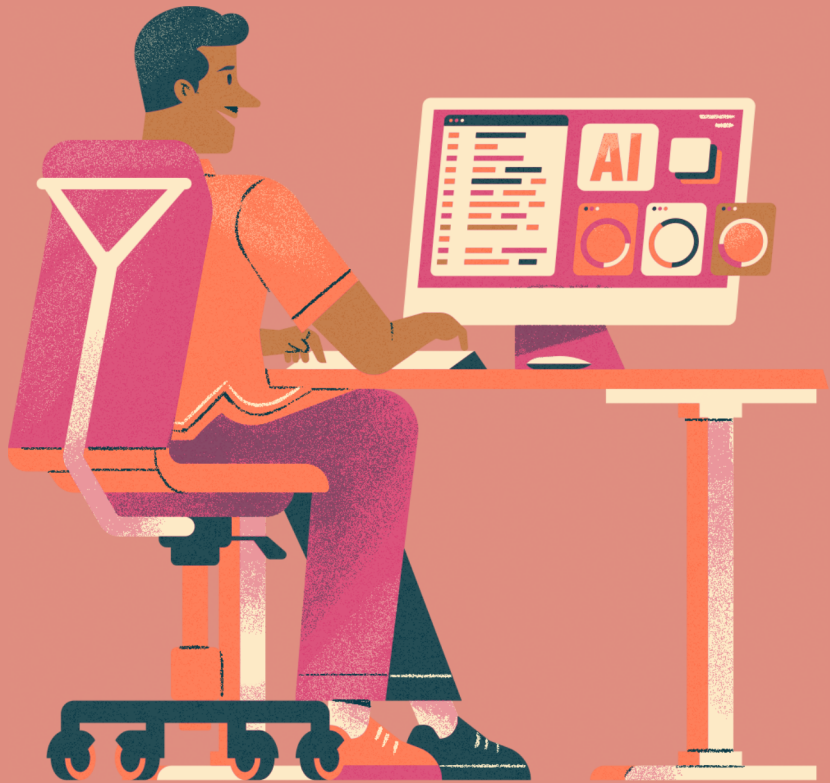




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# Chairman Desk

**CA Amit Tenani**  
Chairman,  
ICAI - Navi Mumbai (WIRC)



Dear Professional Colleagues,

On this momentous Chartered Accountants' Day, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all members of our esteemed profession. Since 1st July 1949, the ICAI has stood as a pillar of integrity, independence, and service to the nation. Let us take pride in our legacy and pledge to uphold the highest ethical standards while embracing new opportunities in the ever-evolving business and regulatory environment.

The Income Tax Department has released ITR Forms 1, 2, 3 & 4 for AY 2025-26, enabling early preparation and filing. Additionally, the due date for filing ITR for non-audit cases has been

extended from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025 to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025, giving taxpayers and professionals much-needed relief in this busy season.

On this CA Day, let us renew our resolve to strengthen the profession, harness technology, and be catalysts in India's economic growth story.

With Warm Regards,

**CA Amit Tenani**

Chairman,

Navi Mumbai Branch of WIRC of ICAI

ITR Form	Applicability	Status
ITR - 1 (Sahaj)	Individuals (Salary/Pension/One House Property/Others)	Released
ITR - 2	Individuals & HUFs (No business income)	Released
ITR - 3	Individuals & HUFs (Business/Profession income)	Released
ITR - 4 (Sugam)	Presumptive income for Individuals/HUFs/Firms	Released



## GST Update

### Rule 36(4) of CGST Rule does not violate Article 14 of Constitution of India

Contributed by: CA Ritesh Arora

#### ***Whether Rule 36(4) of the CGST/TNGST Rules violates Article 14 of the Constitution and is ultra vires the law?***

No. The Hon'ble Madras High Court in M/s L&T Geostructure LLP v. Union of India & Ors. [W.P. Nos. 5978 & 5983 of 2020, decided on 09.05.2025 | 2025 TMI 1976 – MADRAS HIGH COURT] upheld the constitutional validity of Rule 36(4) of the CGST and TNGST Rules, which restricts the availment of Input Tax Credit in cases where suppliers have not uploaded invoice details under Section 37(1). The petitioner challenged the vires of Rule 36(4) as being arbitrary, retrospective, and violative of Article 14. The Hon'ble Court rejected this contention, holding that the power to impose such restrictions flows from the combined reading of Sections 16 and 49 of the GST Act, and that Rule 36(4) is not ultra vires but a temporary regulatory measure designed to protect both revenue and taxpayers.

The Court traced the legislative and administrative history of ITC evolution from MODVAT/CENVAT to GST and noted that Rule 36(4) was introduced to address system-based reconciliation difficulties in the early years of GST implementation.

The rule was meant to provide limited credit (initially 20%, later reduced to 10% and 5%) in respect of invoices not reflected in GSTR-2A, pending compliance by suppliers. It clarified that with the maturing of the GST ecosystem and the incorporation of GSTR-2A and auto-populated returns, the system now enables a more seamless ITC claim process. Hence, Rule 36(4), in its temporary application, served the dual purpose of ensuring supplier compliance and preventing fraudulent credit, and cannot be struck down as violative of constitutional equality principles. The Court emphasized that an exception created to operationalize legislative intent, if applied uniformly and reasonably, cannot be faulted under Article 14.

#### **Author's Comments:**

While the Hon'ble Madras High Court has upheld Rule 36(4) as a constitutionally valid and reasonable restriction aligned with the objectives of the GST law, certain deeper issues remain unaddressed. Primarily, Rule 36(4) was introduced by invoking the rule-making powers under Section 164 of the CGST/TNGST Act without any specific recommendation of the GST Council.

This raises questions on procedural propriety, especially when such restrictions significantly curtail conditional vested rights like Input Tax Credit. It is now judicially settled that while ITC is a concession and not a vested right, any condition attached thereto must be grounded in statutory authority and follow due process, including Council recommendation in matters impacting national policy under GST. Even though the Hon'ble Court harmonized the rule with Section 16 and 49, the core concern remains: whether a delegated provision that effectively restricts ITC can be sustained and in absence of notification of section 43A.

It's also noteworthy that the Hon'ble Kerala High Court in *Nahasshukoor v. Assistant Commissioner*[2023] 157 taxmann.com 648 (Kerala) | [2024] 81 GSTL 384 (Ker.) had earlier upheld both Section 16(2)(c) and Rule 36(4), emphasizing the importance of supplier compliance in the ITC chain. This trend indicates judicial reluctance to dilute the matching principle that forms the cornerstone of GST credit architecture.



HOWEVER DIFFICULT LIFE MAY SEEM, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO AND SUCCEED AT.



- Stephen Hawking

## FSSAI and Its Importance for Chartered Accountants

Contributed by: CA Ankita Agrawal

### 1. Introduction

In today's regulatory ecosystem, compliance is no longer confined to tax filings and audit reports. For Chartered Accountants, a new frontier is emerging—one that demands an understanding of food safety, operational audits, and sector-specific regulation. With India's food industry growing exponentially and the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) tightening enforcement across formats like cloudkitchens, dark stores, and exporters, a unique opportunity lies ahead. CAs, with their command over financial systems and statutory frameworks, are best suited to bridge the gap between commercial operations and regulatory discipline.

This article explores how FSSAI compliance is not just a legal requirement, but a business-critical responsibility that Chartered Accountants can champion — and why doing so could shape the next era of professional growth.

### 2. What is FSSAI?

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 to regulate and oversee food safety standards in India. FSSAI lays down food safety regulations and ensures

compliance through licensing, audits, and periodic inspections.

Objectives of FSSAI:

- Ensuring Food Safety – Regulating the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale, and import of food to ensure it is safe for consumption.
- Standardization – Setting scientific food safety standards to maintain consistency and quality.
- Consumer Awareness – Educating consumers about food safety and hygiene practices.
- Enforcement – Conducting inspections, issuing licenses, and taking action against violators.
- Promoting Compliance – Encouraging businesses to follow best practices in food safety.

FSSAI compliance applies to a broad range of businesses, including manufacturers, importers, exporters, retailers, warehouses, e-commerce and quick commerce platforms, cloud kitchens, and even food delivery services.

### 3. FSSAI Compliance: From Technical Tick-box to Strategic Mandate

The landscape of compliance in India has

transformed dramatically. What was once confined to statutory filings and tax deadlines now encompasses holistic operational integrity – with FSSAI at the forefront in the food sector. As the food ecosystem formalises through platforms like ONDC and D2C models, FSSAI compliance is no longer just technical – it's foundational to business legitimacy. Chartered Accountants, with their deep understanding of documentation and regulatory frameworks, are uniquely positioned to lead this shift from reactive compliance to proactive governance.

