



The Institute of Cost Accountants of India

Board of Discipline u/s 21A of The Cost Accountants Act, 1959

Final order number: ICMAI/BOD/2026/31

Complaint number	Com-21/CA(121)/2023
In the matter of	CMA Sanket Pandit (M/49895) [Complainant] Vs CMA Suresh Pimple (M/13965) [Respondent]
Date of Hearing	As per records and order sheet
Date of order	31 st March, 2026

CORAM:

1	Shri P.K. Pujari, IAS (Retd)	Presiding Officer
2	CMA (Dr.) Ashish Thatte	Member

PRESENT

1	CMA(Dr) Hemant Kumar Sindhvani	Director (Discipline)
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Brief of the Case:-

1. The Disciplinary Directorate was in receipt of a complaint in Form I in triplicate dated 19th July 2023 (served on 24th July 2023) together with the prescribed complaint fee from CMA Sanket Pandit (hereinafter referred to as the "Complainant"), bearing membership number 49895 containing allegation against CMA Suresh Pimple (hereinafter referred to as the "respondent") bearing membership number 13965 (hereinafter referred to as "the respondent") containing certain allegations against the respondent falling under various provisions of the Cost Accountants Act, 1959.
2. The complaint consists of 5 pages, accompanied by a annexures with the enclosed which is reproduced below in verbatim:





FORM I

[See sub-rule (1) of Rule 3]

1.	Name of the complainant : (with membership number, if member of institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India)	Sanket Pandit 49895
2.	Name of the member/firm against whom complaint is being made: (with membership number/registration number of the firm, if known)	Suresh Pimple 13965
3.	Latest Address of complainant for communication	N-4,E-40 Cidco Behind MIT Hospital AURANGABAD Pin Code-431001
4.	Latest available address of member against whom complaint is made.	AM-1/29,N-2 THAKARE NAGAR CIDCO AURANGABAD PIN CODE-431001
5.	Particulars of Allegation (s) serially numbered together with corresponding clause/part of relevant schedule(s), or Particulars of Allegation(s) serially numbered together with corresponding clause/part of relevant schedule(s) under which the alleged acts of commission of omission or both would fall.	1. Sec 7 CWA Act 1959 violation. 2. First Schedule Part I.
6.	Particulars of Evidences abducted in support of the allegations made.	1. Website screenshot with date 2. Facebook profile screenshot
7.	Names of persons who have knowledge of the facts of the case.	1. Chandra Prakash Kalra M-9810291304
8.	Particulars of DD for Rs.2950 in favour of Institute of Cost Accountants of India payable at New Delhi	1. Self Sanket Pandit

3. The above complaint was scrutinized and was registered in terms of Rule 5 of the Cost and Works Accountants (Procedure of Investigation of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007 and the same was proceeded with in the manner as prescribed in Chapter III of the Rules and was registered by the Disciplinary Directorate by giving a unique number, Complaint No. Com/21-CA(121)/2023.



- The complaint was forwarded to the Respondent vide letter No. G/DD/Com-CA(121)/M-13965/1/08/2023 dated 17th August, 2023 followed by reminder dated calling upon the Respondent to submit a written statement in terms of Rule 8(3) of The Rules, 2007 within 21 days from the date of service of the letter under reference.
- The respondent, vide letter dated 2nd September, 2023 sent his written statement containing of 22 pages, which is reproduced below in verbatim:

Quote

Sub: Complaint No. Com/21-CA-(121)/2023 – CMA Sanket Pandit (M/49895)
[Complainant]
Vs. CMA Suresh Ramchandrarao Pimple (M/13965)
Ref: G/DD/Com-CA (121)/ (M-13965)/1/8/2023 dated August 17, 2023

Dear, Sir,

- As I understand, The Institute of Cost Accountants of India is the only recognised statutory professional organisation and licensing body in India specialising exclusively in Cost and Management Accountancy.

