THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

DOHA CHAPTER

e-Newsletter

Doha CAnnect

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ICAI MOTTO

य एष सुप्तेषु जागर्ति कामं कामं पुरुषो निर्मिमाणः ।
तदेव शुक्रं तद् ब्रह्म तदेवामृतमुच्यते ।
तस्मिंल्लोकाः श्रिताः सर्वे तदु नात्येति कश्चन । एतद् वै तत् ॥

Ya eṣa supteṣu jāgarti kāmam kāmam purūṣo nirmimāṇaḥ ।
Tadeva śukram tad brahma tadevāṃṛtamucyate ।
Tasminlokāh ṣritāh ṣarve tadu nātyeti kašcan । Etad vai tat ॥

That person who is awake in those that sleep, shaping desire after desire, that, indeed, is the pure. That is Brahman that, indeed is called the immortal. In it all the worlds rest and no oever goes beyond it. This, verily, is that, kamam kamam: desire after desire, really objects of desire. Even dream objects like objects of waking consciousness are due to the Supreme Person. Even dream consciousness is a proof of the existence of the self.

No one ever goes beyond it: of Eckhart: 'On reaching God all progress ends':

Source: Kathaopanishad



Chairman's Message

CA Arun Somanath

Dear Esteemed Members,

Warm greetings!

It gives me great pleasure to present the second edition of our newsletter for this year. As we continue our journey together, I am proud of the enthusiasm, participation, and unwavering support shown by our members, sponsors, speakers, and volunteers in making every Chapter initiative a meaningful success.

The past few months have been filled with insightful professional development programs, networking opportunities, and community engagements that reflect our commitment to continuous learning and excellence. As Chartered Accountants, we have the privilege and responsibility of leading with integrity, embracing innovation, and contributing positively to the profession and society.

This edition captures the highlights of our recent activities. I encourage every member to actively participate, share your ideas, and continue strengthening the vibrant professional community that defines the ICAI Doha Chapter.

On behalf of the Managing Committee, I extend my sincere gratitude to all our members, partners, and well-wishers for your continued trust and encouragement. Together, let us continue to learn, connect, and inspire one another as we strive to achieve greater milestones.

Happy reading!

Warm regards,

CA. Arun Somanath
Chairman – ICAI Doha Chapter



Vice-Chairman's Message

CA Dewaki Nandan Tibrewal

Dear Esteemed Members of ICAI Doha Chapter and Families,

It gives me great pleasure to present the Q2 2026 edition of CAnnect. This edition, once again, stands as a true reflection of the spirit of our ICAI Doha Chapter— a community bound not just by profession, but by shared bonds of creativity, culture, and togetherness.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our members, spouses, and families who generously contributed their time and talent to this edition. Your thoughtful articles, insightful perspectives, and creative expressions continue to enrich CAnnect and make it a publication we are all proud of.

A special note of appreciation goes out to our little ones, whose beautiful paintings and artwork bring so much colour, joy, and innocence to these pages. Their participation reminds us that CAnnect is truly a family endeavour, growing with each contribution from our next generation.

I would also like to place on record my sincere thanks to the PR Committee for their continued dedication and hard work in curating and compiling this edition. Their efforts behind the scenes are what keep this platform thriving edition after edition.

To all our contributors—thank you for making CAnnect a true celebration of our chapter's diversity and talent. I look forward to your continued support and participation in the editions to come.

With best regards,

CA Dewaki Nandan Tibrewal

Vice-Chairman, ICAI Doha Chapter



MESSAGE FROM NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

CA Aswathy Nandan

Dear Esteemed Members of the CA Fraternity,

As we celebrate the 78th CA Day, commemorating the foundation of the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI),** we are delighted to present the second edition of CAnnect for 2026. For over seven decades, ICAI has been shaping professionals who uphold the highest standards of integrity, excellence, and public trust. We are truly grateful and privileged to be part of this esteemed profession and the strong global community it represents. As members of the ICAI Doha Chapter, we take immense pride in carrying forward these values while continuing to strengthen and enrich the professional fraternity in Qatar.

This edition of **CAnnect** brings together a diverse range of insightful perspectives and thought-provoking articles covering topics such as data analytics, accounting frameworks for SMEs, the journey of Indian professionals in Qatar, the role of human judgement in an AI-driven world, and the impact of regional developments on the Indian economy. It also features reflections on the importance of yoga for professionals, a theme that resonates deeply as we recently celebrated International Yoga Day.

What makes every edition special is the enthusiasm and passion with which our members and their families have contributed their thoughts, experiences, and knowledge. The quality and diversity of content reflect the vibrant spirit of our community and our collective commitment towards continuous learning and sharing.

A special mention and heartfelt appreciation to the pillars behind this newsletter — CA Manish Kumar, CA Suresh Nambiar, and CA Binal. Their dedication, creativity, and commitment have been instrumental in making each edition of CAnnect engaging, meaningful, and impactful.

We wish all our readers an enriching experience and happy reading. We look forward to your continued encouragement and support as we continue to shape CAnnect into a platform for knowledge, connection, and collaboration.

Warm regards & Eid greetings,
CA Aswathy Nandan
On behalf of the Newsletter Committee,
Executive Committee Member - ICAI Doha Chapter

INTERVIEW LOUNGE
Leading through Change

CA K. C. Dalal
Assistant Managing Director, Alfardan Corporation



1. You began your journey as a Chartered Accountant and today serve as Assistant Managing Director of Al Fardan Group. Looking back, what were the defining moments that shaped your career?

Of course, there are so many moments in everyone's life but the most important was the decision to move to Qatar. At the age of 24 and just after completing 2 years' experience in India with A. F. Ferguson & co., I felt the need to explore new opportunities abroad to gain experience on international level. It was a big move, from Mumbai with millions of residents to a small town of less than 300k people.

The second most defining moment was when I was about to go back to India and start my own practice, I got a call from one of my ex-trainees at Ernst and Young (Omar Alfardan) to come and have coffee with him before I leave. I still remember his words during that meeting, " I don't know what work I have for you, but I have a vision for the Group, and I want you to be part of that vision." Here I am, still after 48 years in Qatar, may be my home for the rest of my life.

2. What helped you transition from being a finance professional to a business leader? Was there a particular mindset or skill that made the biggest difference?

The biggest thing which helped me was the experience and knowledge I gained during the period of my article ship and study. The curriculum is so exhaustive and covers not only accounts and auditing but taxation, legal, finance and many more. Further, working with the auditing firm you get exposure to all the industries like Manufacturing, Banking, Insurance which allows you to get in depth knowledge of each industry. The most important skill you require is have a vision and goal in your life, to be ready to learn new things and keep pace with the change.

3. Al Fardan Group spans multiple industries. How do you balance long-term strategy with the demands of running such a diverse business?

The most important thing usually is to have a vision and goal, be clear about what your strength and weaknesses are. Our strength has always been to cater to a luxury customer and hence all our diversification and expansion has been in different Industries but targeting the luxury in every industry. Obviously, we are more comfortable in our home country and that's why whenever we go into a new line of business we start in Qatar. After gaining the knowledge of dos and don'ts, we look to replicate the same business outside.

4. With the Middle East witnessing significant geopolitical developments, how do you lead with confidence when the business environment is constantly evolving?

I believe its not only the Middle East, but the whole world is also going through challenging times, particularly in the last 8-10 years. What helps you in these times is to be disciplined even in good times and always keep a reasonable cushion for that unforeseen moment which are difficult to predict. We, as a family have always been very conservative cause we have seen such ups and downs in our 70 years of journey. Further, you must be agile to act early to mitigate impact as much as possible.



5. Every challenge creates new opportunities. What lasting lessons have recent global and regional events taught you about business resilience?

Financial discipline is a must for any business and should be at the forefront of all your decisions. Keep your goals constant and have patience to achieve them.

6. As AI and technology reshape finance, what do you believe will define the next generation of successful Chartered Accountants?

Adapt to the same sooner than later. Make the most of it as It's here to stay.

7. When you identify future leaders within your organization, what qualities matter most beyond technical competence?

Big corporations and family businesses have very different culture. We have always been a family company where the owners are actively involved in running the same. Integrity and Trust are very important factors in our business. As much as we value the technical competence, we must make sure that the person is fit to work in family culture, where you need to spend time to gain the trust of the family.

8. Can you share one leadership experience that fundamentally changed the way you think or lead?

If you want to be a leader, you must delegate.

9. If you could leave one piece of advice for young Chartered Accountants aspiring to leadership roles, what would it be?

Set your goals, work hard for the same and have patience to achieve them. Always be ready for CHANGE.

Data Analytics: Investing in Insights for Better Future

CA Prakash Somani



Imagine you're looking for the perfect cup of chai in a crowded Indian bazaar. You could try every stall, waste half your day, and still end up with watery tea—or, you could ask Google Maps, check reviews, and walk straight to the best one. That's the difference between working with gut feel and working with data.

For Chartered Accountants, data analytics is becoming the secret ingredient that lets you **invest in the right insights, influence smarter decisions, and inspire growth** —all without the chaos.

Why Data Analytics is a Game-Changer

India's economy is booming, with startups, MSMEs, and large enterprises generating torrents of data daily. The explosion of digital transactions, GST reforms, and fintech growth means CAs today handle far more diverse and complex datasets than ever before.