#### **4. The Commerce-Compliance Nexus: Why CAs Fit In Naturally**

FSSAI licensing is directly tied to business turnover – a domain CAs navigate daily. Whether it's a basic registration for a ₹10 lakh turnover or a Central License for a ₹20 crore export unit, CAs can ensure correct categorisation. FSSAI, established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, has the broad mandate of regulating everything from manufacturing and storage to labeling, import, and distribution of food in India. Unlike other sectoral regulators, FSSAI's relevance cuts across all formats – from a home-based bakery to a 1,000-outlet QSR chain, and from a spice exporter in Kochi to a warehouse in Gurgaon supplying to online grocery platforms. In a commerce-driven world, what makes FSSAI particularly interesting for CAs is the inherent interplay between business models and compliance obligations. For instance, the type of FSSAI license required – Basic, State, or Central – depends on a company's turnover. Now, who understands business turnover better than CA?

More importantly, regulatory missteps – like incorrect license types or mismatches between GST and FSSAI jurisdictions – can invite audits, penalties, or investor scrutiny. This regulatory-commercial overlap places CAs at the core of food business structuring, especially in high-growth areas like cloud kitchens, dark stores, and quick commerce.

#### **5. Beyond Numbers: Auditing Hygiene, Labels, and Risk**

FSSAI's increasing focus on hygiene audits, third-party certifications, and product labelling disclosures has introduced new operational risks – risks that can be mitigated by the auditing skills of a CA. Whether it's tracking license expiry, validating vendor compliance, or ensuring shelf-life declarations match lab reports, CAs can extend internal audits to cover FSSAI checkpoints. In one case, helping a restaurant chain shift from paper-based chaos to a tech-enabled compliance system led not just to legal safety, but improved operational control and vendor management.

#### **6. Science Isn't a Barrier – It's an Opportunity to Collaborate**

The most common hesitation CAs face in the FSSAI space is the perceived "science barrier" – microbiological limits, contaminants, residues, etc. But the reality is that CAs don't need to become scientists. What they need is a strong SOP-based approach, working with food technologists, NABL labs, and FoSTaC trainers. Just like we don't practice law but understand legal provisions, we can learn to manage food



compliance without delving into biochemistry. What matters is structure, interpretation, and execution – which are already core CA competencies.

### 7. The Future of CA Practice: From Financial Reports to Food Safety Reports

As compliance and ESG reporting converge, FSSAI norms are becoming part of broader sustainability disclosures – from packaging compliance to water testing and waste management. Forward- looking CAs can now diversify into advisory areas like export documentation, sustainability reporting, and compliance due diligence for food sector investments. The CA of tomorrow will not be confined tonumbers. They will be answering questions about calorific displays, allergen labelling, hygiene scores, and traceability – because these are the questions the market, regulators, and consumers are beginning to ask.

### 8.Conclusion

FSSAI compliance is no longer just a legal formality but a critical business function. Chartered Accountants, with their expertise in audits, financial structuring, and regulatory compliance, can play a strategic role in ensuring businesses meet FSSAI norms.

By integrating food safety compliance with financial audits, GST structuring, and internal controls, CAs can offer value-added services and differentiate themselves in the market. The growing food industry, e-commerce expansion, and regulatory tightening make it a lucrative and essential field for CAs to explore.



## Service of Notice under GST: Legal Position, Practical Challenges, and the Way Forward

Contributed by: CA Santosh Dhumal

### A) Background

Self-assessment is the fundamental provision under GST Law, erstwhile indirect tax law as well as Income tax law. However due to the complex tax structure and Tax provision (Both direct and indirect Tax) provides the independent assessment by the tax authorities. Separate sets of provisions related to assessment and reassessment, appeal, revisionary mechanism is part of Tax Status. As like erstwhile Indirect tax laws, same is enacted in GST. Same time equal importance is also given to the communication with the taxpayer for intimation, Notice, summon, order, and other communication.

In the framework of GST law, the effectiveness of tax administration hinges not only on the provisions of law but also on how those provisions are communicated to taxpayers. Section 169 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, Specifically prescribes the legally recognized modes for service of notices, orders, decisions, and other communications under the Act. This section ensures that such service is done in a manner that is both traceable and legally sound, thereby safeguarding the rights of taxpayers while enabling authorities to enforce compliance. Understanding the modes and implications of service under this section is vital

for both businesses and tax professionals navigating the procedural aspects of GST.

### B) Importance of Service of Notice, Summon, order under GST

At this point we can differentiate the Direct Tax (income tax) with GST and other Indirect tax law, as Income tax Provisions are primarily concerned with issuance of the notices, whereas Indirect tax requires service (receipt by the recipient). Therefore, receipt of the notice by the taxpayer has also equal importance under GST.

Service of notice is the foundation of any adjudication or enforcement action. As it forms part of principle of Natural justices. And this principle is validly upheld in various judgment by Supreme courts and Various High Courts. A proceeding (e.g., assessment, demand, penalty, cancellation, recovery) initiated without proper service may be challenged as void ab initio due to breach of natural justice.

As like other provision under the GST, assessment proceedings are also time bound and therefore to built the foundation for assessment and related proceedings, adherence to the statutorily set time line is very much needed.

If service of notice is invalid the proceedings would be non est and the question of orders of adjudication being barred by limitation would arise. Proper and timely service of notices under GST is not merely procedural, but a substantive safeguard that upholds taxpayer rights and ensures lawful administration. Both taxpayers and authorities must adhere to the prescribed methods to avoid legal disputes, safeguard timelines, and uphold transparency in tax governance.

### C) Various modes prescribed under the GST law

Section 169 of CGST Act 2017, and similar provision of Section 169 MGST Act 2017 provide the x modes for service of Notice. And the same are summaries as below,

1. Personal Delivery: Directly to the addressee or his authorized persons such as manager, advocate, tax practitioner, or adult family member.

2. Post or Courier: Through registered/speed post or courier with acknowledgment due to the last known address. and it will be deemed to be delivered as per the normal / standard time of the registered/speed post or courier, unless otherwise proved.

3. Email: Sent to the registered e-mail address provided during registration or updated later.

4. Common Portal: By making the communication available on the GST common portal.

5. Newspaper Publication: Published in a newspaper circulating in the person's last known locality, and the date of such publication shall be the date of service of Notice.

**6. Affixing Notice:** If other methods fail, affixed at the last known address or on the notice board of the concerned authority, and the date of such affixing shall be the date of service of Notice.

**Here it is important to note that, for issuance of Various notice under GST, rule 142, requires**

1) Issuance of Summery of Notice (DRC 01) in case notices are issued in pursuance to Section 52 (Supply of Goods/ Services through E-commerce operator) , Section 73(Show cause notice for non-fraud cases), Section 74 (Show cause notice for fraud cases), Section 74A (Show cause notice for non-fraud / Fraud cases), section 76 (Tax collected but not paid) or section 122 (penalties for certain offences) or section 123 (Penalty for failure to furnish information return.) or section 124 (Fine for failure to furnish statistics.) or section 125 (General Penalty) or section 127 (Penalty for specific offences) or section 129 (Penalty for E-way Bill related offences) or section 130 (Confiscation of goods).

2) Statement of Notice under section 73(3) or section 74(3) or section 74A(3) along with summery of amount payable.

While providing issuance of Summery of notice and Statement of Notice, no reference has been taken to Section 169. Rather it refers to Common portal only. And it contradicts with its own provisions.

#### **D) Whether GST Portal statutorily enabled for service of Notice.**

For Service Notices, order, summon etc, Section 169(d) facilitates to serve it from common portal, and for the “Common Portal” would mean in terms of the definition in sub-section (26) to Section 2 of the GST Act, common portal “referred” to in Section 146 of the GST Act.

As per Section 146, of CGST Act, The Government may, on the recommendation of the Council, notify the Common Goods and Services Tax Electronic Portal for facilitating registration, payment of tax, furnishing of returns, computation and settlement of integrated tax, electronic way bill and for carrying out such other functions and for such purposes as may be prescribed.

Vide Notification 09/2018 of central Tax dated, 23 Jan 2018, Central Government notified [www.gst.gov.in](http://www.gst.gov.in) as the Common Goods and Services Tax Electronic Portal for facilitating registration, payment of tax, furnishing of returns and computation and settlement of integrated tax and save as otherwise provided in the notification number G.S.R. 925 (E), dated the 13th December, 2019, all functions provided under the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 and [www.ewaybillgst.gov.in](http://www.ewaybillgst.gov.in) as the Common Goods and Services Tax Electronic Portal for furnishing electronic way bill.

