

January - Banking in India: Today & Tomorrow

The Banking sector in India has seen remarkable transformations, driven by technological innovations, policy changes and the growing demand for financial inclusion. As we move towards a cashless economy and sustainable financial practices, several developments are influencing the banking landscape. From UPI's role in cashless banking to the rise of neo-banks and the push towards net zero, the future of banking in India promises a more inclusive, efficient and customer centric financial landscape. The banking sector has undergone a paradigm shift in recent years, with the introduction of advanced technologies like artificial intelligence, block chain and data analytics. These technologies have made banking operations more efficient, transparent and inclusive. The continued evolution of banking will require innovation, ethical practices, and a deep understanding of both global trends and local realities.

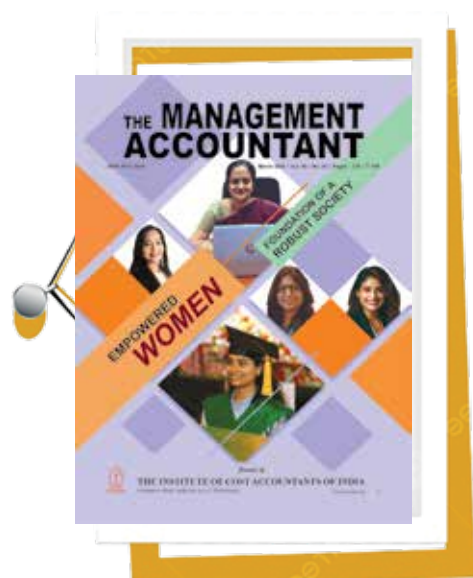
February - Agriculture holds the key for Self-Sustainability in India

Agriculture is considered as one of humans' oldest endeavours, primarily initiated to meet the need for food and survival. It is essential to have adequate land to cultivate and produce agricultural products for both human and animal consumption. Inadequacy of land suitable for agriculture and many other constraints to tackle with, a new initiative termed as "Precision Farming or Agriculture" ((PF or PA)) is becoming popular. Agriculture holds the key to India's self-sustainability as it remains the backbone of the country's economy, providing livelihoods to over half of its population. By focusing on sustainable agricultural practices, increasing productivity and ensuring food security, India can reduce its dependency on imports, boost rural economies and create resilient ecosystems. The government's role in promoting green technologies, improving irrigation systems and supporting small farmers with better access to credit and markets is crucial. Investing in agriculture not only ensures national food security but also strengthens India's global position by making it self-reliant in essential commodities. Thus, agriculture is not just a sector, it is the foundation for a self-sufficient, thriving India.



March - Empowered Women - Foundation of a robust society

An empowered woman is not just an individual success story; she is the cornerstone of a thriving society. When women are educated, economically independent and have equal opportunities, they contribute significantly to social and economic progress. Their participation in decision-making, governance and leadership fosters inclusivity and balance, leading to more just and progressive mindset and opportunities. Countries with high levels of gender parity experience greater economic stability and social harmony. As India envisions Viksit Bharat 2047 — a fully developed and self-reliant nation, women will play a pivotal role in shaping its future. Education serves as a strong driver for women's empowerment, equipping them with the tools and knowledge to challenge societal norms, overcome gender stereotypes and make informed choices that enhance their lives. It strengthens their ability to confront violence and discrimination, build resilience and boost their self-worth. Through learning, women gain the confidence to shape their futures, contribute meaningfully to their communities and inspire societal transformation. International Women's Day (IWD) 2025 is a powerful reminder that women's empowerment is the key to a more inclusive and progressive world. On this International Women's Day, let's commit to fostering a world where every woman has the freedom to dream, achieve and lead, because when women rise, society flourishes.



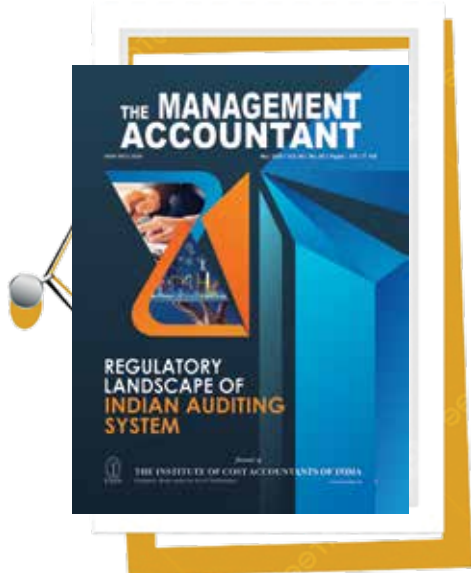
April - New Financial Year - Embarking on Journey of Resilience, Hope and Excellence