For CAs, data analytics isn't just a fancy new toy—it's a serious competitive advantage. It helps you:

- Spot hidden leaks in profits.
- Predict cash flows with more accuracy than an astrologer.
- Advise clients faster, smarter, and with the kind of insights that make you indispensable.

Finance decisions without analytics are like playing cricket without knowing the pitch or the opponent's form. Analytics gives you the match insights—whether to play aggressive shots or defend—turning you into a strategic player who shapes the game.



Analytics as Your Mumbai Local Train

Think of analytics as your Mumbai local train—fast, efficient, and ready to navigate crowded tracks. Sure, it needs a steady driver (that's you!), but without it, you'd be stuck in traffic. Using analytics keeps Indian CAs on track with speed and reliability, all while juggling the daily challenges of our vibrant economy.

Data Manipulation vs Data Analytics: Turning Raw Data into Smart Decisions

Think of data like a big plate of biryani ingredients all over your kitchen counter.

Data manipulation is just getting everything ready—washing the rice, chopping vegetables, measuring spices, and frying onions. In finance, this is like cleaning messy GST records, combining sales numbers from different stores, or fixing errors in your accounts.

Data analytics is the actual cooking—the part that turns all those raw ingredients into a tasty biryani. This is where you look at the numbers and figure out which stores sell the most, where money is being wasted, or what products to keep in stock.

How Analytics Supercharges CAs

- **Decoding India's Diversity**: Whether it's a street-side kirana or a listed conglomerate, analytics helps CAs adapt to any business model.
- **Simplifying GST & Compliance**: No more endless reconciliations—analytics can spot mismatches in seconds.
- **Predicting Market Swings**: From inflation spikes to rupee fluctuations, analytics helps forecast impacts.
- **Becoming the Trusted Advisor**: Numbers don't just stay in spreadsheets—they drive boardroom strategy.

The New-Age CA: From Ledgers to Leadership

Gone are the days when CAs were seen only as "number crunchers." Today's finance professionals are expected to:

- Speak the language of data visualization (think charts, not balance sheets).
- Partner with IT and data science teams.
- Lead digital transformation projects.

In short, the CA's role has shifted from *accountant* to *strategic partner*. The calculator is still in your pocket, but now, so is a dashboard.

Challenges? Of Course!

Let's be real—adopting analytics isn't always smooth:

- Many businesses still cling to outdated systems.
- Data is often messy, inconsistent, or incomplete.
- Upskilling feels intimidating for some.

SMEs hesitate to invest in tools without clear ROI.

But here's the trick: *start small. Prove value with one or two wins* (say, faster receivables or expense control). Once people see the difference, adoption becomes much easier.

Skills Every CA Needs in the Analytics Era

- **Tech Basics**: Power BI, Tableau, maybe a sprinkle of Python.
- **Analytical Thinking**: Seeing patterns others miss.
- **Storytelling**: Explaining data in simple terms clients actually understand.
- **Ethics**: Guarding data privacy like it's gold.

Think of it like upgrading from a trusty Nokia 3310 to a smartphone—still reliable, but way more powerful.

Easy Steps for CAs to Get Started

1. **Define the problem**—cash leaks, delayed collections, high costs.
2. **Check your data**—from Tally, GST, ERP, or Excel. Clean it up.
3. **Pick the right tool**—start with Power BI or Tableau.
4. **Learn with your team**—don't go solo; involve IT and operations.
5. **Start small**—run one pilot project and show results.
6. **Tell the story simply**—charts over jargon, clarity over complexity.

Investing, Influencing, Inspiring: The Road Ahead

Data analytics lets CAs invest in insights, influence better decisions, and inspire growth—for clients, companies, and the economy.

Finance is no longer just about tallying books—it's about shaping the future together. With analytics, CAs don't just look at the past; they can forecast the future. They don't just report numbers; they *shape decisions*.

In today's data-driven economy, analytics turns finance professionals into something more than accountants—they become navigators, guiding businesses through India's fast, noisy, unpredictable marketplace.

"...and remember: numbers are powerful, but numbers with insights? That's superpower."

Emerging AI Technologies: Reshaping the Chartered Accountant's Profession

CA Mohammed Fahim

Manager – Business Support, Information Technology, MILAHA



Artificial Intelligence is no longer a futuristic concept hovering at the edge of our profession; it has firmly entered the boardrooms, audit rooms, and finance functions of the organizations we serve. For Chartered Accountants in Qatar and across the Gulf, the question is no longer whether AI will influence our work — it is how quickly we adapt, and how thoughtfully we lead that transformation. This article offers a practical overview of the emerging AI technologies that members of the Doha Chapter should be aware of, and the implications they carry for our profession.

From Generative AI to Agentic AI: The Defining Shift of 2026

Over the last two years, generative AI tools such as large language models (LLMs) have become familiar workplace companions — drafting communications, summarising documents, and explaining complex regulatory text. In 2026, however, the conversation has moved decisively beyond generation toward orchestration. The defining trend of this year is the rise of agentic AI: systems composed of autonomous software agents that can plan, decide, act, and iterate across multi-step workflows with limited human intervention.

Where a generative model might suggest the wording of an audit query, an agentic system can read the trial balance, identify outliers, draft the query, route it to the client, capture the response, attach supporting documents to the workpaper, and flag exceptions for the auditor's review.

The Big Four have already announced large-scale rollouts of agentic platforms within their assurance practices, integrated with widely used productivity and data infrastructure. For mid-sized firms and corporate finance teams in Qatar, this signals that the productivity gap between AI-enabled and traditional ways of working will widen significantly over the next eighteen months.

Key AI Technologies CAs Should Track

1. Multimodal Large Language Models

The newest generation of LLMs can simultaneously process text, tables, images, and even audio. For a CA, this means a single tool can read a scanned invoice in Arabic, reconcile it with an ERP entry, compare it against contract terms in a PDF, and produce a memo summarising the variance — in one continuous flow. This capability dramatically reduces the manual effort in vouching, sampling, and substantive testing.

2. Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)

RAG architectures allow AI systems to ground their responses in a firm's own knowledge base — standards, internal policies, prior workpapers, and engagement files. This is particularly relevant for practising members, because it enables AI tools to give answers consistent with IFRS, IAS, Qatari regulatory requirements, and firm methodology, rather than generic responses drawn from the open internet. Hallucination risk reduces materially when the model is required to cite its sources.

3. AI-Powered Audit Analytics

Audit is moving from sample-based testing toward full-population analytics. Modern platforms ingest entire general ledgers — in some cases trillions of journal lines annually — and apply machine learning to detect anomalies, unusual journal entries, related-party patterns, and revenue cut-off issues. The emerging benchmark is "audit-ready AI": systems that are explainable, governed, and defensible to regulators and audit committees alike.

4. Intelligent Document Processing and Workpaper Automation

Tools combining OCR, computer vision, and LLMs can now extract structured data from confirmations, lease agreements, loan documents, and contracts with a level of accuracy that was unattainable even two years ago. The output flows directly into automated workpapers, complete with citations back to the source document — freeing professional staff to focus on judgment-intensive areas.

5. AI in Tax, Compliance and Financial Reporting

In the GCC, the rapid evolution of VAT, corporate tax, e-invoicing, and Pillar Two global minimum tax requirements has created an environment where AI-driven tax engines and compliance copilots are becoming essential. They monitor regulatory updates, classify transactions, draft tax computations, and flag exposures — enabling CAs to spend more time on advisory and less on data wrangling.

The Risks We Must Govern

With opportunity comes responsibility. The same technologies that strengthen our work are also being weaponised against the financial ecosystem. Deepfake-enabled CEO fraud, synthetic identities used in onboarding, and AI-generated forged documents are no longer theoretical — they are appearing in live engagements. As trusted advisors, Chartered Accountants must champion stronger controls around identity verification, payment authorisation, and vendor due diligence.

Equally important is the governance of AI systems within our own organisations. Issues of data confidentiality, professional secrecy under the Code of Ethics, bias, explainability, model drift, and accountability for AI-generated output must be addressed before, not after, deployment. ICAI's ongoing work on responsible AI integration — alongside the forthcoming Information Systems Audit Standards — provides timely guidance to members navigating this terrain.

ICAI's Direction and What It Means for the Doha Chapter

The Institute has moved decisively to equip its members for this transition. Initiatives such as CA GPT, the AI Hackathon, the three -day AI Certificate Course, the Digital Transformation Finance Summit, and the AI Innovation Summit reflect a deliberate strategy of converting AI risk into AI opportunity for the profession. With overseas chapters increasingly receiving these programs, members in Doha are well placed to benefit — and to contribute use cases from the unique Qatari business environment back into the wider ICAI knowledge ecosystem.

A Practical Action List for Members

- Build personal fluency. Spend at least an hour a week using a leading AI assistant on real professional tasks — drafting, reviewing, summarizing, analyzing.
- Identify two workflows in your practice or function where AI can remove repetitive effort, and pilot a tool within a defined boundary.
- Strengthen data hygiene. AI value rises in direct proportion to the quality, structure, and accessibility of underlying data.
- Insist on explainability and human oversight in every AI-assisted output that carries professional consequences.

Closing Thoughts

Technology has never replaced the Chartered Accountant; it has consistently elevated the role. The shift from manual ledgers to spreadsheets, from spreadsheets to ERPs, and now from ERPs to AI-orchestrated finance functions each followed the same pattern — those who adapted early shaped the profession's next chapter. Emerging AI technologies will reward the professional who combines deep domain expertise with curiosity, skepticism, and an ethical compass. The Doha Chapter has always demonstrated that combination, and the years ahead will be no exception.

