCLUSION**

In today's complex global economy, CAs hold influential positions around the world, as business leaders, decision-makers and trusted advisers. From the largest listed companies to the most interesting organizations, we will find a CA shaping their success. Hence, I believe that the relevance of the CA Syllabus is in line to achieve the financial and strategic goals across industries and the globe.

# THE CAFÉ CULTURE



RAJAT SANTHOSH  
SRO 0498926

People extensively use social media platforms like Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, and so on. And to make the most of it, the cafes cut each other's throats to fish the potential loyal customers

But one could always ask, can't we make the same in household kitchens? Why should one always go to such cafes? They can contain harmful chemicals like Ajinomoto, and so on.

It's true to some extent.

One reason people rush to such cafes is for the exotic flavours. Using artificial flavour enhancing ingredients is a concern to be addressed. Since the food industry is a cut-throat competition in the modern era, such café owners would do anything to be one step ahead of others.

But another thing is that those who prepare such unique specialities are often professionals in their field, which we might not be. And it takes a lot of work and time to cook. You may have a bun, chicken, mayonnaise, lettuce and tomatoes at home, but putting them together to make a deliciously juicy burger might not seem practical for many. We leave that to the professionals.

So it's normal to feel the need to sit back and pay someone to put all that effort into making such delicious and to provide a heavenly ambience and service which would make us comfortable.

In a nutshell, times are transforming. In this very volatile industry called food, the competition has never been higher. Various unique kinds of food and even more unique methods of marketing, and giving importance to comfort while dining, have all made cafes not only the food but an experience itself. Whether it has affected the value of the household kitchen? It all depends on how one would perceive it.

Why are we so excited to go to glamorous cafes or any other restaurants where we can get the same food in our kitchen? Because of the taste? Or because of the ambience? Is it the service? Or is it a perfect spot to hang out with our friends? Or is it all the above?

As per [turtorialpoints.com](http://turtorialpoints.com), there are a few reasons youngsters resort to the cafe culture:

- **Economical** - They are cheaper than restaurants and hotels.
- **Not meant for families** - Families avoid cafes as they find youngsters making noises, peals of laughter, gossips, and whatnot.
- **Fast Food** - These venues fulfil the fast-food cravings youngsters come across.
- **Trendy atmosphere** - Most cafes provide a vibrant and soothing ambience, which leave the youngsters wanting for more.
- **Dating** - No one would prefer a family restaurant to take their partner on a date these days.
- **To talk business** - With youngsters taking more risks into their start-ups and profession, they make many key decisions over coffee in such a soothing atmosphere.

## CLEAN-UP ON THE OCCASION OF GANDHI JAYANTI



## INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO KANNAN DEVAN HILLS PLANTATIONS CO, PVT LTD MUNNAR



# CA STUDENTS' TALENT SEARCH 2021 DEBATE COMPETITION



**WINNER  
NITINA R JACOB**



**RUNNER-UP  
RAJAT SANTHOSH**



**SECOND RUNNER-UP  
INDU BHAVANA**



# CA STUDENTS' TALENT SEARCH 2021 BEST PRESENTER (PPT) COMPETITION



**WINNER  
RAJAT SANTHOSH**



**RUNNER-UP  
NITINA R JACOB**



**SECOND RUNNER-UP  
MERIN LUKOSE**



# STUDY CIRCLE ON PROTECTION OF MINORITY INTEREST



## ARTICLE WRITING COMPETITION

### WINNER



VARUN SREEDHAR  
SRO 0633386

### RUNNER-UP



NIDHI S KAKKAT  
SRO 0769942

### SECOND RUNNERS-UP



ANAND KRISHNAN  
SRO 0692707



ESHA AGARWAL  
CRO 0147501

## BOOK COVER DESIGN CONTEST



FIRST PRIZE  
JONJOY JOSEPH  
SRO 0464060



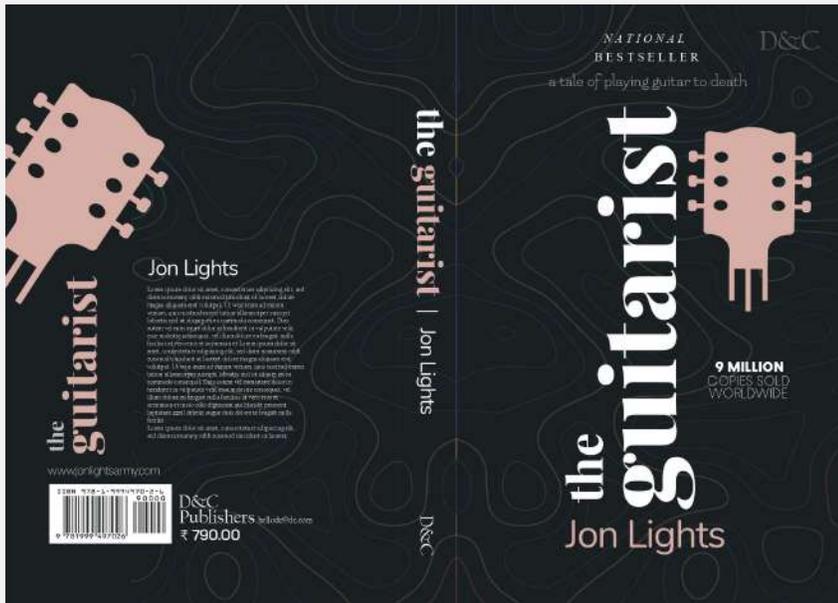
SECOND PRIZE  
AISHWARYA R  
SRO 0654379