So the “Common portal” know as [www.gst.gov.in](http://www.gst.gov.in) has enabled with limited functionality as on the date and no specific notification has been issued in this regards.

Though the issue of “lacking of empowerment of GSTN portal” recently in case of Poomika Infra Developers (W.P. Nos. 33562) Madras High Court, validated the service of notice on Common portal is as per legal provision. While discussing on this issue, court held that,

*Reliance on Rule 142 of the GST Rules was made to submit that in terms of the above Rules, what is contemplated is only service of summary of notice/order, summons or other communications in the common portal and thus service of detailed notice/order, summons or other communications by making available in the common portal is impermissible. The above contention is liable to be rejected inasmuch as it is contrary to the plain language of Section 169 of the Act which provides that notice/orders, summons or other communications shall be served by making available the same in “common portal”.*

*The above construction is also contrary to settled position that in case of conflict between the enabling Act and a rule or any other delegated legislation, the former shall prevail and the delegated legislation has to be read and construed consistent with the enabling Act. As discussed above Section 169 of the GST Act, is a standalone independent provision and cannot be controlled by Section 146 of the Act or any Rules.*

However, due to lack of proper reasoning, this may get challenged in future or contrary decision may be pronounced.

E) Apart from the legal provisions as discussed above for service of Notices, there are various juris-prudence settled by Various High Court as well as Supreme court, for service of notice. some of the relevant judgments are summarized as below,

1) The effect of the absence of the signature, on the assessment order, cannot be dispensed with and that the provisions of Sections-160 & 169 of the Central Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017, would not rectify such a defect. Therefore the order passed without signature is liable to Set Aside held in case of Paramount Footwear Vs Assistant Commissioner and Others in W P No 30400 of 2024 by AP High Court and similar view was taken in case of

- A.V. Bhanoji Row Vs. The Assistant Commissioner (ST), in W.P.No.2830 of 2023,
- M/s. SRK Enterprises Vs. Assistant Commissioner, in W.P.No.29397 of 2023
- M/s. SRS Traders Vs The. Assistant Commissioner ST & ors, in W.P.No.5238 of 2024.
- Bigleap Technologies and Solutions Private Limited vs State of Telangana, W P No. 21101 of 2024

2) Section 169 mandates a notice in person or by registered post or to the registered e-mail ID alternatively and on a failure or impracticability of adopting any of the aforesaid modes, then the State can, in addition, make a publication of such notices/ summons/ orders in the portal/ newspaper through the concerned officials. Therefore, notices/ orders uploaded in the web

portal and not by any other modes as prescribed under Section 169 of the Act, is liable to Set aside, held in case of Sahul Hameed vs The Commercial Tax Officer W.P.(MD).No. 26481 of 2024 by Madras High Court.

3) In case of Tvl Vels Film International Vs Deputy Commercial Tax Officer (ST) W.P.No. 20509 of 2025 Madra High Court held that, No doubt, sending notice by uploading in GST Portal is a sufficient service, but, the Officer who finds no response from the petitioner to the show cause notices should have applied his/her mind and explored the possibility of sending notices by way of other modes prescribed in Section 169 of the Central Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017 (for brevity, "CGST Act") which are also the valid mode of service under the said Act, otherwise, the service of notice will not be deemed to be an effective service, rather, it would only fulfilling the empty formalities. Therefore, court opined that order suffers from violation of principles of natural justice hence set aside the order.

#### **F) Conclusion :**

As the GST law is evolving through the challenges and shortcoming. The basic purpose of Introduction of GST is yet to be resolved. Interpretational issues for GST are started now but ending at High courts and Supreme court only. Every issue cannot be taken at that level. As the law cannot provide the legal solution of Practical problems, everyone needs to find the practical solution at the day end.

Considering the issue for valid service of Notice,

most effective solutions lies in regularly monitor the GST portal and Mail id. The introduction of a mandatory "notice check" as part of the regular filing process could ensure that taxpayers are prompted to review the portal before submitting their returns.

As we have seen from recent case laws, the courts have taken differing views on the sufficiency of notice service via the portal. This inconsistency highlights the need for clearer guidance and perhaps even amendments to the law or rules to address these emerging issues. Taxpayers must be proactive in ensuring they are compliant, but at the same time, the authorities must ensure that notices are served through reliable and diverse channels to prevent unjust consequences.



A BUSINESS THAT MAKES  
NOTHING BUT MONEY IS  
POOR BUSINESS.



- Henry Ford

## GOODS AND SERVICE TAX (GST) AND ITS IMPACT ON GOVERNMENT REVENUE COLLECTION

Contributed by: CA Rita Biswas

### ABSTRACT:

*Goods and Service Tax (GST) has played a role of game changer in Indian Trade and Commerce. Since implementation, it proved to be user friendly and has contributed to economic development. GST has been able to achieve its major objectives with which it was rolled out. It has been highly effective for tax administration and to keep a check on tax evasion. This has led to increase in Government's revenue. Year after year there has been increase in GST revenue collection. This has enabled government to take up more developmental projects in the country which has made India fifth largest economy in the world amounting to USD 4112 billion. This is mainly due to more and more business units are getting registered under GST network. It has started creating confidence in the minds of investors resulting in more investments which can be evident from the fact that companies operating in our neighboring countries started shifting to India for their operations mainly from China. The author in this chapter tries to bring to the notice of readers about the impact of GST on Government's Revenue Collection along with the reasons which led to increase in GDP and its result in Economy.*

**Keywords:** GST, Government Revenue, Economic development, Tax evasion.

### INTRODUCTION:

In the early 2000s the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government was first to proposed the idea of GST aiming to streamline the complex indirect tax structure in India. Thus, the Kelkar Task Force on Indirect taxes in 2000 first proposed the idea of a nationwide GST. The main objective was to bring a single tax structure replacing the prevailing fragmented tax structure with a unified system that would ease compliance, reduce tax cascading, and promote economic integration throughout the nation to have a uniform tax rate throughout the country. To make nation GST ready, inclusive efforts were made to build the required technological infrastructure. Training was imparted to tax officials and business so that they get accustomed to new introduced system of GST. A not-for-profit company GST Network (GSTN), was created to provide the IT platform for the GST system, including return filing, taxpayer registration, and tax payments.

GST was rolled out on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017, with an aim of abolishing all trade barriers between states and combining Center, state and Municipal bodies under one Tax structure by enacting GST Act. The GST subsumed all major taxes like Central Excise Duty, Service Tax, VAT, and several other taxes.

However, GST did not subsume Excise on liquor, customs, duty on imports, stamp duty and taxes on petroleum products. It can be considered as one of the structural financial reforms in indirect tax field, which aimed to bring transparency, ease of doing business, checking tax loopholes and avoiding cascading effect.

It did strengthen the federal structure of the nation by bringing more cooperation between Centre and State. It aimed to boost the country's GDP and overall economy by reducing price of final product and by increasing government revenue. It resulted in new investments in various sectors seeing the simplicity of the tax structure.

It had a vision of 'One Nation One Tax.' During transition phase it had some compliance issue mainly to small and medium business owners, however time to time it was improved according to needs of the tax payers to make it more efficient and user friendly. All the necessary and required changes are incorporated after detailed deliberations through GST council where it is represented by all States, Centre, Industry and Tax experts.

India's GST structure currently operates under three tax rates (state, central, and integrated) and five tax slabs. The rates are made in such a way that they tend to be high for costly and luxury items and are kept low for day-to-day basic necessities of life. GST rates in India for various goods and services are divided into four slabs: 0% GST, 5% GST, 12% GST, 18% GST, and 28% GST.

GST represents a significant reform in India's taxation system, aimed at simplifying the tax structure, promoting ease of doing business, and fostering economic growth. By eliminating the cascading effect of taxes, providing seamless Input Tax Credit, and promoting compliance through digitalization, GST has ushered in a new era of taxation in India. However, the successful implementation and continuous refinement of GST require active collaboration between the Central and State governments, businesses, and other stakeholders to address challenges and ensure its long-term effectiveness.

### **SALIENT FEATURES OF GST:**

GST, or Goods and Services Tax, is a comprehensive indirect tax that has replaced a multitude of Central and State taxes in India.

**1. One Nation, One Tax:** GST integrates various central and state taxes into a single tax, unifying the Indian market. It eliminates the complexities of multiple tax rates and procedures prevalent earlier, making taxation simpler and more transparent.

**2. Two tier Structure:** GST follows two tier structure comprising Central-GST levied by the central government and State -GST levied by the state governments. This structure ensures that both levels of government have the authority to levy and collect taxes on the same taxable value.