Let us continue to lead with knowledge, integrity, and the confidence that our profession is built precisely for moments of transformation such as this.

The Rule of 7 – A Practical Accounting Framework for SMEs

How Chartered Accountants can simplify accounting, improve business decisions, and create lasting value

CA Ankit Inani



As Chartered Accountants, we often describe ourselves as business advisors. Yet, in practice, many of us spend most of our time ensuring compliance, preparing financial statements, filing tax returns, and responding to audit queries. While these responsibilities are fundamental to our profession, I believe our real value lies beyond compliance.

A Chartered Accountant should not merely prepare books of accounts; he or she should help businesses understand them.

Over the last few years, while working with businesses in India and Qatar, I noticed an interesting pattern. Regardless of the industry, nationality, or size of the business, the accounting challenges were remarkably similar. Many small and medium enterprises did not lack accountants—they lacked an accounting system.

It was common to find business owners maintaining daily transactions in notebooks or spreadsheets. Accounting was often treated as a year-end compliance exercise rather than a management function. Financial statements were prepared but rarely used as decision-making tools.

With increasing tax compliance requirements and the growing use of platforms such as Dhareeba in Qatar, businesses are expected to maintain stronger accounting records. Tax authorities now analyse trends, compare expense ratios, and question unusual movements in miscellaneous expenses or inconsistent financial reporting. In today's environment, poor accounting is no longer merely an operational weakness—it has become a compliance risk.

This observation led me to ask a simple question:

Why is accounting becoming more complicated for business owners when its purpose is to make business simpler?

From Accountant to Business Advisor

Business owners rarely ask us whether a journal entry complies with accounting standards. Their questions are much simpler.

"Why is my cash always short?"
"Why is my profit reducing?"
"Why am I making sales but still don't have money in the bank?"
"Why are my expenses increasing every month?"

Unfortunately, our answers are often filled with accounting terminology instead of business language.

Over time, I realised that if we wanted businesses to value Chartered Accountants as advisors, we first had to simplify accounting itself.

That thought eventually evolved into what I now call the **Rule of 7 Accounting Framework**.

The Rule of 7 Accounting Framework

The framework focuses on seven accounting areas that influence almost every business.

1. Sales
2. Purchases
3. Receivables
4. Payables
5. Inventory
6. Cash & Bank
7. Indirect Expenses

Rather than asking business owners to understand hundreds of ledger accounts, I encourage them to focus on these seven pillars. The beauty of this framework lies in its simplicity.

When sales and purchases are recorded accurately, inventory usually becomes reliable. When cash and bank transactions are properly reconciled, receivables and payables become easier to monitor. When indirect expenses are reviewed periodically against sales trends, cost leakages become visible before they become major problems. Instead of analyzing thousands of accounting entries, businesses begin to understand the financial drivers that truly influence profitability and cash flow.

Accounting Should Tell a Story

One lesson I learnt while working with businesses in Doha is that entrepreneurs appreciate clarity more than complexity. They do not want accounting jargon. They want answers. Instead of saying that the debtor turnover ratio has deteriorated, tell them that customers are taking longer to pay.

Instead of discussing inventory valuation methods, explain that inventory is growing faster than sales. Instead of presenting dozens of expense schedules, identify which costs have increased disproportionately and why. The moment accounting becomes understandable, it becomes useful. And when it becomes useful, business owners start viewing their Chartered Accountant as a strategic partner rather than a compliance professional.

A Practical Consulting Tool

Today, whenever I meet a new client, I rarely begin with financial statements.

Instead, I begin with seven questions.

- Are sales completely recorded?
- Are purchases properly documented?
- Are receivables recoverable?
- Are suppliers being managed efficiently?
- Does inventory match business activity?
- Is cash and bank reconciliation current?

Are indirect expenses increasing faster than revenue?

More often than not, these seven questions reveal where the real business problem lies.

This framework has also become an effective training tool within our firm. Instead of overwhelming new accountants with technical complexity, we first train them to understand these seven business drivers. Once these fundamentals are mastered, accounting standards, taxation, and reporting naturally become easier to apply.

The Future Role of Chartered Accountants

Artificial Intelligence will automate bookkeeping. ERP systems will automate data entry. Cloud accounting will automate reconciliations. But no technology can replace a Chartered Accountant who understands businesses, interprets financial information, and communicates it in a language that entrepreneurs understand.

Our profession is evolving from record keepers to decision enablers. The businesses that succeed tomorrow will not necessarily have more data; they will have better insights. Helping clients derive those insights is where Chartered Accountants can create the greatest value.

Conclusion

My journey of working with businesses in Qatar has reinforced one belief:

Businesses do not need more reports. They need better understanding.

As Chartered Accountants, we have the privilege of seeing every financial transaction that passes through an organisation. Our responsibility is not merely to record those transactions but to convert them into meaningful business decisions.

The **Rule of 7 Accounting Framework** is my attempt to simplify accounting for entrepreneurs and young professionals alike. It is not intended to replace accounting standards or internal control frameworks. Instead, it serves as a practical starting point—a simple yet powerful way to focus on the financial areas that matter most.

If we can simplify finance for business owners, strengthen financial discipline, and help them make better decisions, we will have fulfilled the true purpose of our profession.

After all, **a great Chartered Accountant is not remembered for preparing perfect books of accounts; he is remembered for helping businesses build a stronger future.**



Beyond Borders: The Journey of Indian Professionals in Qatar

CA Shashi Prakash Singh

Manager – Business Support, Information Technology, MILAHA



Qatar and India share a relationship that extends far beyond trade and diplomacy. It is a relationship built on human connections, mutual respect, and the aspirations of thousands of individuals who leave their homes in India each year to contribute to Qatar's remarkable development journey. As someone who has lived and worked in Qatar, I have witnessed firsthand the impact that Indian professionals and workers have made in shaping the country's economic landscape while simultaneously transforming the lives of their families back home. The story of Indians in Qatar is not merely a tale of migration; it is a story of opportunity, ambition, resilience, and partnership.

Every year, individuals from different corners of India arrive in Qatar with dreams of a better future. Some are engineers, accountants, doctors, teachers, and IT specialists. Others are technicians, electricians, drivers, skilled craftsmen, and construction workers. While their backgrounds may differ, a common thread binds them together—the desire to create a brighter future for themselves and their families.

For many, the decision to leave India is not easy. It means being away from loved ones, adapting to a new culture, and facing the challenges of working in a foreign country. Yet, they embrace these sacrifices because they recognize the opportunities that Qatar offers. The nation has become a symbol of growth, stability, and professional advancement, attracting talent from across the world.

From a professional perspective, Qatar provides an environment where skills and dedication are valued. Indian professionals have found opportunities in sectors such as finance, banking, healthcare, education, engineering, information technology, energy, construction and hospitality. The country's ambitious vision for economic diversification continues to create avenues for career growth and innovation.

At the same time, workers engaged in infrastructure development have played an equally significant role. Roads, stadiums, metro networks, commercial complexes, and residential communities stand as visible examples of the collective effort of a multicultural workforce. Their contribution deserves recognition and respect, as these projects have supported Qatar's transformation into a globally admired destination.





For a young professional seeking international exposure, Qatar can offer valuable experience, competitive compensation, and the opportunity to work in a multicultural environment. For skilled workers, the country can provide financial stability and the ability to support families through remittances. For experienced specialists, Qatar can present leadership opportunities and exposure to large-scale projects that may not be readily available elsewhere.

Yet, success does not happen automatically. It requires preparation, adaptability, and realistic expectations. Prospective migrants should carefully evaluate employment contracts, understand company policies, assess living costs, and ensure that their skills align with market demand.

Professional growth is often linked not only to qualifications but also to continuous learning and adaptability.

One of the most inspiring aspects of the Indian community in Qatar is its diversity. People from different states, languages, cultures, and professions come together while preserving their identities and traditions. Community organizations, cultural associations, professional networks, and educational institutions have helped create a sense of belonging for expatriates living away from home.

Moreover, the relationship between Qatar and India continues to grow stronger. Bilateral cooperation in areas such as trade, investment, energy, education, and human resource development has created a favorable environment for collaboration. This partnership benefits both countries. Qatar gains access to a talented and dedicated workforce, while India benefits through knowledge transfer, professional development, and remittances that support economic growth.



As a Chartered Accountant, I have observed that many Indian professionals view their time in Qatar as more than a mere employment opportunity. They see it as a platform for career advancement, financial planning, and personal development. Exposure to international standards, advanced technologies, and global business practices often enhances their professional capabilities. These experiences can open doors to future opportunities, whether in the Gulf region, India, or elsewhere in the world.

At the same time, it is important to acknowledge the human side of the migration experience. Living abroad requires emotional resilience. Missing family milestones, adapting to a different lifestyle, and managing cultural transitions can be challenging. Employers, communities, and individuals all play a role in creating an environment that supports well-being, inclusion, and mutual respect.

The future of Indian talent in Qatar remains promising. As the country continues to pursue innovation, sustainability, and economic diversification, demand for skilled professionals and workers is expected to remain strong. Areas such as finance, renewable energy, digital transformation, healthcare, logistics, and education may create new opportunities for collaboration and growth.