THIRD PRIZE  
GEORGE B ERALIL  
SRO 0635757

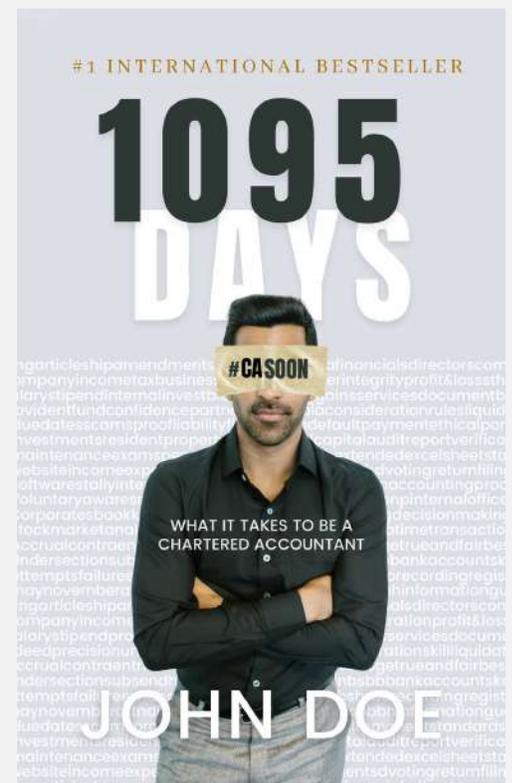
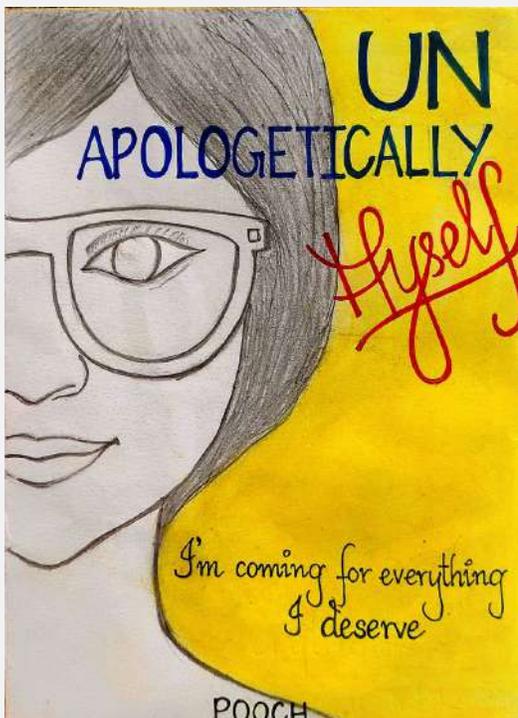
# CARTOON CORNER

## BOOK COVER DESIGN CONTEST WINNING ENTRIES



**JONNOY JOSEPH**  
**SRO 0464060**

**AISHWARYA R**  
**SRO 0654379**



**GEORGE B ERALIL**  
**SRO 0635757**



# FLASHBACK-OCTOBER 2021

EVENTS IN OCTOBER 2021

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>
OCTOBER 02	GANDHI JAYANTI - CLEAN UP
OCTOBER 02	BE A BETTER COMMUNICATOR
OCTOBER 09	BE A BETTER COMMUNICATOR
OCTOBER 14	INDUSTRIAL VISIT
OCTOBER 22	STUDY CIRCLE BY DENITA MENDEZ
OCTOBER 27	CA STUDENTS' TALENT SEARCH 2021 DEBATE COMPETITION
OCTOBER 28	CA STUDENTS' TALENT SEARCH 2021 BEST PRESENTER (PPT) COMPETITION

# GOOGLE CLASSROOM

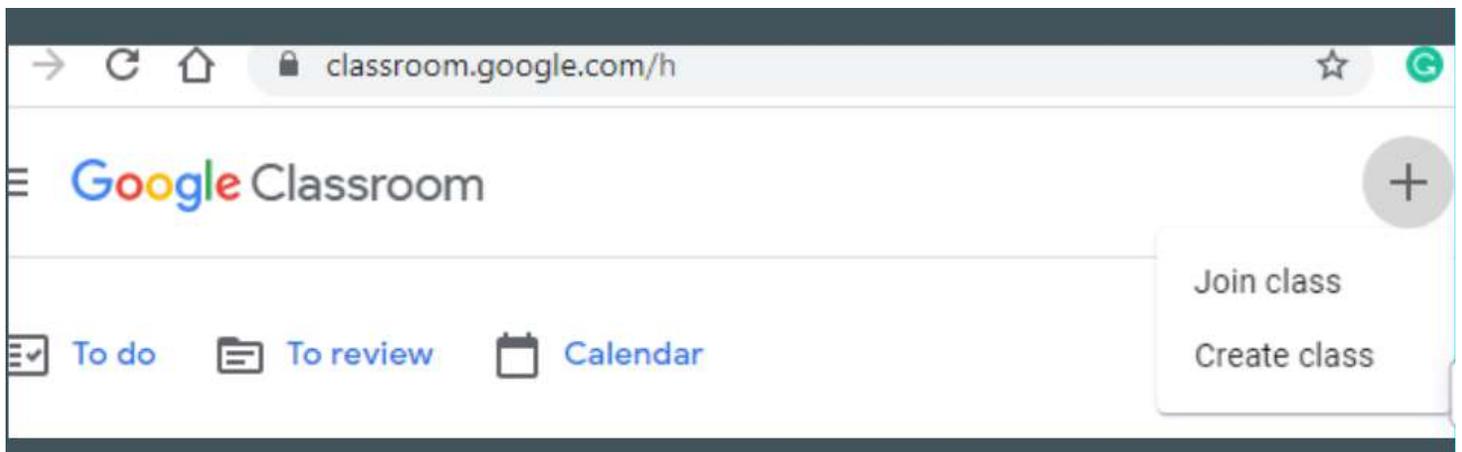
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