**3. Consumption & Destination-based Tax:** GST is a consumption and destination-based tax,



meaning it is levied where the final consumption takes place rather than the point of production and origin. This ensures that revenue accrues to the state where goods or services are consumed, promoting fair distribution among states.

**4. Comprehensive Tax Base:** GST encompasses the taxation of goods and services at every stage of the supply chain, from production to the final consumer. It includes both goods and services, ensuring a broader tax base and minimizing the scope for tax evasion.

**5. Input Tax Credit (ITC):** One of the key features of GST is the provision for claiming Input Tax Credit. Businesses can claim credit for the GST paid on inputs (raw materials, services, etc.) against the GST liability on the output (final product or service). This eliminates the cascading effect of taxes and reduces the tax burden on businesses.

**6. Threshold Exemption:** GST provides a threshold exemption limit, under which small businesses with a turnover below a certain limit are not required to register and pay GST. This threshold varies for different categories of taxpayers, thereby providing relief to small traders and businesses.

**7. Tax Slabs and Rates:** GST categorizes goods and services into different tax slabs – 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28% – based on their nature and essentiality. Certain items such as essential goods may attract lower rates, while luxury items may be taxed at higher rates. Additionally, some items are exempted from GST or taxed at a nil rate.

**8. Composition Scheme:** To ease compliance for small businesses, GST offers a Composition Scheme under which eligible taxpayers can opt to pay a flat rate of tax on their turnover and file simplified returns. This scheme reduces the compliance burden and facilitates the participation of small businesses in the formal economy.

**9. Online Tax Filing and Compliance:** GST is entirely digitized, with all processes such as registration, return filing, payment, and refunds being conducted online through the GSTN (Goods and Services Tax Network) portal. This promotes transparency, efficiency, and ease of compliance for taxpayers.

**10. Anti-Profiteering Measures:** GST incorporates anti-profiteering provisions to ensure that businesses pass on the benefits of reduced tax rates or Input Tax Credit to consumers. The National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA) monitors and ensures compliance with these provisions to prevent undue price hikes post-GST implementation.

**11. State Compensation Mechanism:** To address revenue losses incurred by states during the initial phase of GST implementation, a mechanism for compensating states for five years was established. The central government compensates states for any revenue shortfall arising from the transition to GST, thus ensuring smooth implementation.

**12. GST Council:** The GST Council, consisting of the Union Finance Minister and finance ministers of all states and union territories, is responsible for making recommendations on

various aspects of GST, including tax rates, exemptions, and administrative issues. This collaborative decision-making body ensures cooperative federalism in tax administration.

## GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVES OF IMPLEMENTING GST:

The implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India was driven by several objectives aimed at streamlining the taxation system, enhancing revenue collection, and fostering economic growth. Taking a plunge in the past we may find that over a period of 6 years of implementation GST, government revenue has increased year after year. This has helped government to undertake the welfare schemes and developmental projects to the fullest. Overall, there were over 14 million registered GST taxpayers as on June 2023 in the country as per the data of government website of GSTN.

Let's delve into how these objectives align with government revenue collection strategies:

**1. Simplify Tax Structure:** Earlier, the taxation system in India was fragmented, with multiple layers of taxes imposed by both the central and state governments. This complexity led to inefficiencies, increased compliance costs, and tax evasion. GST simplifies the tax structure, making it easier for businesses to understand and comply with tax laws which led to better tax administration and enforcement, thereby enhancing revenue collection for the government.

**2. Broaden Tax Base:** Another objective of GST

is to broaden the tax base by bringing more transactions under the tax net. Under the pre-GST regime, certain sectors of the economy, especially the informal sector, remained largely outside the tax ambit. With the introduction of GST, most goods and services are now subject to taxation, leading to increase revenue collection for the government as more economic activities are subject to taxation, reducing the scope for tax evasion and leakage.

**3. Eliminate Cascading Effect:** GST aims to eliminate the cascading effect of taxes, also known as tax on tax, which was prevalent under the previous tax regime. By allowing Input Tax Credit (ITC), GST ensures that taxes paid on inputs are credited against the taxes payable on the output, thus eliminating the cascading effect. This results in lower prices for consumers and encourages consumption, ultimately leading to increased tax revenues for the government.

**4. Promote Compliance:** GST aims to promote tax compliance by simplifying tax procedures, reducing compliance costs, and leveraging technology for better tax administration. The GSTN (Goods and Services Tax Network) portal facilitates online registration, return filing, payment, and refund processes, making it easier for taxpayers to comply with tax laws. Moreover, the implementation of e-way bills and invoice matching mechanisms helps in tracking transactions and detecting tax evasion. By promoting compliance, GST enhances revenue collection for the government by reducing the tax gap – the difference between potential tax revenues and actual collections.

**5. Reduce Tax Arbitrage:** GST seeks to reduce tax arbitrage by harmonizing tax rates across states and minimizing the scope for tax planning strategies aimed at exploiting tax differentials. With the introduction of GST, tax rates are standardized across the country, reducing the incentive for tax arbitrage. This ensures that businesses pay taxes based on economic activity rather than tax planning strategies, thereby increasing revenue collection for the government.

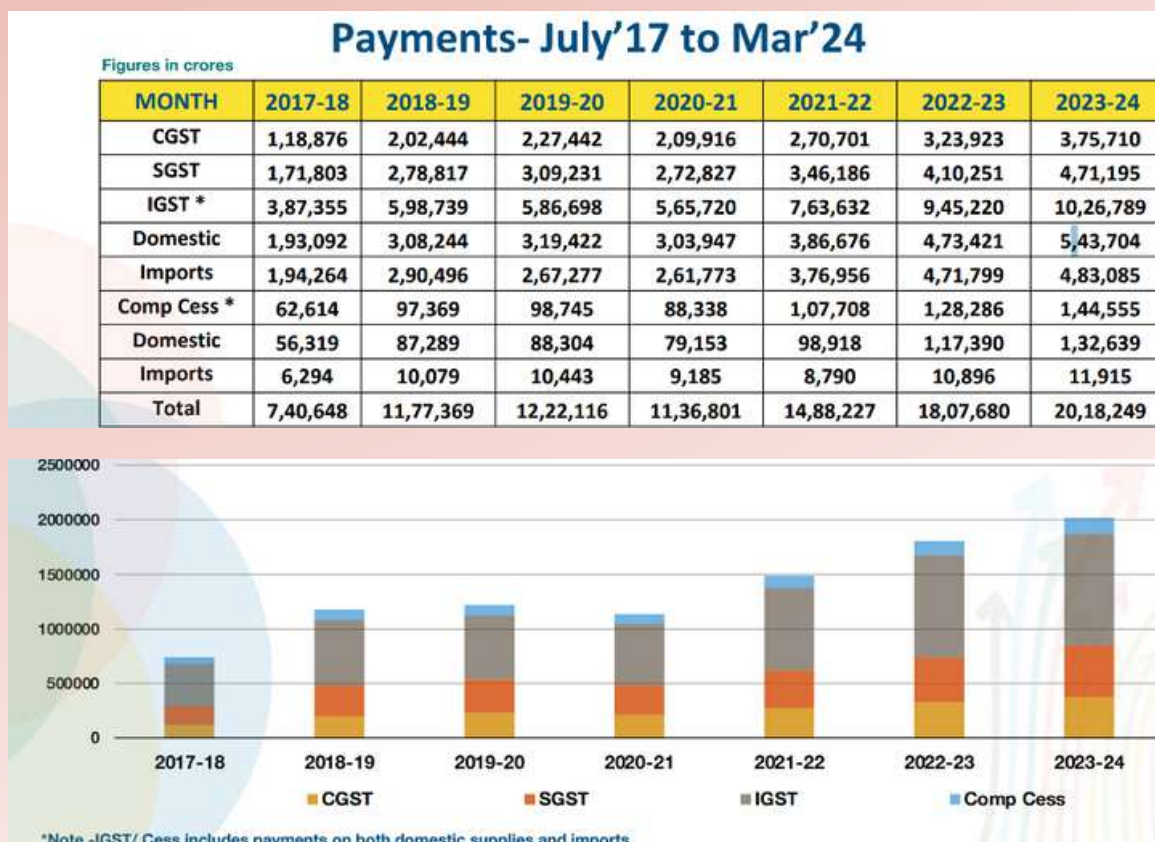
**6. Enhance Revenue Predictability:** By providing a stable and predictable tax environment, GST enhances revenue predictability for the government. The standardized tax rates and transparent tax laws under GST enable the government to forecast tax revenues more accurately.