This relationship embodies a true partnership—one built on mutual benefit, shared aspirations, and respect for human potential. As we look toward the future, the story of Indians in Qatar will continue to be one of ambition, contribution, and success, reflecting the enduring bonds between two friendly nations.



Don't Replace Me with a Prompt

CA Pankaj Girdhar

Dear Chartered Accountants, Please Don't Replace Me with a Prompt!

A conversation, a newsletter deadline, and the age of Artificial Intelligence

Every quarter, the same message appears in the ICAI Doha Chapter WhatsApp group:

"Dear Members, Kindly contribute articles for the quarterly newsletter."

A few weeks ago, one of my Chartered Accountant friends from the Excom called me.

"Can you write an article for the quarterly newsletter?"

I replied with what I thought was a perfectly reasonable question.

"Why?"

There was a brief silence.

"Because we need articles."

I persisted.

"But why me? You have a Claude subscription. Ask Claude to write one."

Another pause.

"I don't want to write it."

At this point, I was confused.

"Let me understand this correctly. You have access to Artificial Intelligence (AI) capable of generating thousands of words in seconds, but you are asking a human being to spend hours writing an article?"

"Exactly."

"Why?"

His answer was surprisingly profound.

*"Because I don't want an article. I want **your** article."*

That conversation stayed with me, not simply because it was amusing, but because it captured a question many professionals are quietly grappling with today.

The Perfect Articled Assistant

We are living in an era where AI can draft emails, summarize annual reports, explain accounting standards, prepare presentations, and even write newsletter articles. As professionals, many of us now have AI assistants sitting quietly on our laptops, waiting to answer questions at any hour of the day.

In fact, AI is remarkably similar to the ideal articled assistant.

It never asks for leave.

It never complains about deadlines.

It never says, "Sir, system is hanging."

It works on weekends.

It works on holidays.

It works at midnight.

And unlike most humans, it never forgets where it saved the file.

Sounds perfect.

However, as with most things that sound perfect, there is a catch. Unfortunately, it also has one small flaw.

Sometimes it is completely wrong.

Confidently wrong.

Spectacularly wrong.

The kind of wrong that would make a tax officer smile and an auditor nervous.

AI Isn't Taking Our Jobs

People often say,

"AI will replace Chartered Accountants."

Probably not.

It still cannot:

- *Convince a client that missing invoices are not "optional."*
- *Explain why personal shopping isn't a business expense.*
- *Stay calm when someone submits documents five minutes before the filing deadline.*

Translate "Just one small adjustment" into its actual accounting impact.

Some skills remain uniquely human.

The New Office Hierarchy

A few years ago, juniors feared seniors. Today, everyone fears the person who knows the best AI prompts.

The new office conversation goes something like this:

Junior: "Sir, I finished the tax computation."

Manager: "Good. Now ask ChatGPT to explain it."

Partner: "And ask Claude to improve ChatGPT's answer."

Client: "I already asked Gemini. Can you verify?"

Suddenly, four AI models and three CAs are working on one GST query.

Why Human Judgment Still Matters

This is where the human element becomes important.

As Chartered Accountants, our profession has never been about merely producing information. It has always been about applying judgment. Accounting standards can be read by software. Tax provisions can be searched by algorithms. Compliance checklists can be automated.

Judgment cannot.

When a client asks whether a transaction achieves a commercial objective, whether a tax position is defensible, whether a risk is acceptable, or whether an ethical line has been crossed, the answer requires more than pattern recognition. It requires experience, context, responsibility, and sometimes courage.

Ironically, the rise of AI may increase the value of these uniquely human qualities. In many ways, AI is like a newly qualified professional joining the workforce. It is enthusiastic, remarkably productive and responds to emails faster than most humans. On the other hand, it occasionally produces answers with great confidence and questionable accuracy, a trait that some managers may find oddly familiar.

In that sense, AI resembles a graduate recruit who still requires supervision, quality review, and the occasional reminder that confidence is not the same as accuracy.

The Hidden Cost of "Just One Prompt"

Yet the conversation does not end with judgment and decision-making. There is another dimension of AI that receives far less attention, which is the environmental cost of our growing dependence on it.

Every prompt we type appears effortless, but behind the scenes vast data centers filled with thousands of processors are working continuously. These facilities consume enormous amounts of electricity and require significant cooling infrastructure. As AI adoption accelerates globally, so does demand for energy, water, and computing resources.

Imagine millions of people asking:

- *"Write my LinkedIn post."*
- *"Rewrite this email professionally."*
- *"Generate 100 startup ideas."*

"Explain Section 80C like Shakespeare."

Each prompt activates powerful computers that require significant energy.

The Accountant's Carbon Footprint

For Chartered Accountants, this presents a familiar challenge. Every investment comes with both visible and hidden costs. AI may promise efficiency gains, but as any CA knows, the headline number is rarely the whole story. Somewhere behind every impressive dashboard is an invoice, a depreciation schedule, a risk register, and increasingly, an electricity bill.

The profession has spent decades asking sensible questions such as: What does it cost? What are the risks? Who is accountable? And can we support this with evidence? AI should be no exception. Before we celebrate the productivity gains, we should also consider the resources consumed to generate them.

We proudly moved from:

- *Ledgers → Excel*
- *Excel → ERP*
- *ERP → Cloud*
- *Cloud → AI*

But now every "Can you make this sound more professional?" may involve large computing infrastructure somewhere across the world. If you're asking AI to change a comma five times, the planet may silently be paying the electricity bill.

The real lesson is simple: Use AI intelligently, not endlessly.

AI can calculate. A Chartered Accountant can evaluate.

Instead of fearing AI, CAs can become its best users.

Taken together, these realities point to a broader challenge. The challenge for businesses and society is not whether to use AI. That debate is already over. The real challenge is learning how to use it responsibly, balancing innovation with sustainability, efficiency with oversight, and automation with human judgment.

After all, accountants have never been impressed by revenue without expenses, growth without controls, or forecasts without assumptions. There is no reason AI should receive special treatment.

Perhaps the future belongs not to the organizations that use the most AI, but to those that can still reconcile the benefits with the costs.

A Friendly Prediction

The CA office of 2035 might look like this:

One partner

Two assistants

Three AI agents

One coffee machine

And fifteen tabs open asking,

"Please rewrite this in a more professional tone."

Final Thoughts

Which brings me back to my friend's request.

Could he have used AI to generate this article? - Absolutely.

Could it have been written faster? - Without question.

Would it have been cheaper? - Probably.

But perhaps the purpose of a professional newsletter is not merely to fill pages. Perhaps it is to share perspectives, experiences, and conversations that reflect the people behind the profession.

And maybe that is why, despite all the advances in AI, he still asked a fellow CA to write the article.

Although, to be completely transparent, I may have asked AI for a few ideas while writing it.

The real question is who is willing to stand behind that answer when it matters. Because in the age of AI, the most valuable asset is still human judgement, ***fortunately, something that remains outside the balance-sheet.***

"AI CAN DRAFT THE ARTICLE. THE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT STILL SIGNS THE OPINION"

India–Qatar Investment Structuring: Beyond Tax Optimisation

CA Rahul V. Shah



Introduction

Cross-border investment between India and Qatar has expanded far beyond LNG and energy into infrastructure, logistics, healthcare, technology, and financial services. As investment structures become more sophisticated, the accompanying tax and regulatory requirements have become equally complex.

The revised **India–Qatar Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)**, signed on **18 February 2025**, entered into force on **10 September 2025** and applies in India to income arising on or after **1 April 2026** under CBDT Notification No. 154/2025. Alongside this, India's **FEMA 1999,** the **Overseas Investment Rules and Regulations 2022,** and RBI Master Directions continue to prescribe detailed requirements on pricing, reporting, and regulatory compliance.

The biggest shift today is from **treaty-rate optimisation** to **substance-based validation.** Advisers must now ensure that an investment structure withstands scrutiny not only under the DTAA, but also under FEMA and India's anti-abuse provisions.

Key Changes in the Revised DTAA

The revised treaty aligns closely with OECD BEPS principles and introduces several important changes:

- **Permanent Establishment (PE):** Installation PE now applies to projects exceeding six months, while Service PE applies where services exceed 90 days in a 12-month period. Anti-fragmentation rules also prevent artificial splitting of business activities. The real challenge remains determining whether activities are genuinely auxiliary or core business functions.
- **Corporate Residence:** Dual residency is now resolved through mutual agreement between competent authorities based on effective management and incorporation, increasing reliance on factual governance rather than mere legal incorporation.
- **Dividends:** Withholding tax is reduced to **5%** where the beneficial owner holds at least **25%** of the company; otherwise **10%** applies. Beneficial ownership now requires genuine commercial control, not merely legal ownership.

- **Interest:** Interest is generally taxable in the source state at a capped rate of **10%**. The treatment of hybrid instruments and Islamic finance structures such as sukuk depends on their economic character.

- **Capital Gains:** India retains taxing rights over gains from shares deriving more than **50%** of their value from immovable property situated in India.

- **Principal Purpose Test (PPT):** Treaty benefits may be denied where obtaining such benefits is one of the principal purposes of the arrangement unless supported by genuine commercial rationale.

- **Exchange of Information:** Banking, fiduciary, and ownership information now fall within the exchange framework, significantly enhancing transparency.

Transparent Entities: Income through LLPs, partnerships, and trusts qualifies only where taxed in the resident state.