Further the objectives of the Institute clearly speak as under:-

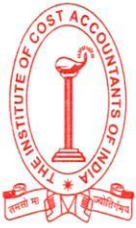
- To develop the Cost and Management Accountancy function as a powerful tool of management control in all spheres of economic activities.
- To promote and develop the adoption of scientific methods in cost and management accountancy.
- To keep abreast of the latest developments in the cost and management accounting principles and practices, to incorporate such changes are essential for sustained vitality of the industry and other economic activities. (Taken From Institute website)

As per the above and apropos to the above subject matter you will notice that I have STRICTLY ADHERED to the objectives as well as the rules and regulations governing the Practicing Member of the Institute and submit as under:

The complainant CMA Sanket Pandit has taken objection of using description of “cost Management Accountant” below the name of my firm “Suresh Pimple & Associates” on my website and my Facebook page. In this regard, I wish to inform You...

- I am not using Cost & Management Accountant designation for myself, which is evident from the letterhead and visiting card. As a proof of this I had enclosed a specimen certificate copy duly verified UDIN on my printed letterhead and copy of printed visiting card for your confirmation. As per the enclosure, I am using “**Suresh Pimple & Associates, Cost Accountants**” only. These proofs are given as sample basis only.
- The complainant pointed out two Instances only; one is website of my firm and another is Facebook.

The intent of writing the same was only to convey the services and work I am specialising in and nowhere on any certificate or report I have used “Cost & Management Accountants” & for your information and knowledge I had also immediately removed it from both places immediately on receipt of your letter. Ref Annexure I and 2 enclosed.



For Facebook it is description of services and not suffix as below:

Suresh Ramchandra Pimple

995 Friends. 122 mutual

Cost & Management Accountant in practice

It is not designation but indicate services I am offering, as per the objectives of the institute.

On same page, under the head Details, it has been written as below:

Sole Proprietorship at Suresh Pimple & Associates, Cost Accountants.

Which is perfect!

Therefore it gives my clear understanding that I am not using Cost & Management Accountant as designation.

4. For website, this error has occurred as we followed the websites of other reputed and experienced firm like **Diwanji & Co., Abhijit Deshmukh & Co. and KJU & Associates etc.**

The use of phrase as above '**Cost & Management Accountants**' is identical with my use. M/s Diwanji & Co. is very reputed firm in this profession and its age is about 60 years. I could not believe that they can make such mistakes! There are other firms using similar name. On sample basis, I had enclosed Annexure 3, 4 and 5. Since it is used on my website.

However, I regret error as above and apologise for the same.

5. There are large no. of members using this designation 'Cost and Management Accountant' those include office bearers of Institutes (Council Members/ex council members etc.,) in their introduction on websites. I certainly believe being so knowledgeable persons they will not make error on this account. Please see annexures 8, 9,10A etc. on sample basis. It makes clear that to use the word as above is not a serious issue to punish any member. In fact it is in line with the objective of firm and supports the objectives of the Institute.

6. The complainant himself also uses "Cost & Management Accountant" in his introduction (Annexure 6) on LinkedIn "..... I am a qualified Cost & Management Accountant....." and for use of my firm he made a compliant. This is staying in glass house and pelting stones on others.

The Section 7 of the Cost & Works Accountants Act,

"Every member of the Institute in practice shall, and any other member may, use the Designation of a cost accountant and no member using such designation shall use any other **Description**, whether in addition thereto or in substitution therefore....."

A Cost Accountant cannot use other description like 'Cost & Management Accountant' as above.

Therefore complainant be punished for violation of Section 7 as above for using the description for himself.

The Complainant is **Owner** of a group on LinkedIn named CMA (Cost & Management Accountant) where other owners also described them as Cost & Management Accountants.

7. From above, there is no sufficient ground to make a case against me but for some personal reasons the Complainant is making case. I request to dismiss the case and Censure to the complainant for troubling a member who works fully in line with the Institute objectives. He had in the past troubled our Institute by making several RTI



cases at Aurangabad Chapter, which were subsequently withdrawn by him, as they were not genuine.

8. Globally Cost Accountants were called "Works Accountants". Subsequently they became "Cost & Works Accountants" After that they became "Management Accountant" (Ref. History of "CIMA" UK). In our country, the similar progress is going on and therefore Cost & Management Accountant may become reality soon. Normally society accepts the change and law comes later. Already large no. of Cost Accountants using this Designation as a matter of pride. It will be retarding profession if the say of the Complainant is accepted and it will affect very large no. of reputed CMAs. Further guidelines by the Institute may help the Cost Accountants.

Further, I request you to provide me opportunities to submit any other information in this regard as per the need of justice.