**7. Facilitate Economic Growth:** Ultimately, the overarching objective of GST is to foster economic growth by creating a conducive business environment, promoting investment, and boosting productivity. As the economy grows, tax revenues also increase, providing the government with additional resources to support economic development initiatives and public welfare programs.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE CURRENT STUDY:**

1. To study the impact of GST on Government’s revenue collection.
2. To study the impact of GST on GDP of the country.
3. To analyze the impact of GST on developmental and infrastructural projects of the country.

**FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:  
Year wise GST collection since 2017:**



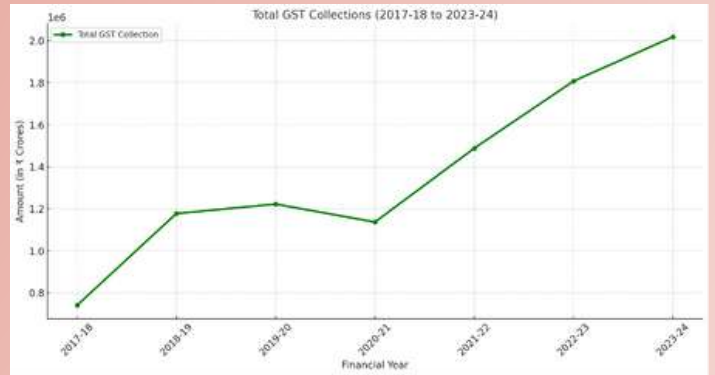
Source: [https://tutorial.gst.gov.in/offlineutilities/gst\\_statistics/7YearsReport.pdf](https://tutorial.gst.gov.in/offlineutilities/gst_statistics/7YearsReport.pdf)

The GST revenue data from 2017–18 to 2023–24 shows a strong and consistent upward trend in collections, reflecting India's economic growth, improved tax compliance, and enhanced administration.

**Key Highlights:**

- Total GST collections increased from ₹7.40 lakh crore in 2017–18 to ₹20.18 lakh crore in 2023–24 – a 2.73x growth in seven years.
- Post-COVID recovery is evident after a dip in 2020–21, with a sharp rebound starting 2021–22.
- SGST consistently leads CGST, indicating strong intra-state supply and state-level revenue contribution.
- IGST (especially from imports) saw significant growth, suggesting rising international trade.
- Compensation Cess, driven by sin and luxury goods, also grew steadily.

This trend reflects India's expanding economic base and strengthening GST framework.



**Trend Overview:**

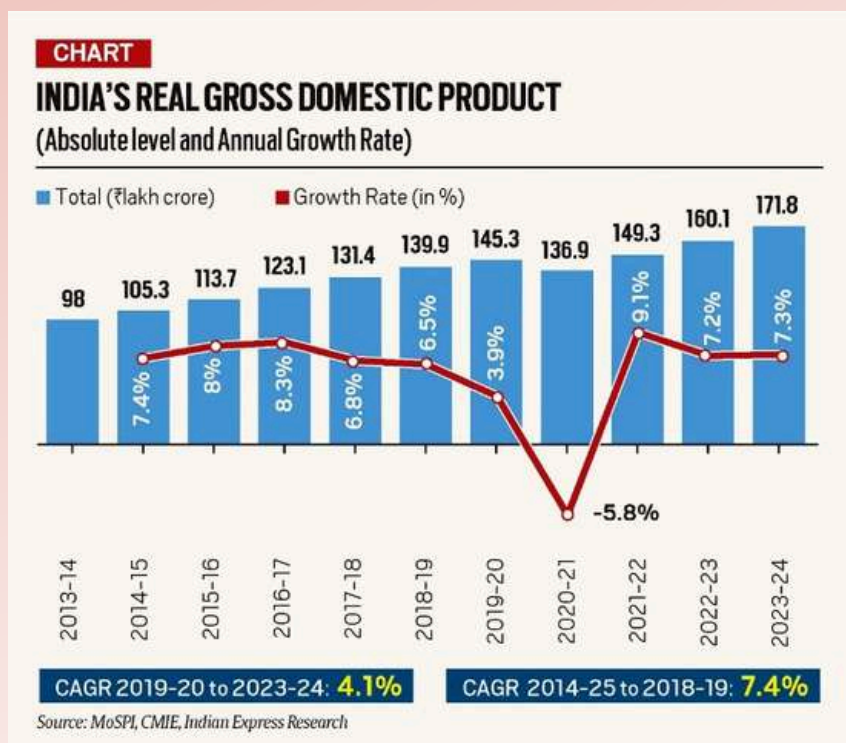
The chart clearly illustrates:

- Steady year-on-year growth, excluding 2020–21.
- A strong bounce-back post-COVID, continuing into 2023–24.

**Conclusion:**

The data reflects a maturing GST system, with rising revenues from both domestic and import activities. It highlights the success

**GDP Growth Before and Post GST:**



The graphical representation highlights the fluctuations in India's GDP growth rate over the years. From 2012-13 to 2016-17, the economy showed a general upward trend in growth, increasing from 5.5% to a peak of 8.3%, reflecting a period of strong economic expansion. However, in the financial year 2017-18, GDP growth dipped slightly to 6.8%, indicating a slowdown that may be attributed to the initial transitional impact of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) implementation. This downward trend continued in 2018-19, with GDP growth declining further to 6.5%, followed by a more pronounced drop to 3.9% in 2019-20, pointing to a significant economic deceleration. In 2020-21, the COVID-19 pandemic triggered a major contraction in economic activity, resulting in negative GDP growth of -5.8%, indicating a recessionary phase.

However, in 2021-22, the economy made a remarkable comeback with a sharp rebound to a growth rate of 9.1%, suggesting a strong recovery driven by revived demand and policy support. In 2022-23, there was a marginal decline in growth to 7.2%, with an annual change in growth rate of -1.9%.

From this analysis, it can be concluded that while the introduction of GST in 2017 initially led to a slowdown due to transitional challenges, the Indian economy demonstrated resilience. Despite facing one of the most severe global health crises in 2020, India bounced back impressively with growth rates exceeding 7% post-pandemic, outperforming many neighboring and European economies.

**Share of GST in GDP since its implementation along with other tax components:  
Tax Component Trends (as % of GDP)**

Percentage Share in GDP of different tax components						
Year	Corporate Tax	Income Tax	GST Total	Customs	Excise	Gross Tax Revenue
2018-19	2.8	2.5	3.0	0.5	1.2	10.0
2019-20	2.8	2.5	3.0	0.5	1.2	10.0
2020-21	2.3	2.5	2.8	0.7	2.0	10.2
2021-22	3.0	2.9	3.0	0.8	1.7	11.4
2022-23	2.8	2.7	3.0	0.8	1.3	10.7
2023-24	3.1	3.0	3.2	0.8	1.1	11.1

Source: Indian Statistics .org  
[https://indianstatistics.org/2024/02/06/budget202425.html?utm\\_source=chatgpt.com](https://indianstatistics.org/2024/02/06/budget202425.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

From the above graph and table, it can be well interpreted that GST post implementation has put a positive impact on country's GDP with a nominal downfall in the years of pandemic. This shows that implementation of GST has been successful and it has been well adjusted with

Indian business culture and federal system. This makes it quite clear that GST has contributed to Government's valet and this has enabled government to undertake various developmental projects at national and regional level.

The increase in GST's contribution to GDP has significantly led to increase in Government revenue. It has been at par with Income Tax in contributing to Government revenue.

**Incremental revenue due to implementation of GST has enabled government to take up following developmental projects and infrastructure in India:**

1. **Bullet Train:** High-speed rail project connecting Mumbai and Ahmedabad, funded by Japan.

2. **Central Vista:** Redevelopment project in Delhi, including a new Parliament building and government offices.

3. **Bharat Mala:** Road development project aiming to build 34,800 km of highways.

4. **Dedicated Freight Corridors:** Freight rail corridors for faster and more efficient movement of goods.

5. **Delhi-Mumbai Expressway:** 1,320 km expressway connecting Delhi and Mumbai.

6. **Chenab Railway Bridge:** Highest railway bridge in the world, part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link.

7. **5G:** Next-generation wireless technology.

8. **Aditya L1 mission:** ISRO mission to study the Sun from space.

9. **Gagan Yaan Mission:** India's human spaceflight program.

10. **Defence Industrial Corridor:** Establishing defence manufacturing hubs.

11. **Indian Space Station:** India's planned space station.

12. **Great Nicobar Development:** Infrastructure and economic development project in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

**CONCLUSION:**

It can be concluded that GST has changed the whole roadmap of indirect taxation in the country, further it had contributed significantly to Government's revenue and GDP of the country. It has increased investor's confidence, leading to significant new investments coming into India. The increase in revenue has definitely helped India to uplift its position to fifth largest economy in the world. GST has also created efficiency in tax administration, reduced tax evasion and has also developed checks through IT infrastructure where online information is available. This has created a thorough transparency in every business transaction taking place through GTSN portal.