FEMA: The First Compliance Check

In practice, Indo–Qatar transactions often encounter regulatory issues under **FEMA** before tax considerations arise.

Common issues include:

- Delayed **FC-GPR** filings (within 30 days of capital issuance)
- Delayed **FC-TRS** filings (within 60 days of transfer)
- Valuation report deficiencies
- Errors in ODI reporting and Annual Performance Reports

A recurring challenge is ensuring consistency between treaty documentation (such as TRC and Form 10F) and FEMA filings, particularly where intermediate holding companies are involved.

Although RBI compounding can regularise procedural lapses, it often delays funding and exits. Consequently, FEMA compliance is now a structuring consideration rather than merely a post-closing formality.

Judicial Developments

Business Profits and Branch Taxation

Indian jurisprudence has evolved from treaty-based exemption towards **foreign tax credit (FTC)** relief.

Beginning with **P.V.A.L. Kulandagan Chettiar (2004)** and followed by **Essar Oil**, **Tecnimont**, **Bank of India**, and **Union Bank of India (2025)**, courts have generally held that branch profits are taxable in India, with double taxation relieved through foreign tax credits under Sections 90 and 91.

Shipping Income

Article 8 continues to allocate taxing rights over international shipping profits exclusively to the enterprise's state of residence.

Recent rulings, including **Mangalore Refinery (2017)** and **Milaha Integrated Maritime and Logistics (2025)**, reaffirm that freight income earned by Qatar-based shipping companies is taxable only in Qatar. Disputes now typically centre on whether ancillary activities in India create a separate taxable presence.

Permanent Establishment

Key Supreme Court decisions—including **Morgan Stanley**, **E-Funds**, and **Formula One**—continue to shape PE interpretation.

The revised DTAA's 90-day Service PE threshold and anti-fragmentation rules significantly increase scrutiny, particularly for Qatar-based businesses deploying personnel to India on rotational assignments.

Practical Structuring Example

Consider a Qatar-based logistics company acquiring a **30% stake** in an Indian warehousing platform while providing management and funding support.

A robust structuring approach would include:

1. **FEMA Review:** Confirm FDI eligibility, pricing compliance, and sectoral conditions.

2. **Governance Design:** Structure shareholder rights, funding arrangements, and management agreements on arm's-length terms.

3. **DTAA Analysis:** Assess dividend withholding, PE exposure, and capital gains implications.

4. **Exit Planning:** Evaluate taxation of property-rich assets and document foreign tax credit availability.

Substance: Maintain genuine commercial rationale, active board governance, and operational decision-making in Qatar to satisfy the PPT.

Practitioner Checklist

Tax

- Obtain TRC and Form 10F before claiming treaty benefits.
- Assess beneficial ownership and commercial substance.
- Monitor PE exposure.

Maintain foreign tax credit documentation.

FEMA

- FC-GPR within 30 days.
- FC-TRS within 60 days.
- ODI and APR compliance.

Review guarantees and downstream investments.

Documentation

- Board minutes supporting commercial rationale.
- Agreements aligned with actual operations.
- Transfer pricing documentation.
- Evidence of foreign tax payments for FTC claims.

Conclusion

India–Qatar investment structuring is no longer driven solely by tax efficiency. The revised DTAA, FEMA, and domestic anti-abuse provisions now operate together, requiring integrated planning from the outset.

For advisers and investors alike, long-term success depends on building structures that satisfy **commercial substance, regulatory compliance, and tax integrity** throughout the investment lifecycle—not simply achieving the lowest withholding tax.

This version is shorter, reads more smoothly, and is better suited for a professional magazine while preserving the legal accuracy and all of the important developments. If this is for your ICAI Doha newsletter, I can also make it more reader-friendly (around **1,000–1,200 words**) by using call-out boxes, infographics, and highlighted "Key Takeaways."

Watching the Gulf from two windows: What Middle East unrest does to India's economy

Aditya Jain, Son of CA Girish Jain



I was born and grew up in Qatar. For the first nineteen years of my life, the Gulf was not just a region on a map—it was where I grew up and where any flare-up in the region became a dinner-table conversation, and where the Strait of Hormuz was the waterway, a short drive from home rather than an abstract chokepoint. Now I study Business Finance in the UK and I look at the same region through balance-of-payments tables, inflation prints, oil & gas reserves and currency charts. The gap between those two views is where the real story about India sits, and for readers of this newsletter, both windows will be familiar at once.

As a 2nd year finance undergraduate student in the UK, with deep ties to both India and Qatar, it is incredibly humbling to attempt writing for the ICAI Doha Chapter. I am under no illusion that I possess the seasoned expertise of CAs reading this, especially when tackling a subject as complex as the impact of the current Middle East crisis on the Indian economy. While I cannot offer a veteran's counsel, I can only offer an honest, data-driven perspective. By looking closely at recent economic statistics and trade indicators, this piece attempts to parse through the noise and analyze what these geopolitical headwinds truly mean for India's fiscal future.

Every time the Middle East is in crisis, the same anxious question circulates: how badly will this hurt India? Having lived on both sides of it, and after several conversations on the same theme with my peers in the Macroeconomic Forum and MUTIS (Manchester University Trading and Investment Society), my honest answer is that India is genuinely exposed, but less fragile than it was few years back.

The short term: oil prices and a nervous rupee

The fastest channel is crude oil. India imports roughly 88–89% of the crude it consumes — 88.6% in the April–January window of the current fiscal year, per the Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell — because domestic output is stuck near 28.7 million tons (MoSPI, 2024-25), about half come from the Middle East. So, when the region catches fire, India imports the conflict's price tag.

That tag moves fast. For most of FY 2025-26 the Indian crude basket sat at US$62–70 a barrel; as tensions escalated it hit ~US$113.5 by 11 March 2026, close to a doubling in weeks. The arithmetic is unforgiving: every US$10 rise in crude trims roughly 0.1–0.2 points off India's GDP growth and adds about 0.2 points to inflation (India Briefing, 2026). A jump of that size lands directly on household budgets through fuel, food, and transport and the rupee feels it immediately. A larger import bill sends more dollars out, weakening the currency and making the next barrel costlier in rupee terms. A loop the RBI must fight by spending reserves or tightening policy, neither free.

Then the chokepoint. The Strait of Hormuz carried close to 15 million barrels a day in 2025 — about a third of seaborne crude — with India and China together taking some 44% of those flows (IEA, 2025); India alone is the second-largest destination at 14.7% (US EIA, Q1 2025). Even short of a closure, conflict lifts war-risk insurance on tankers and stretches shipping times, both feeding landed costs.

Cooking gas is the quietest casualty and the most politically sensitive. India imports about 60% of its LPG, and roughly 90% passes through Hormuz (PIB, 2026). This episode Modi government push refineries to lift domestic LPG output by around 25% and approve INR 300 billion (about US$3.24 billion) to keep cylinder prices steady which was a sensible move that absorbs the shock fiscally, but a reminder that cushioning these crises costs the exchequer real money.

The long term: the slower, structural squeeze

If the short term is about prices, the long term is about dependence — and the picture is genuinely mixed.

The good news is real and routinely ignored. India has deliberately cut its exposure: it now buys crude from around 40 countries, and roughly 70% of imports arrive outside Hormuz, up from about 55% a year earlier (Petroleum Ministry, 2026). Stocks give an estimated 40–45 days of cover (Kpler, 2026), and Russian crude crossing the Indian Ocean has done much of the rebalancing. This has turned a possible supply crisis into a more manageable price crisis — a meaningful upgrade in resilience.

The harder vulnerability is the one most NRIs lives through: remittances. Close to 10 million Indians work in the Gulf, and money sent home from GCC countries made up about 38% of India's total remittances in FY 2024-25 — roughly US$52.44 billion of a record US$135.46 billion (RBI; Embassy of India, Riyadh). For CAs in Qatar, that is not a statistic but a pay slip. Prolonged instability threatens contracts, construction, and the labor market employing these workers; when they are sent home, the pain concentrates in states like Kerala, where Gulf earnings underpin entire local economies. It never appears on an oil chart, yet it shapes household incomes and the balance of payments.

Trade is the third dimension. India–GCC bilateral trade reached US$178.56 billion in FY 2024-25, about 15.4% of India's global trade (Embassy of India, Riyadh / Ministry of Commerce), with free-trade-agreement terms of reference finalized in February 2026. Qatar matters especially as it supplies the bulk of India's LNG, much through the same strait.

The realistic verdict

It would be easy, and wrong, to call Middle East unrest either an existential threat or a non-event for India. The truth sits between. Short term, the damage is concrete: pricier crude, imported inflation, a softer rupee, a fiscal bill for shielding consumers. Long term, supplier diversification genuinely cushions the supply side, but route dependence on Hormuz, reliance on Gulf remittances, and deep trade integration mean the region's stability will keep shaping India's growth.

India has bought itself room to maneuver; what it cannot do quickly is buy its way out of the Gulf's gravity. From either window, Qatar or Manchester, the conclusion holds: resilience is not independence, and for India, energy security and the NRIs' earnings remain two sides of one coin.