This letter is sent by email and speed post simultaneously.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully
CMA Suresh Pimple,
(M/13965)

Unquote

6. The written statement dated 2nd September, 2023 was forwarded to the complainant under the cover of letter No. G/DD/Com-CA(121)(M-49895)/2/10/2023 dated 19th October, 2023 for forwarding his rejoinder in terms of sub-rule (4) of Rule 8 of the Cost and Works Accountants (Procedure of Investigation of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007.
7. The Complainant, vide letter dated 5th November, 2023 submitted his Rejoinder containing of 2 pages, which is reproduced below in verbatim:

Quote:

Subject: Rejoinder for Complaint No. Com/21-CA (121)/2023, Against Suresh Pimple (M-13965)

Ref. No.: G/DD/Com-CA(121)/(M-49895) Dated 19th October 2023 Received on 02nd November 2023

Dear Sir,

This rejoinder is filed in response to the reply submitted by the respondent, Suresh Pimple, to the

complaint filed against him by CMA Sanket Pandit. The complainant reiterates all the allegations made in the complaint and submits that the respondent has committed professional misconduct.

1. **The respondent has admitted to using the designation "Cost & Management Accountant."**

2. The respondent claims that he has strictly adhered to the objectives and regulations of the Institute. However, this is clearly false, as evidenced by his use of the designation "Cost & Management Accountant" on his website and Facebook profile. This designation is not recognized by the Institute and is in violation of Section 7 of the

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Cost and Works Accountants Act. 1959

3. Such nomenclature blatantly contradicts Section 7 of the Act, which expressly stipulates that a practitioner shall utilize the exclusive designation of a "Cost Accountant," and no other description in substitution or in addition thereto.
4. This evident misuse of the designation "Cost & Management Accountants" by the respondent is not only deceptive but also displays an alarming disregard for the statutory norms that govern our respected profession.
5. The respondent claims that he is not using the designation "Cost & Management Accountant" on his letterhead or visiting card. However, this is irrelevant, as the Institute prohibits the use of this designation altogether.
6. The respondent's argument that the use of the designation "Cost & Management Accountant" is in line with the objectives of the ICMAI is not correct. **The objectives of the ICMAI are to promote and develop the adoption of scientific methods in cost and management accountancy, not to promote the use of different designations for cost accountants.**
7. The complainant has a legitimate reason to be concerned about the respondent's violation of the CWA Act 1959, as it undermines the integrity of the profession, and has provided evidence to support this concern..
8. Furthermore, to suggest that "**society accepts the change and law comes later**" is a reckless oversimplification of the legal and regulatory framework governing the accounting profession. In a civilized society governed by the rule of law, it is the law that defines and regulates professional titles, not societal whims, or individual preferences

In addition, please refer to **the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959, Part II Professional Misconduct in Relation to Members of the Institute Generally:**

A member of the Institute, whether in practice or not, **shall be deemed to be guilty of professional misconduct** if he—

(3) includes in any information, **statement**, return, or form to be submitted to the Institute, Council, or any of its Committees, Director (Discipline), Board of Discipline, Disciplinary Committee, Quality Review Board, or the Appellate Authority any particulars **knowing them to be false.**

The respondent's actions represent again an additional violation of Part II of Professional Misconduct in Relation to Members of the Institute Generally, **particularly in providing false information** regarding the **withdrawal of my RTI application.**

It is false information that I (Complainant) have withdrawn my RTI application. I demand proof of withdrawal of my RTI application. If respondent is not able to provide proof, then it is very evident that he has committed **misconduct by providing false information in his written statement to the honorable Board of Discipline and its Director & The Institute.**

The Director may counter verify the claim from PIO of the Institute whether I have ever in my life time placed a withdrawal request for an RTI application made.





The respondent's ability to access confidential information regarding the filing of my RTI application is deeply concerning and requires a thorough investigation. Such unauthorized access to Institute related information raises serious questions about the respondent's actions and potential misconduct. The integrity of our profession demands strict adherence to established regulations, and the respondent's actions have cast doubt on his commitment to these principles.

In a conclusive analysis, it is irrefutable that CMA Suresh Pimple stands unequivocally guilty of **flouting the sanctity of Section 7 of the venerable Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959**. His audacious and unbridled use of the designation "Cost & Management Accountant" is a stark violation that cannot be brushed aside.