## CA's Shaping the Future of Financial Literacy

Contributed By: CA Rishabh Jain

Today, as the world shifts toward digital platforms, CAs are redefining their roles and becoming influencers of financial literacy. They're not just accountants anymore - they're educators, content creators, and mentors; empowering us to make smarter financial choices. CAs are shaping financial awareness in ways never seen before.

In a world driven by hashtags, reels, and viral trends, CAs are leveraging platforms like LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram to bridge the gap between financial complexities and everyday understanding. They're meeting people where they spend most of their time - online!!

For example, an Instagram reel titled "Why your caramel popcorn has higher GST than regular popcorn?" might explain basic concepts of GST in a way that sticks. Similarly, a YouTube video describing mutual funds as "the type of OTT subscription that pays you back" can turn a complicated investment idea into something easy and relatable.

### Finance for everyone: Breaking the Elite Barrier

Financial literacy which has long been perceived as a domain reserved for the elite, but CAs are changing this ideology by addressing the needs of the common person.

Whether it's teaching a small business owner how to manage the cash inflows or guiding students on planning their first investment (SIP), CAs are making sure people from all backgrounds can access financial knowledge.

For example, helping a college student understand how ₹300 spent daily on snacks adds up to ₹1 lakh + annually can spark a conversation about smarter spending. Similarly, showing a small business owner how to navigate GST compliance through a step-by-step tutorial can save them time and money.

### Impact: Changing Lives, One Post at a Time

The impact of digital financial literacy is tangible. CAs are changing lives one post, reel, or video at a time. People are learning how to budget better, avoid scams (cyber frauds), and start investing - all thanks to these digital finance teachers.

The numbers are telling. YouTube India saw over 4 billion views on finance-related content last year, highlighting the growing demand for accessible financial education. With India ranking 73rd out of 144 countries in financial literacy, this creative storytelling is more essential than ever.

## The Creator Economy: A New Frontier for CAs

For many CAs, content creation has evolved from a hobby to a profession. According to Goldman Sachs, the global creator economy is projected to reach \$ 480 billion by 2027, and India is no exception. Top finance creators now earn between 1 to 10 lakhs/month through brand collaborations, advertisements, online courses, and workshops.

Metrics like followers, likes, and reels have become a CA's second set of KPIs, alongside traditional tasks like preparing balance sheets. CAs like Sakchi Jain, Sumit Mehra, Kushal Lodha, Twinkle Jain are showing that with the right approach, any financial topic can become engaging and impactful. Key insights on the rise of content creation is as given on page:

The days of CAs being limited to offices with files and calculators are over, today, they're on your phone screens - breaking down finance with a smile, a reel, and sometimes even a meme!

## Let's make Content Creation go Viral

As the creator economy grows and the demand for financial education rises, CAs are set to keep transforming the way people understand and learn about money.

Let's take a moment to celebrate the incredible efforts of these creators who are making finance simple and accessible for everyone. Whether it's liking their posts, sharing their insightful reels, or sending them a message of appreciation, let's show them that the entire CA community stands behind them with pride and gratitude, they deserve to know how much it matters!!

Thanks for reading. I hope it was worth your time.

Category	Key Statistics	Source
Growth in Finance Creators	India has seen a <b>30% year-on-year growth</b> in finance content creators.	Influencer Marketing Hub
Engagement on Instagram Reels	Finance reels report <b>2x higher engagement</b> compared to static posts.	Meta Insights
Finance Hashtags on Instagram	Popular hashtags like <b>#PersonalFinance</b> have over <b>10 million posts</b> .	Meta Insights



# Highlights of Events



# Highlights of Events



# WICASA Chairperson Desk

CA Pragya Jain  
Chairperson,  
WICASA - Navi Mumbai (WIRC)



Dear Students,

Heartfelt congratulations to all CA exam toppers and successful candidates! Your dedication and perseverance have paid off. Best wishes to those still working towards their CA goals – stay focused and motivated. May your hard work bring you success and pride!

As we step into a new month, I want to take a moment to speak from the heart—not about events or achievements, but about resilience.

We all go through challenging phases—times when the path feels uncertain, progress feels slow, and doubts seem louder than determination. It's in these moments that your inner strength is truly tested. Remember: it's okay to feel stuck sometimes, but it's not okay to give up. Keep moving forward, even if the steps are small.

To every student navigating this demanding journey—whether it's preparing for exams, managing expectations, or just balancing life—know this: your struggles don't make you weak, they shape you. Every late night of study, every silent failure, and every moment of self-doubt is part of the making of a stronger, more confident you. And to all the girls and young women reading this—your voice matters. Never feel afraid to speak up, to challenge the norms, or

to stand your ground. Your ideas, your strength, and your courage have the power to inspire and lead. Don't wait for permission to shine—own your space, express your truth, and break every barrier that limits you.

WICASA is more than a platform for academic growth—it's a place to grow as individuals, to support each other, and to rise beyond challenges. Let's keep that spirit alive.

No matter how difficult the times may seem, remember: this too shall pass. Keep your head high, your mind focused, and your heart hopeful. You are capable of more than you think.

**Let's move forward—together, stronger, and more resilient than ever.**

With Warm Regards,

**CA Pragya Jain**

Chairperson, WICASA - Navi Mumbai Branch

**“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.” – Nelson Mandela**

# Student Section

## BRSR: A New Horizon for Chartered Accountants in ESG Compliance

Contributed By: Vaidehi Patel

### Introduction

Over 90% of global investors consider ESG factors in decision-making today. In response to this global shift, India introduced the “Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR)” framework, replacing the older BRR. Mandated by SEBI, BRSR ensures that companies disclose their sustainability practices alongside financial performance, reflecting a new era of responsible governance.

### What is BRSR?

- Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) is a structured disclosure framework on ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) aspects.
- Accompanied by a detailed guidance document to help companies interpret and accurately report disclosures.
- It was introduced by SEBI to replace the earlier Business Responsibility Report (BRR).
- Mandatory for the top 1000 listed companies in India by market capitalization.
- Promotes standardised, transparent and comparable ESG disclosures across industries.

### BRSR Reporting Structure and Availability:

BRSR is structured into three sections:

- Section A: General disclosures.
- Section B: Management and process disclosures.
- Section C: Principle-wise performance based on 9 Principles of National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct (NGRBC).



The BRSR report is included in the company’s Annual Report, ensuring transparency and stakeholder access.

### Why is BRSR Important Today?

With ESG assets projected to exceed \$40 trillion globally by 2030, investors are prioritising companies with strong sustainability practices.

At the same time, regulatory and stakeholder pressure is mounting for transparent, ethical conduct. BRSR enables Indian companies to align with global standards, build investor confidence, and showcase long-term commitment to environmental and social responsibility.

### **Chartered Accountants and ESG Compliance:**

Chartered Accountants (CAs) are uniquely suited for contributing to BRSR due to their strong ethical grounding, expertise in data accuracy and familiarity with SEBI regulatory compliance. Their analytical abilities and understanding of internal control systems make them ideal for supporting companies in ESG-related disclosures.

CAs now have multiple emerging opportunities in the field of BRSR and ESG compliance, including:

- Providing ESG assurance and independent third-party certification
- Acting as sustainability advisors to develop responsible business strategies
- Designing and monitoring internal ESG control frameworks
- Conducting materiality assessments and stakeholder mapping
- Offering training and awareness programs on ESG guidelines and regulatory frameworks

As ESG gains prominence, CAs are not just financial gatekeepers, but strategic enablers of sustainable and responsible corporate growth in the modern economy

### **Conclusion:**

“ESG is not a checkbox, it's a business imperative.” As BRSR reshapes corporate reporting, Chartered Accountants have a vital role in enhancing credibility, ensuring ethical disclosures and guiding sustainable decision-making. The profession is evolving—no longer limited to financial audits, but expanding into ESG leadership. To young CAs: embrace ESG, upskill now and shape the future of responsible business.



“ EARTH PROVIDES ENOUGH TO SATISFY EVERY MAN'S NEEDS, BUT NOT EVERY MAN'S GREED. ”

- Mahatma Gandhi

## The Rise of AI in the CA Profession: Disruption or Evolution?

Contributed By: Siddharth Tripathi

### The Changing Face of the CA Profession

The role of a Chartered Accountant has always evolved with the times from handwritten ledgers to spreadsheets, from Tally to cloud-based ERP systems. Today, a new wave of change is upon us Artificial Intelligence (AI). This isn't just another software update it's a fundamental shift in how finance, Audit and accounting operate.