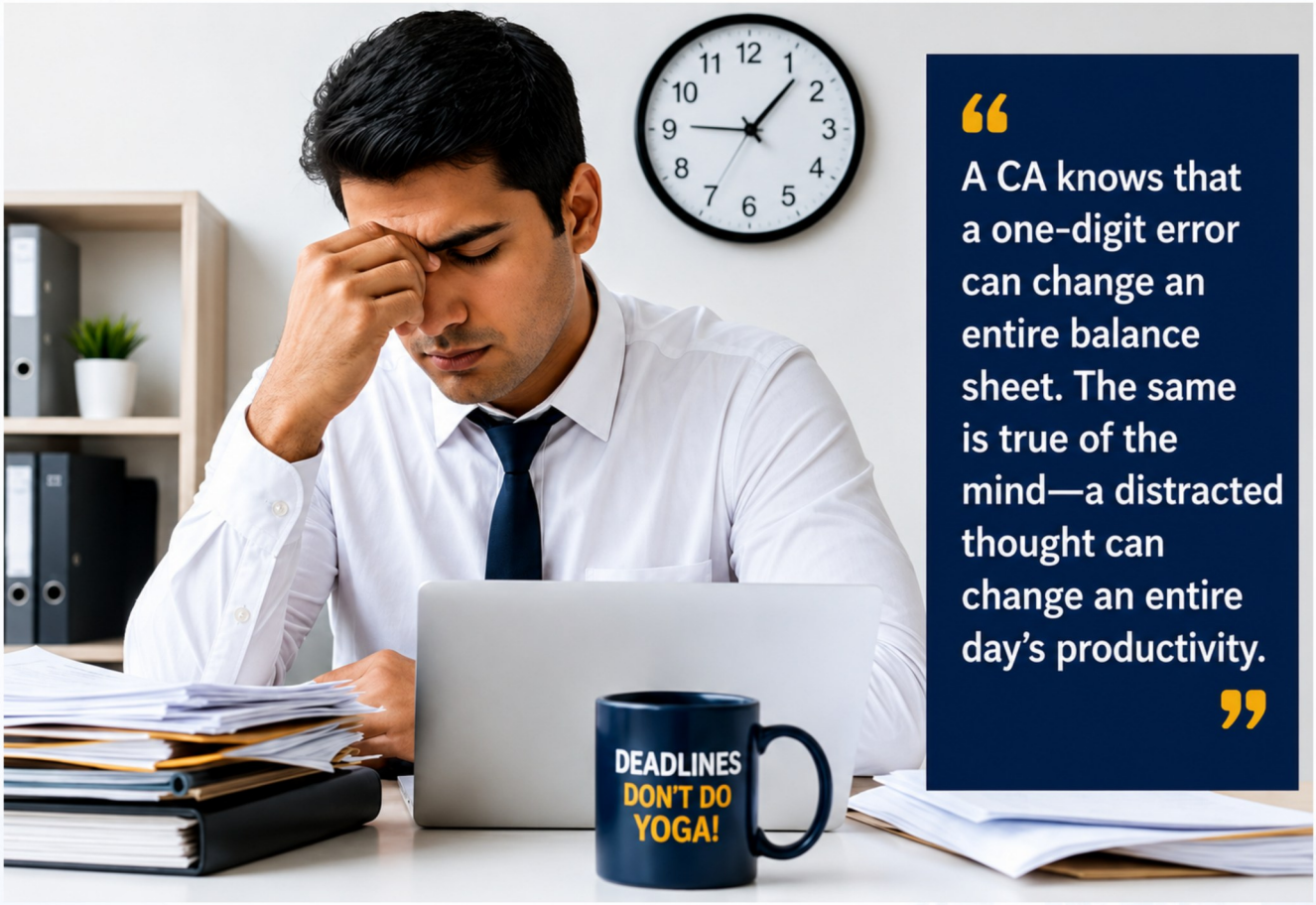
[Sources: Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell; Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI); Reserve Bank of India; International Energy Agency; US Energy Information Administration; Press Information Bureau (Government of India); Embassy of India, Riyadh; Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Kpler; India Briefing. Figures reflect the most recent data available as of mid-2026.]

The Balance beyond Balance Sheet

How Yoga can make us sharper, calmer and more successful

When the Mind Balances, everything else adds up

It's 11:45 p.m. You're reviewing one last audit file, your third cup of coffee is almost empty, and tomorrow's client presentation still isn't ready. Sound familiar? For many Chartered Accountants, long hours, tight deadlines and constant decision-making are part of everyday life. The profession demands precision—but precision requires a fresh, focused mind.



> "A CA knows that a one-digit error can change an entire balance sheet. The same is true of the mind—a distracted thought can change an entire day's productivity."

Yoga is often associated with flexibility, but its greatest benefit for professionals lies elsewhere. It is a practical combination of movement, breathing and mindfulness that helps improve concentration, reduce stress and enhance overall wellbeing. Think of it as preventive maintenance for your most valuable professional asset—your mind.

THE YOGA EFFECT: A POSITIVE CHAIN REACTION



Why Yoga Matters for Chartered Accountants

Chartered Accountants rarely lose productivity because they lack technical knowledge. More often, they lose productivity because mental bandwidth gets exhausted. After hours of analysing numbers, reviewing contracts and responding to emails, the brain begins to slow down. Small mistakes creep in, patience wears thin and decision quality declines.

Regular yoga helps break this cycle by calming the nervous system and restoring attention. Studies have shown that yoga and mindfulness practices can improve executive function, attention, memory and stress management.

DID YOU KNOW?

- A **Harvard Medical School** study found yoga can improve attention, memory and mental performance.[1]
- The **National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health** (NCCIH) reports yoga may reduce stress and improve quality of life.[2]
- A **2024 study on office workers** (ScienceDirect) showed 12 weeks of yoga significantly improved concentration, work performance and reduced fatigue.[3]
- Regular yoga has been shown to **increase gray matter** in brain regions responsible for learning, memory and emotional regulation.[4]

The Return on Investment

Every CA understands the power of compounding. Yoga works the same way. One session may simply leave you feeling relaxed. Practised consistently, the benefits accumulate—better posture, deeper sleep, improved emotional balance, sharper concentration and clearer judgement. These small daily gains eventually translate into higher productivity and better client relationships.

Imagine two professionals working on the same audit. One works continuously for six hours fuelled by caffeine. The other pauses for five minutes every couple of hours to stretch and practise mindful breathing. Both have identical technical ability, but the second is more likely to remain alert, communicate calmly and identify critical errors.

FIVE YOGA PRACTICES EVERY BUSY CA CAN DO AT THEIR DESK

Just 5–10 minutes can change the rest of your day!

NECK ROLLS



Roll neck gently clockwise and anti-clockwise. Relieves stiffness and improves focus.

SHOULDER SHRUGS



Lift shoulders towards ears, hold and relax. Releases tension from long hours of sitting.

SEATED TWIST



Gently twist to each side. Improves spinal mobility and digestion.

WRIST STRETCH



Extend one arm, pull fingers back gently. Switch hands. Great for keyboard warriors!

CHAIR BREATHING



Close eyes. Inhale 4 sec, exhale 6 sec. Calms the mind instantly,

Tip: Consistency matters more than duration.
Short daily practice > Occasional long sessions.

Five-Minute Desk Yoga Routine

- 2 minutes: Deep breathing (Anulom Vilom or Box Breathing)
- 1 minute: Neck and shoulder rolls
- 1 minute: Seated spinal twist
- 1 minute: Wrist and forearm stretches

These exercises require no special equipment and can be done between meetings or during a short break.

A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT'S YOGA DASHBOARD

PROFESSIONAL KPI	WITHOUT YOGA	WITH REGULAR YOGA
Concentration	★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Decision quality	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Stress handling	★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Energy after work	★	★ ★ ★ ★
Sleep quality	★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Client patience	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★



REFERENCES

Coffee or Yoga?

COFFEE vs YOGA

Choose Your Daily Investment Wisely!

	COFFEE	YOGA
	Energy spike Quick high, short-lived	**Sustainable energy** Steady and long-lasting
	Energy crash Leads to fatigue	**No crash** Balanced through the day
	Mental jitter Can increase anxiety	**Calm clarity** Improves focus & memory
	Disturbs sleep Less REM sleep	**Better sleep** Deeper and restorative
	Mood swings Irritability may increase	**Emotional balance** Improves patience & resilience

Both have a place. But if you want compounding returns,
add Yoga to your daily routine!



> Every CA understands the power of compounding. Yoga works exactly the same way. One session may simply help you sleep better. A hundred sessions may transform your posture, patience, concentration, emotional resilience and decision-making. Small investments. Extraordinary returns.

The Bottom Line

Balance sheets will always need balancing, deadlines will never disappear and clients will continue to expect excellence. Yoga does not reduce your workload—it changes how effectively you respond to it. When your breathing becomes calmer, your thinking becomes clearer. Better thinking leads to better decisions, stronger client relationships and sustainable career growth.

Perhaps the best way to look at yoga is through a finance lens: it is a daily investment in yourself with returns that compound over time. Roll out the mat—not just for your body, but for a sharper mind and a better professional life.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Numbers will always be there. Deadlines will always be there.
But you are the one who makes the numbers meaningful.
When your body is flexible, your mind becomes flexible.
When your mind is calm, your decisions become better.
When your decisions are better, your growth is inevitable.

Roll out the mat. Not just for the body, but for a better you.

INVEST IN YOURSELF. THE RETURNS LAST A LIFETIME

Creative CORNER

Beneath the Surface: Emotional Obesity of a Woman's Heart

By CA. Binal Shah

In the silence of a busy day,
A weight unseen begins to sway.
Tasks pile up, but it's not just that,
It's the unseen burden, heavy and flat.