Moreover, it is glaringly evident that CMA Suresh Pimple has transgressed into the territory of **professional misconduct as delineated in the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959, Part II - Professional Misconduct in Relation to Members of the Institute Generally**.

His act of disseminating **false information to the Director (Discipline) and the distinguished Board of Discipline**, encapsulated by his bold claim of withdrawing an RTI application, is a matter of utmost gravity. This calls for an immediate and unwavering investigation into this act that contravenes the very essence of our professional integrity. **In light of these repeated and severe violations, it is imperative that the Institute takes swift and resolute disciplinary action against CMA Suresh Pimple. This action should include the cancellation of his membership and the imposition of a substantial penalty to both uphold the integrity of our profession and serve as a deterrent against future violations.**

Yours faithfully
CMA Sanket Pandit (M-49895)
Mobile 7620777888
Email cmasanketpandit@gmail.com
N-4 E-40 Cidco

Unquote

8. Notice under section 21C of The Act, 1959 read with Rule 8(5) of the Cost and Works Accountants (Procedure of Investigation of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007 dated 10th June 2024 followed by a reminder dated 16th September, 2025 was issued to complainant for seeking additional information. The Complainant, vide letter dated 23rd September, 2025 provide the information which is as under:

S. No.	Particulars	Response
1	What is your profession?	Content Creator
2	Do you have a website of your own?	No

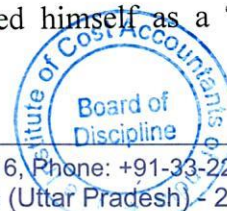
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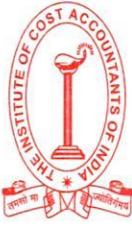




S. No.	Particulars	Response
3	If your answer to (2) above is in affirmative, please provide details of your website.	Not Applicable
4	Have you ever used the expression "Cost and Management Accountant" in any of your profiles at any time, whether on LinkedIn or YouTube?	No
5	Please mention how use of the words "Cost and Management Accountant" has violated the provisions of Section 5 of the CWA Act, 1959.	<p>I have already provided a detailed explanation & facts in my earlier reply to the complaint copy, wherein the factual position has been adequately clarified.</p> <p>It is hereby submitted that the determination of whether the usage of the words "Cost and Management Accountant" amounts to a violation of the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959, falls strictly within the adjudicatory domain of the Directorate. I therefore place reliance on my prior submissions and request the Directorate to examine the same in accordance with the applicable statutory framework.</p>

It is observed vide clause 4, the Complainant had stated that he had never used the expression "Cost and Management Accountant" in any of his profiles including social media at any time. However, the Respondent, in his written statement of defence, placed on record a screenshot of the Complainant's LinkedIn profile wherein he described himself as a "Qualified Cost and





Management Accountant.” The Complainant has not offered any clarification on this aspect in his rejoinder. In view thereof, it appears that the Complainant furnished incorrect information during the course of investigation.

9. Comments of the Disciplinary Directorate

- a) The primary allegation of the Complainant is that the Respondent has contravened the provisions contained in Section 7 of the Cost Accountants Act, 1959 by using the suffix “Cost and Management Accountant” on the website of his firm, face book as well as other digital profiles. It is alleged that Section 7 of the Act permits a member to use only the designation prescribed therein and prohibits the use of any other description, whether in addition thereto or in substitution thereof.
- b) In his written statement of defence, the Respondent had not used the description “Cost and Management Accountant” on official documents; that its use on Facebook was only as a description of services and not as a professional suffix; that the website usage followed the practice of certain reputed firms; that upon realising the lapse he promptly removed the description, expressed regret for his unintentional error; and that similar descriptions are allegedly used by the Complainant and several other members.
- c) In the rejoinder, the Complainant submitted that the Respondent has, in fact, admitted to using the description “Cost and Management Accountant,” and that such usage constitutes a violation of Section 7 of the Cost Accountants Act, 1959, amounting to professional misconduct under the Act.
- d) The Disciplinary Directorate examined all documents and material available on record and observed that the Respondent has admitted to using the designation “Cost and Management Accountant” on the website of his firm as well as on his Facebook page. The plea that such usage was adopted by following certain reputed firms cannot absolve the Respondent of his statutory obligations. Being a member of the Institute, the Respondent is expected to be fully conversant with and strictly adhere to the provisions of the Act, Rules, and Regulations framed thereunder. The contention that the Complainant or other members are also allegedly using incorrect descriptions does not constitute a valid defence and cannot justify or mitigate the Respondent’s own lapse.
- e) It is, however, noted that the Respondent has admitted his lapse, expressed regret, and taken prompt corrective steps by removing the impugned description from the website and