### Why AI is No Longer a Future Threat—It's Here

AI is no longer an abstract, futuristic idea it is already embedded in many business processes. From invoice automation to fraud detection, AI is working silently in the background. The real question is no longer whether AI will impact the CA profession, but how we choose to respond—as passive observers or proactive leaders of change.

### Understanding AI in the Context of Finance & Accounting

#### What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

AI refers to the ability of machines to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence—such as learning, decision-making, and language processing. In finance, AI is used to identify patterns, make predictions, and automate complex workflows.

#### What AI can do ?

- Learns from historical data to detect anomalies or predict outcomes.
- Automates repetitive tasks like invoice matching or ledger entries.
- Extracts meaning from contracts or emails for compliance checks.
- Helps in forecasting revenue, expenses, and risks with greater accuracy.

#### Real-World Use Cases in Finance

- Auto-reconciliation of bank statements
- Intelligent chatbots assisting in tax filings
- Risk profiling for loan assessments
- AI-driven audit sampling based on fraud likelihood
- Uses cases Beyond your imagination

### Areas Where AI is Transforming the CA Role

#### Audit & Assurance: Continuous Auditing and Anomaly & Fraud Detection

Traditional audits were periodic and backward-looking. AI now enables real-time auditing, flagging irregularities as they occur. Algorithms can scan thousands of transactions in seconds to identify anomalies, reducing human error.

### Taxation: Automated Filing, Compliance, and Risk Analysis

AI can pre-fill returns, verify GST filings, track input credits, and even highlight compliance risks, making tax filing faster and more accurate.

### Accounting & Bookkeeping: From Manual Entries to Intelligent Automation

AI-based systems categorize transactions automatically, post journal entries, and generate financial statements—reducing the time and effort spent on routine tasks.

### Forensic Accounting & Fraud Detection: Pattern Recognition at Scale

In fraud detection, AI detects suspicious transactions by recognizing hidden patterns and behavioral anomalies—an area where human eyes often fall short.

### Advisory Services: Enhanced Data-Driven Decision-Making

CAs are now expected to go beyond compliance. With AI tools, they can provide strategic insights using real-time data dashboards, predictive analytics, and scenario modeling.

### **The Benefits: Efficiency Meets Insight**

#### Time-Saving and Productivity Gains

Automating routine tasks frees up time for value-added services like business advisory and financial planning.

#### Reduced Human Error

AI algorithms minimize mistakes in data entry, classification, and calculations—enhancing accuracy and compliance.

### Enhanced Client Insights and Reporting

With visual analytics and real-time data, clients receive interactive dashboards and personalized insights instead of static reports.

### 24x7 Data Monitoring and Alerts

AI-powered systems continuously monitor transactions, sending alerts on cash flow mismatches, unusual spends, or tax exposures—offering a virtual CFO-level support system.

### **Is it Ethically Correct ?**

#### Data Privacy and Confidentiality

AI systems rely on vast amounts of data. Ensuring client confidentiality and complying with data privacy laws like General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a growing concern.

### Over-Reliance on AI without Professional Skepticism

Blind trust in AI outputs without critical examination can lead to errors. AI can assist judgment, but not replace it.

### **Will AI Replace Traditional CA Roles?**

There is fear that automation may eliminate jobs. However, AI will most likely transform roles rather than replace them. CAs who upskill will thrive in strategic and analytical domains.

### **Disruption or Evolution: What's the Right Perspective?**

#### AI as a Tool, Not a Threat

Just like calculators replaced manual math, AI is here to assist—not eliminate—CAs. It should be seen as an enabler, not a competitor.

## Complementing Human Judgement with Machine Precision

While AI brings speed and scale, human intuition, ethical judgment, and strategic thinking remain irreplaceable.

## Case Study: How Firms Like Deloitte, KPMG, and EY Are Integrating AI

Big Four firms have integrated AI into core services:

- EY's "Helix" platform uses AI for smarter audit sampling.
- KPMG uses Watson AI to analyze lease contracts for IFRS compliance.
- Deloitte has adopted AI-driven tax engines for global compliance.

## **Role of ICAI**

### ICAI's Initiatives in Technology Adoption and Digital Learning

ICAI has launched digital learning hubs, AI bootcamps, and tech-focused webinars to prepare members for the future.

### Inclusion of AI and Data Analytics in CA Curriculum

CA-GPT as a study aid is a generative AI tool launched by ICAI to help CA students with real-time concept clarification, revision assistance, and personalized exam preparation.

### Continuous Professional Education (CPE) in Tech-Driven Areas

ICAI encourages members to take CPE credits in AI, blockchain, and cybersecurity—fostering lifelong learning.

## **Not the End , But a New Beginning**

AI is not here to replace CA it's here to redefine the role. The pen-and-paper accountant is giving way to the tech-savvy strategist.

### Embrace, Adapt, and Evolve with AI

Those who embrace AI as a partner, not a threat, will lead the future of finance.

### From Number-Crunchers to Strategic Business Partners

With AI managing the numbers, CAs can focus on what truly matters—guiding businesses through uncertainty with insight, ethics, and strategy.

**“AI won't replace people, but people who use AI will replace those who don't.”**



## RESEARCH PROCESS OUTSOURCING – an ascending idea in KPO

Contributed By: Pratik Bhala

In this turbulent and volatile business environment, the outsourcing of services has gained impressive significance. The rise of knowledge industries and technological advancement has created new business opportunities in the global scenario. Research Process Outsourcing (RPO) is one of the segment forms of a broadly assimilated concept called knowledge Process Outsourcing. RPO is mobilizing the research tools and resources in one spot, resulting in a quality module composition using the skills of respective field experts. In plain language RPO emerges out of the concept of 'Do it yourself' v/s 'Do it for me'.

Simply, RPO is entrusting a third-party provider to conduct research and analysis work on behalf of the client. It is not only popularized now in business circles but also on the academic globe. In this dynamic world, the interdisciplinary expertise touches and holds up large gains, which has become one of various factors due to which RPO is scaling up its importance. Cost reduction, improved efficiency, time saving, benchmark linkage and productive & in-depth outcomes are some factors on the positive side of RPO growth. On the other hand, the RPO is growing due to negative personality transitions in humans, often noticed in recent years, which may be due to time constraints in daily routine

social scroll, booming ready-to-use customs, indolent minds, stress-free habitat and speedy race to reach destiny. In my personal opinion, RPO in the academic field is a little pessimistic, as it is developing a 'do-nothing approach' and incognizance in students mind, especially for research scholars. In a non-technical way, it is simply the use of a content file prepared by an expert writer for you, for your own educational goal attainment on behalf of monetary consideration. RPO in academics could be right if it is used for the purpose of further analysis and knowledge accumulation. The large scale imitation by artificial intelligence and denial by the institutions and the plagiarism guidelines, might be an impactful factor for growing research outsourcing in the academic field.

In the business field, RPO helps the management in various aspects. Ease decision-making, adjusting the riskometers, in-depth data interpretation, light up the strategy formation, internal structural analysis and will get a clear view to study the complex volatility of the digitalized environment. RPO can be industry specific, function based, client type and by service delivery model. Data security, clear communication and collaboration transference must be the significant points in choosing RPO.

The Indian government is promoting knowledge outsourcing through various supportive policies and initiatives.

Multitudinous startups and associated writers are providing RPO services across the world, raising a serious issue regarding the maintenance of quality standards. Choosing the right service provider at the right stage of work is significant for the desired outcomes and, as such, expertise, experience, excellence and data security would be parameters to consider. I conclude by saying firmly that, taking into consideration the acronym term 'DARSH', that is Dually Avail Right to Surpass the Hurdles, while choosing the service provider. Knowledge is the only friend in your life travel and RPO is a new way to grasp the best outcomes out of vast available sources.



# Student Section

## Beyond the Syllabus: A Student's Silent Battle with Mental Health

Contributed By: Ummehani Ziyaad Parvez Siddiquei

In the world of Chartered Accountancy, we're often told to stay focused, manage time, and push harder. But what they don't always tell us is how to deal with the emotional storms that come along – the ones that no planner, app, or study chart can predict.

### The Unseen Pressure:

The pressure of exams is real. Not just the fear of failing, but the stress of falling behind on targets, the guilt of not following a study plan due to unforeseen circumstances, and the anxiety that builds up quietly.



For many girls, period pain and premenstrual mood swings steal away two to three days of productive study. It's not "just cramps." It's the brain fog, the back pain, mood swings, the fatigue and yet, we feel guilty for needing rest.