Guilt, frustration, doubt, and fear,
Weighed down quietly, year by year.
Yet, in this weight, we are not alone,
Together we can heal, together we've grown.



Support and care can light the way,
A shared responsibility, day by day.
Boundaries set, with empathy clear,
A team of strength, drawing near.

Let's speak up, not hide the strain,
Offer a hand to ease the pain.
In unity, we find our might,
Releasing weight, embracing the light.



Together, lighter,
stronger, and free,
The power of support,
for you and me.

YOUNG MINDS

A Realization in the Quiet



By Anaya Maheshwari

You know, I thought over it,
And it actually hurts

Seeing the little,
Even the smallest sign
That your parents are getting old.

And the thing is,
No one talks about it,
Or how the signs are everywhere,

And no matter how upset you are with them,
It still hurts.

Seeing your mother's eyesight weaker,
The fewest wrinkles on her face,
Grey hair.....

It's all a part of life,
It happens to everyone,
We all know.

But seeing the people who could do anything —
To see them trying to do all the things they could.....
It's sad.

And then suddenly,
Them worrying about you
Becomes you worrying about them.

It all happens so fast,
And before you knew it,
You're acting like the parent.

little things matter

ACHIEVEMENTS

Celebrating Creativity, Encouraging Excellence

CA. Neetha Jolly along with her equally talented artist son **Geoffrey Jolly** held an exhibition of paintings at The Art Factory in Lusail on 4th and 5th June 2026. The exhibition was well attended by members from **ICAI Doha Chapter** and art lovers in Qatar.



Moments of Pride

A beautiful beginning to an inspiring showcase of talent, passion and imagination.



Art that Speaks

Every stroke tells a story. Every color brings a feeling to life.



Imagination Unleashed

From serene landscapes to vibrant emotions, their art inspires and connects us all.

"When creativity is nurtured, it becomes a masterpiece."

MONTAGE

Quarter Gone By

Charity Donation by ICAI Doha Chapter alongside Indian Community Benevolent Fund on 4th April 2026 at their office

Together, We Care. Together, We Build.





MONTAGE

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CA. Ravi Kumar Patwa
Central Council Member, Chairman of Internal Audit Standards Board and Vice Chairman of Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.



Keynote Speaker
CA. Arpit Kabra
Central Council Member, ICAI

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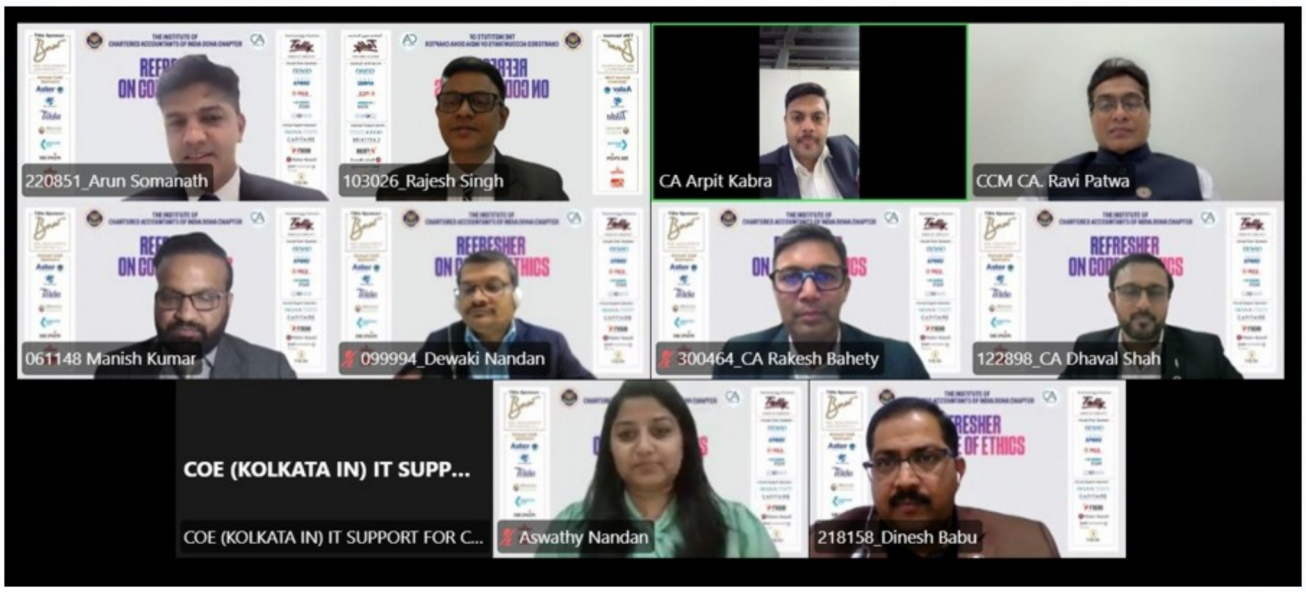
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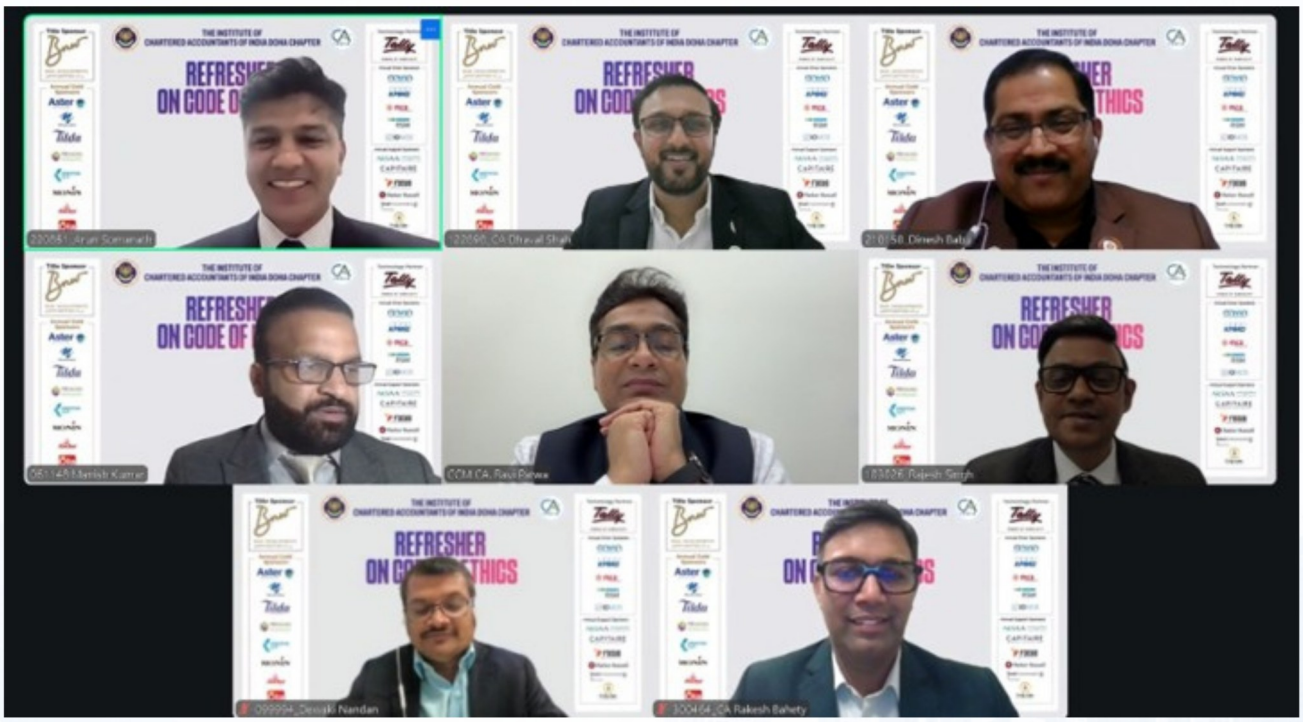
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22 APRIL 2026 WEDNESDAY

