

Report of
63rd National Cost and Management Accountants' Convention (NCMAC) 2026
RISE India - Reposition Intensify Strengthen Enhance
9th to 11th January, 2026
MERLIS Hotel, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

The Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI) successfully organised its 63rd National Cost and Management Accountants' Convention (NCMAC) 2026 from 9th to 11th January 2026 at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. Convened under the theme "RISE India – Reposition India and CMAs, Intensify Growth, Strengthen Competence & Enhance Capabilities," the three-day national convention presented a forward-looking professional roadmap aimed at empowering Cost and Management Accountants (CMAs) to emerge as key enablers of India's economic transformation in pursuit of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Coimbatore, renowned as the Manchester of South India, proved to be an apt host city, embodying a legacy of industrial excellence, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation-driven growth that closely aligned with the convention's vision and objectives.

Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Vice President of India, conveyed a special message acknowledging ICMAI's pivotal role in strengthening cost competitiveness, financial discipline and governance across industry and government. He observed that, as the world's largest professional body of Cost and Management Accountants, ICMAI continues to play a vital nation-building role by fostering

professional excellence and reinforcing the foundations of a resilient and globally competitive economy. Emphasising the significance of inclusive professional dialogue, he expressed confidence that NCMAC 2026 would stimulate meaningful deliberations and actionable outcomes aligned with India's journey towards Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

The convention featured impactful inaugural and plenary sessions, followed by in-depth technical deliberations focusing on repositioning India and

the CMA profession, accelerating professional growth, strengthening competence & capability and enhancing leadership across manufacturing & service sectors. Key discussions centred on Industry 5.0, ESG-led business transformation, digital finance ecosystems, AI-enabled cost management, innovation leadership and sustainability. The

event witnessed over 1,000 participants including senior corporate leaders, policymakers, regulators, public sector executives and international professionals.

Healthcare emerged as a key area of national importance during the convention. ICMAI released its landmark publication, "Technical Guide on Cost Management in the Healthcare Services," developed by the Cost Accounting Standards Board (CASB),



offering a structured framework for effective cost optimisation and improved healthcare delivery. Further strengthening its thought leadership, ICMAI also released 12 publications by its Tax Research Department, along with additional publications by the BFSI Board and the MSME & Start-up Promotion Board.

The convention was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Shri Narayan Sethuram, Managing Director, Sanmar Engineering Technologies Ltd., and Chairman, CII International & Trade Policy Councils. In his address, he underscored the critical importance of Total Cost Management (TCM) in positioning India as a global hub for innovation and manufacturing, highlighting the strategic role of CMAs in driving efficiency, competitiveness, and sustainable value creation across industries.

Addressing the delegates, CMA TCA Srinivasa Prasad, President, ICMAI and Chief Patron, NCMAC 2026, stated that as India accelerates towards Viksit Bharat 2047, CMAs must rise as strategic leaders in nation-building. He outlined ICMAI's vision to strengthen professional capabilities, expand its global footprint and build capacity for advanced manufacturing & service-sector leadership. With over six lakh students and one lakh Cost Accountants, ICMAI aims to significantly expand the CMA workforce to meet the demands of a USD 30 trillion Indian economy, reaffirming the belief that behind every successful business decision, there is a CMA.

Further reinforcing this vision, CMA Neeraj D. Joshi, Vice President, ICMAI and Chairman, NCMAC 2026, described the convention as a defining milestone for the profession. He noted that as India embraces artificial intelligence, sustainability frameworks, digital governance, and advanced manufacturing, CMAs will assume increasingly strategic roles. Drawing parallels with Coimbatore's industrial dynamism, he emphasised that NCMAC 2026 was not merely an event, but a collective call to action for CMAs to actively contribute to India's economic future and the realisation of Viksit Bharat 2047.

The convention also highlighted the expanding role of CMAs in policy formulation, economic acceleration, and enhancing India's global competitiveness. Deliberations emphasised the

integration of sustainability into core business strategies, promotion of resource-efficient production, advancement of ESG adoption, and alignment with global best practices as India progresses towards its Net Zero 2070 commitment.

The Valedictory Session was graced by Dr. E. Balagurusamy, Chairman, EBG Foundation and a renowned scholar, as Chief Guest. In his address, he reiterated his strong belief in skill-based education led by competent educators, while emphasising the importance of ethical and value-based learning.

The event was addressed by several distinguished dignitaries, including CMA Manoj Kumar Anand (Council Member & Convener), CMA Vijay Kiran Agastya (SIRC Chairman & Co-Chairman), CMA (Dr.) R. Maheswaran (Chairman, Coimbatore Chapter & Co-Convener); Guests of Honour CMA Pawan Kumar, Chief Adviser (Cost), Ministry of Finance; CMA Anand K. Pal, Principal Adviser (Cost), Ministry of Defence; and Eminent Speakers like CMA Sipan Kumar Garg, CMA Pankaj Malhotra, CMA AK Tiwari, CMA Rajesh Kumar Dwivedi, Shri Nagesh Babu, CMA Soma Dilip Ghosh, CMA Gagan Bihari Swain, CMA Rameesh Kailasam, CMA Robin Banerjee, CMA Gopala Ramanan, CMA N Ramanathan, CMA Asim Kumar Mukhopadhyay, CMA R Narayanan, CMA Harpreet Singh, CMA K Venkataraman, CMA (Dr.) PA Padmanabhan, CMA Shilpa Shashank Joshi, CMA M. Hariharan, CMA P Thiruvengadam, Shri K Ilango, Prof. Vishwanath Pingali and Prof. Amit Karna along with other senior leaders and members from across the country.

In conclusion, the collective insights of the eminent speakers and delegates underscored that the way forward for the CMA fraternity and the Institute lies in adopting Total Cost Management as a national productivity framework, advancing ESG and green finance initiatives for sustainable value creation, building digital advisory ecosystems for MSMEs and industry, strengthening policy advocacy and fiscal reforms, and fostering ethical leadership, informed risk-taking, and sound professional judgment in the era of Industry 5.0. Above all, the convention reaffirmed the need to strengthen the CMA brand as India's trusted voice in governance, growth and national development, driving the vision of RISE India.

Glimpses



Day - 1 (January 9, 2026): Inaugural Session





Day - 1 (January 9, 2026): Plenary Session



Day - 2 (January 10, 2026): Technical Session – I



Day - 2 (January 10, 2026): Technical Session – II



Day - 2 (January 10, 2026): Technical Session – III



Day - 2 (January 10, 2026): CMA Leaders Meet



Day - 3 (January 11, 2026): Technical Session – IV





Day - 3 (January 11, 2026): Valedictory Session