### Life Beyond the Books:

Sometimes, life throws challenges bigger than any exam. The loss of a loved one right before exams, unexpected health issues, family struggles, or personal trauma – all of which can make focusing on studies feel impossible

### Self-doubt creeps in:

You look at others and wonder – "Why can't I be like them?" You question your worth, your ability, even your dreams.

Some are juggling articleship deadlines, toxic work environments, strained family dynamics, or past traumas that haunt in silence. And when the pressure piles up, there comes a moment when it feels like you're not just failing an exam, but failing yourself.



### The Power of Zidd (Stubborn Hope):

Amid all this, what truly defines a CA student is the unwavering zidd – the quiet determination to try again, no matter how many times we fall. Yes, there are days of breakdowns.

Yes, we pause, cry, or even consider giving up. But we begin again. Maybe slower, maybe more cautious - but stronger.

### What Can We Do?

As students and future professionals, acknowledging mental health is the first step toward a healthier, more balanced journey.

Here are a few small yet impactful practices:

- Accept that it's okay to struggle.
- Practice mindfulness or short breaks to reset.
- Maintain a journal to process thoughts.
  
- Take care of your physical health – sleep, hydration, and nutrition matter.
- Most importantly, talk to someone – a friend, a mentor, or a professional.



### In Closing

To every student silently carrying the weight of emotional battles – you are seen, you are heard, and you are not alone. Your journey may be filled with detours and delays, but it is still moving forward. Take pride in your resilience, hold on to your purpose, and remember: it's okay to pause, but never to give up. The destination is closer than it feels – keep going, one step at a time.

### Thank you for reading.

If this article touched even a small part of your journey, I'm grateful. Wishing you strength and success ahead.

**“The strongest people are not those who show strength in front of the world, but those who fight silent battles and never give up.”**

# Student Section

## The Journey of a CA

Contributed By: Tejas Malkar

In a country where dreams are often tied to professions, some choose a path defined by discipline and numbers.

Not for glamour or fame, but for the quiet dignity of becoming a Chartered Accountant.

It begins early – long hours with heavy books, while others explore college life, they sit at desks, solving balance sheets, learning laws, taxes, standards – rules that shape the economy.

The exams are long, the failure rate high. Many give up. But those who stay, learn patience, resilience, and the art of trying again – even when nothing seems to work.

Then comes articleship. Three years of work, low pay, big responsibility. You're expected to know everything, but treated like you know nothing. You travel far, carry files heavier than your salary, and still smile when asked to stay late.

Finals arrive – a test not just of knowledge, but of endurance.

Each attempt can feel like a heartbreak, but somehow, you keep showing up.

And when you finally pass, there's no parade. Just a moment of silence, tears that speak of years gone by, and a title that feels earned, not given.

But even after becoming a CA, life doesn't slow down. Now there are clients to manage, regulations to interpret, deadlines that don't care about weekends. The world expects perfection. The stress is real, but so is the quiet satisfaction of knowing your work keeps businesses honest and the economy stable.

Being a CA in India isn't just a career – it's a long, unseen battle. A journey made of sacrifices, late nights, and small victories that only those who walk this path will ever truly understand.

## Calm Within Chaos

Contributed By: Anuja Gaonkar

Ever stood at a buzzing street corner, watching hundreds of people pass by—each hunched over their phones, moving swiftly with purpose—while you simply paused at a crosswalk to breathe? Just looked around? The hustle each person carries is uniquely their own, shaped by stories you'll never fully know. Among them, a glance, a giggle, a tired smile, sleepy eyes—all weaving through the thick, electric air of a crowded 9 p.m. train. Amid the noise and motion, there's an unspoken feeling that lingers—soft and quiet—the comfort of finally heading home, to familiar faces and familiar love.

Have you ever noticed the children playing near the road—giggling, chasing each other, full of life and innocence—while their mother quietly cleans potholes nearby, a faint grin on her face, warmth in her eyes? You, checking your watch impatiently at the bus stop, are suddenly reminded of joy in its purest form. Their laughter, their unfiltered energy—it makes you pause. It reminds you how easily we forget to notice the little happy moments scattered across an ordinary day.

Ever wanted to sit beside that elderly couple on a wooden bench under the moonlight? Watch their quivering hands gently rest together, their eyes twinkling with wisdom—perhaps they've discovered a secret: about life, about love, about staying together no matter what. While you're stuck on a late work call, pacing by your window, their slow, steady walk and quiet resilience whisper a kind of strength words can't teach.

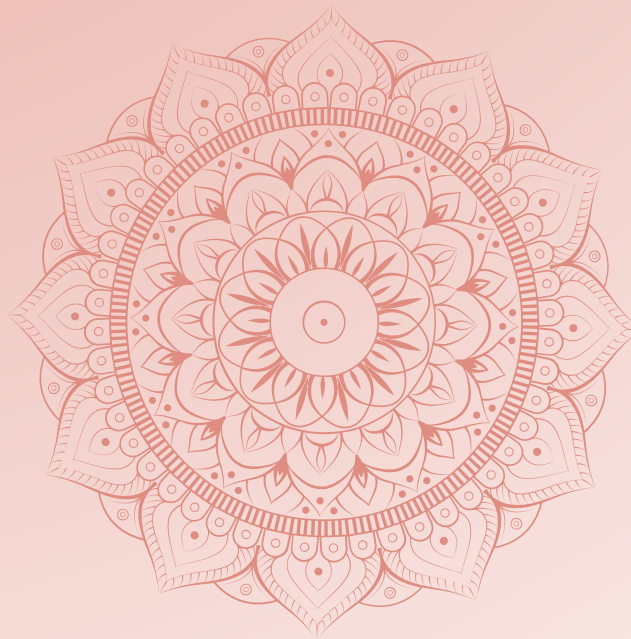
Or that kitten—have you ever noticed it during your evening run, tail wagging, eyes wide and innocent, walking up to you like it was sent just to soothe your storm? After a fight with someone you care about, you bend down, and the kitten's soft purr asks you gently—was it really worth it? Was the hurt worth more than the bond built over years?

And at a train station—have you seen a family saying goodbye to their child? Bags stacked with snacks, hope, and handwritten notes, hugs given with trembling hands, voices thick with love. That young traveler, eyes full of dreams, leaving behind warmth for the unknown. And you—impatiently waiting for your train—suddenly feel the weight of gratitude: to have people who would catch you if you ever fall.

In the blur of deadlines, alarms, reels about being ‘productive,’ and the constant rush to ‘do’—pause. Just for a moment. No headphones, no checklists, no mental to-dos. Just you, breathing. Not becoming, just being.

Beneath all the chaos, beyond the hustle and noise, there’s a quiet calm inside you. A stillness that longs to be felt. That calm is you—your essence. Your light, your shadow, your reason for showing up every day.

Yes, we thrive in the hustle. But it’s that calm that holds us together.



# Student Section

## Where is the Peace I Seek? Contributed By: Komalkishor Dhote

There are countless houses and towers here,  
But the peace I search for, where is it near?  
So many memories, they haunt me again,  
Will I ever find the comfort of home in this  
domain?

Whenever I say I want to return home,  
I wish to be among my loved ones, not alone.  
Yes, there are some familiar faces in this  
strange city, But my heart sꜛill longs for my  
hometown's simplicity.

These are mere words I keep telling myself,  
Knowing I can't just leave, can't free myself.  
Here, the nights are long and cold,  
And in solitude, my heart feels old.

I miss the bread I had with meals back then,  
But here, it's just rice again and again.  
Yes, there are some familiar faces in this  
strange city, But my soul craves the warmth  
of my own vicinity.

There are hospitals here at every turn and  
lane,  
But somehow, they can't heal my pain.  
In my village, there's a simple healer I know,  
One shot from him, and I'd be good to go.

These hospital fees are far too high,  
How can I pay them, no maꜛer how hard I  
try?

Yes, there are some familiar faces in this  
strange city, But my heart sꜛill yearns for my  
hometown's serenity.

I remember my village, it sꜛill feels mine,  
Even if I visit it just once a year someꜛme.  
My heart wishes to walk those paths again,  
But in big ciꜛies, the world has lain.

These Metro ciꜛies will never provide,  
The hidden treasure my village hides.  
Yes, there are some familiar faces in this  
strange city,  
But I long to return to my town's simplicity.

Here, everyone runs to earn wealth each day,  
But I only wish to earn people along the way.  
We all came empty-handed into this life's  
scheme, And empty-handed, we shall leave this  
dream.

Life is a riddle, a mysterious song,  
Every turn brings a new melody along.  
We live for a few moments, counꜛng each one,  
Before the journey ends and life is done.



## Credits & Acknowledgments

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