zoom

2.5 Hrs CPE applied (Unstructured)

5.45PM to 8.15PM

Key Note Speakers



CA. Dayaniwas Sharma
Chairman-Digital Accounting and Assurance Board



CA. Arpit Kabra
Vice Chairman-Digital Accounting and Assurance Board

Eminent Speakers



CA. Saurabh Maheshwari
Topic:
Opportunities in
Digital Personal Data Protection



CA. (Dr.) Durgesh Pandey
Topic:
Opportunities in
Forensics and Investigations

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Technology Partner: Tally

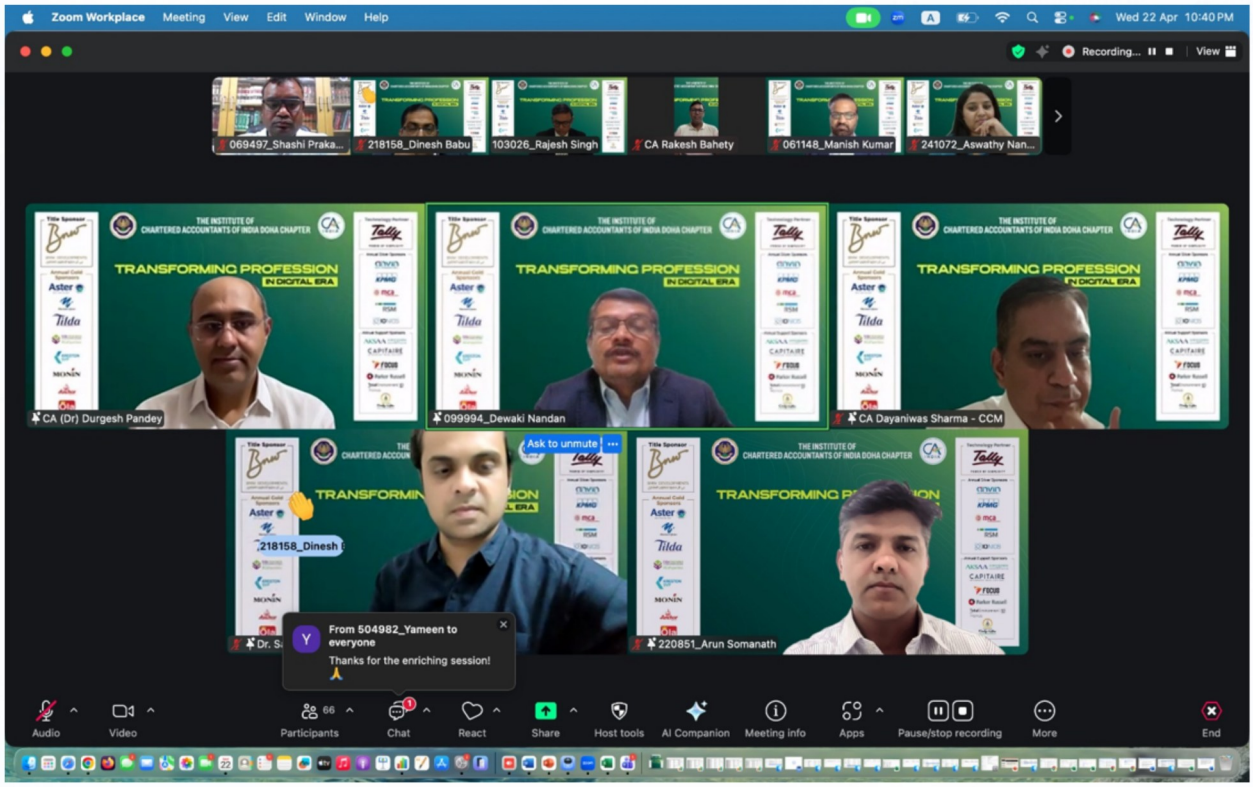
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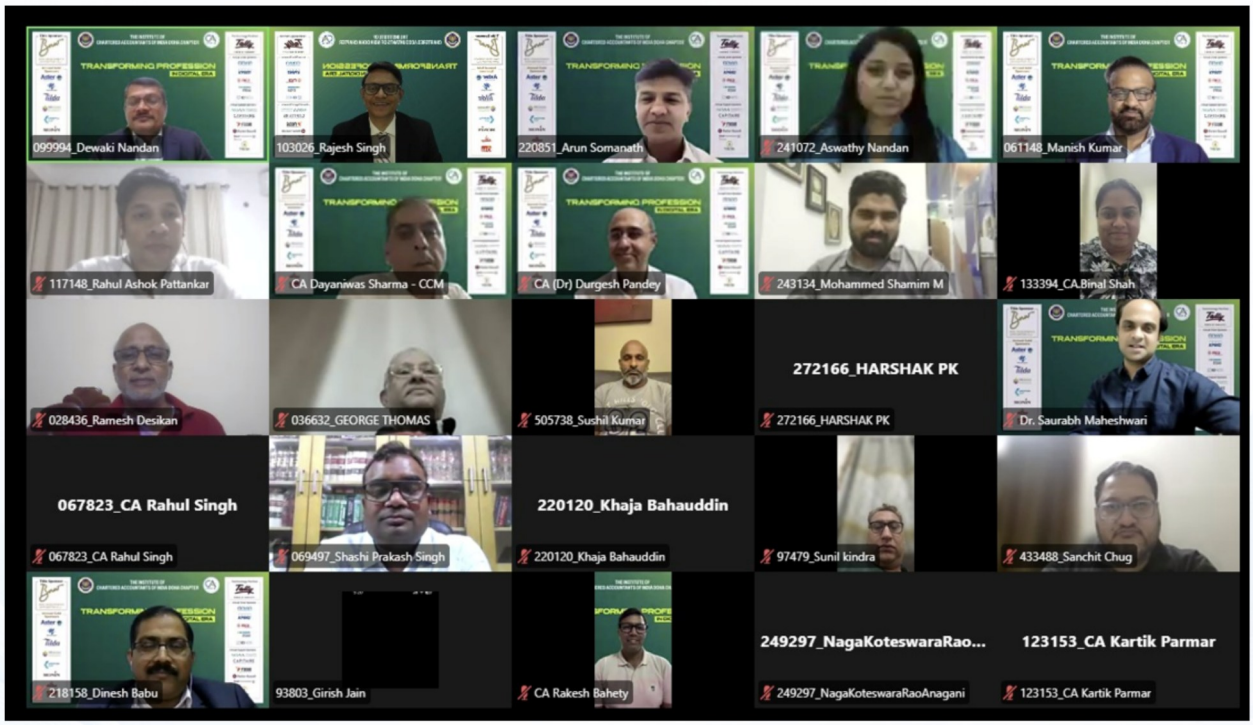
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DOHA CHAPTER

EMBRACING CHALLENGES

18th MAY 2026 | MONDAY

Rixos Gulf Hotel Doha | 6.00 PM - 10.00 PM | CPE 4 Hrs

Event Supported by RSM

Keynote Speaker — Esteemed Speakers



Mr. Mohamed Jaidah
Group Executive Director, Jaidah Group



Dr. Hassan Al Fadala
Managing Director, Process Technology
Topic : Balancing Industrial Growth and Environmental Sustainability



Mr. Ahmed Hadid
CEO, Mosanada Facilities Management
Topic : Leveraging current circumstances

15 minutes panel discussion and Q&A Session with the speakers moderated by CA Rajesh Menon, Senior Partner- RSM Qatar

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Knowledge sharing Segment



Mr. Anshul Deobhakta
Senior Partner, RSM Qatar
Topic : Valuation & Investment



Mr. Nishit Saxena
Partner, RSM Qatar
Topic : Data Privacy and Governance



Mr. Samir Salah
Partner, RSM Qatar
Topic : Tax Trends and Updates



Mr. Dr. Ehab Shalaby
CEO, Dcarbon global
Topic : ESG Regulations and Frameworks

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QUEST

CAnnect Quiz

"Dive into a fun, interactive puzzle where each question connects to the insights and stories we've shared in this edition. Share your answers to icaidohachapter@gmail.com, with a copy to **manishkumar77@gmail.com** by **27th July 2026** with subject: "CAnnect Quest Q2 2026"
The first three entries with all correct answers will receive prizes.

1. According to CA K.C. Dalal, what was the most defining turning point that changed the course of his career?
A. Becoming a Chartered Accountant in India
B. Joining Ernst & Young in Qatar
C. A coffee meeting with Omar Al Fardan before leaving Qatar
D. Completing his articleship at A.F. Ferguson & Co.

2. In the article on Data Analytics, finance decisions without analytics were compared to:
A. Sailing without a compass
B. Playing cricket without knowing the pitch or the opponent's form
C. Driving through traffic without GPS
D. Investing without reading financial statements

3. Which of the following was suggested as the best first analytics tool for Chartered Accountants beginning their data analytics journey?
A. Microsoft Access
B. SAP Analytics Cloud
C. Power BI or Tableau
D. Oracle Financial Analytics

4. According to the article on Emerging AI Technologies, what is described as the defining AI trend of 2026?
A. Predictive AI
B. Multimodal AI
C. Agentic AI
D. Generative AI

5. Under the "Rule of 7 Accounting Framework", which of the following is NOT one of the seven accounting pillars?
A. Inventory
B. Cash & Bank
C. Fixed Assets
D. Receivables

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6. According to the Rule of 7 article, what question should a Chartered Accountant ask instead of discussing debtor turnover ratios with a client?
A. Are your sales growing faster than inflation?
B. Are customers taking longer to pay?
C. Is your working capital adequate?
D. Are your debtors adequately secured?

7. In "Beyond Borders: The Journey of Indian Professionals in Qatar", which sector was NOT specifically mentioned as offering opportunities for Indian professionals?
A. Healthcare
B. Information Technology
C. Aerospace Manufacturing
D. Engineering

8. According to "Don't Replace Me with a Prompt", what was identified as AI's biggest limitation?
A. It cannot process financial data quickly.
B. It sometimes produces confidently incorrect answers.
C. It cannot write professional emails.
D. It struggles with spreadsheet calculations.

9. According to the revised India–Qatar DTAA discussed in the NRI Corner, what withholding tax rate generally applies to dividends when the beneficial owner holds at least 25% of the company?
A. 15%
B. 10%
C. 7.5%
D. 5%

10. Which statement best captures the concluding message of the article "Don't Replace Me with a Prompt"?
A. AI will soon replace Chartered Accountants in most roles.
B. The future belongs to firms that deploy the largest number of AI tools.
C. AI can draft the article, but the Chartered Accountant still signs the opinion.
D. AI should only be used for administrative work and never for professional tasks.

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