Facebook page. It is also evident from the material placed on record that certain established firms are using similar descriptions. In the absence of any material indicating mala fide intent on the part of the Respondent, a lenient view can be taken. Accordingly, the matter is placed before the Board of Discipline for appropriate consideration.

10. Findings and Oder of Board of Discipline

- a) Upon careful consideration of the complaint, the written statement of defence, the rejoinder, the findings of the Director (Discipline), and the material available on record, the Board observes that the Respondent has admitted to having used the designation “Cost and Management Accountant” on the website of his firm as well as on his Facebook page. The Board also takes note of the submission and material placed on record indicating that certain established firms as well as complainant are using similar descriptions.
- b) Section 7 of the Cost Accountants Act, 1959 mandates that a member shall use only the designation prescribed therein and shall not use any other description, whether in addition thereto or in substitution thereof. Compliance with statutory nomenclature is mandatory and not optional.
- c) The contention of the Respondent that other firms are also using similar expressions is not a valid defence. Each member is individually responsible for adherence to the provisions of the Act and the Rules framed thereunder.
- d) However, the Board also notes the following mitigating circumstances:
 - The Respondent has admitted the usage on website as well as Facebook ;
 - The expression was removed promptly upon being pointed out;
 - The Respondent has expressed regret for the lapse;
 - There is no material on record establishing deliberate intent to mislead, derive wrongful gain, or impersonate any statutory designation
 - There is no evidence that the description was used in statutory certifications, audit reports, or professional attest documents or any tender documents;
- e) The Board is of the considered view that the Respondent ought to have exercised greater diligence and ensured strict compliance with the statutory prescription under Section 7 of the Act. Members of the Institute are expected to be fully conversant with the governing provisions and to adhere to them scrupulously.





ICMAI
THE INSTITUTE OF
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA
भारतीय लागत लेखाकार संस्थान
Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Headquarters:
CMA Bhawan, 3 Institutional Area,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Phone : +91-11-24622156-57-58
Website : www.icmai.in

- f) However, in the absence of evidence establishing mala fide intention or mens rea, and considering the prompt corrective action and expression of regret, the Board finds that the ends of justice would be met by adopting a lenient approach.
- g) The Board observed that, during the course of Investigation, the complainant stated that he had never used the expression “Cost and Management Accountant” on his social media profile. However, material placed on record by the Respondent indicates otherwise, and no clarification has been furnished in the rejoinder. The Board, therefore, notes that incorrect information appears to have been provided during the investigation and cautions the Complainant that furnishing incorrect or misleading information before the disciplinary authorities may itself amount to professional misconduct under the Act and the Rules
- h) The Board further observes that similar descriptions appear to be in use by certain professionals and firms. In order to ensure uniform compliance with Section 7 of the Act and to prevent recurrence of similar issues, the Board advises that the Secretary of the Institute of Cost Accountant may consider issuing an appropriate public notice, circular, or advisory communication apprising members of the requirement to use strictly the statutorily prescribed designation.
- i) In exercise of the powers conferred under Rule 9(3)(a) of the Cost and Works Accountants (Procedure of Investigation of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007, and having regard to the totality of facts and circumstances of the case, the Board hereby orders closure of the matter. The Complainant and the Respondent be informed accordingly.
- j) The matter stands disposed of accordingly

A.P. Thatte

CMA (Dr.) Ashish Thatte,

(Member)

Place: New Delhi

Date: 31st March, 2026



P.K. Pujari

Shri P.K. Pujari, IAS (Retd)

(Presiding Officer)



ICMAI
THE INSTITUTE OF
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA
भारतीय लागत लेखाकार संस्थान
Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

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Distribution under Rule 15(3) of the Rule

- 1) Director(Discipline), Institute of Cost Accountant of India
- 2) Complainant, CMA Sanket Pandit (M/49895)
- 3) Respondent, CMA Suresh Pimple (M/13965)