As we turn the page on the financial calendar, the dawn of a new financial year is more than just a date—it's an opportunity for reflection, renewal, and reimagination. It marks the beginning of another chapter in our collective journey—a path defined by resilience, guided by hope and driven by an unwavering pursuit of excellence. Hope, too, plays a crucial role in shaping our outlook. It fuels innovation, nurtures growth, and sustains the human spirit. In boardrooms and classrooms, on factory floors and farms, it is "HOPE" that inspires us to aim higher and do better. The new financial year offers fresh ground for such aspirations—a time to reset goals, revisit visions and reignite passions. Achieving resilience, hope and excellence is not a solitary pursuit. Excellence is not just a destination; it is a journey. It is the continuous pursuit of improvement, innovation, and superior quality in every aspect of our work. Together, we can navigate this journey and turn our vision into reality. It is a time to reaffirm our collective resolve to uphold the highest standards of professional excellence and contribute meaningfully to the advancement of the nation's economic and financial ecosystem.



May - Regulatory Landscape of Indian Auditing System

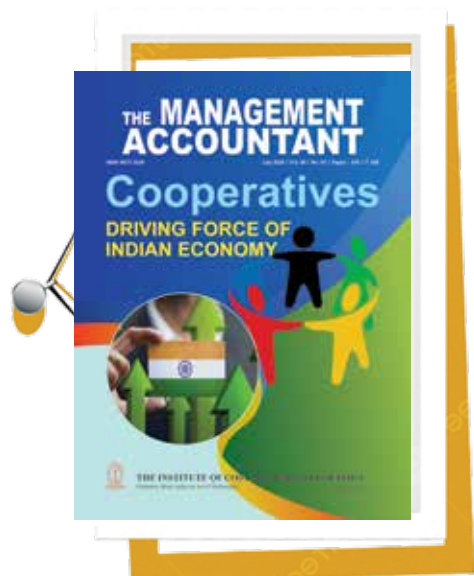
The regulatory landscape of the Indian auditing system is a complex and evolving framework designed to ensure transparency, accountability and integrity in financial reporting. In recent years, the auditing ecosystem has expanded beyond traditional boundaries with the emergence of institutions like the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), which plays a crucial role in scrutinizing financial statements during insolvency proceedings and ensuring fair valuation practices. Simultaneously, the digital age has ushered in a transformative shift, compelling auditors to adopt data analytics, automation, and AI-driven tools to detect anomalies and enhance audit quality in real-time. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) remains a pillar of public accountability, with its audits of government expenditures gaining increased significance amid rising demands for fiscal transparency. Together, these developments reflect a broader transition toward a more technology-enabled, multi-agency audit framework that is better equipped to address the complexities of a dynamic economic landscape. As India aligns more closely with international best practices, its auditing regime continues to balance the twin goals of investor protection and economic growth.



June - MSMEs: The Backbone of India's Economic Future

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are vital to India's economic development, driving entrepreneurship, employment, innovation, and exports. As of March 2025, over 6.05 crore MSMEs have registered on the Udyam portal since its launch in July 2020, reflecting the government's sustained efforts to formalize and strengthen the sector. MSMEs now contribute nearly 46% to India's exports, with export values surging from ₹3.95 lakh crore in 2020-21 to ₹12.39 lakh crore in 2024-25. The sector has also witnessed a significant rise in the number of exporting units, growing from 52,849 to 1,73,350 in five years. Despite this progress, MSMEs continue to face challenges such as limited access to credit, complex regulatory compliance, and infrastructure gaps. Addressing these issues through policy support, credit facilitation and infrastructure investments is critical to unlocking the full potential of MSMEs and advancing India's ambition of becoming a developed economy by 2047. The theme reflects our commitment to highlighting the challenges, opportunities and policy directions that can empower this crucial segment. As India moves steadily towards its goal of becoming a \$5 trillion economy, supporting and strengthening the MSME ecosystem will be pivotal—not only for economic expansion but also for fostering innovation, sustainability and equitable development.





July - Co operatives - Driving force of Indian economy

In the vast and diverse landscape of India's economy, cooperatives have emerged as quiet yet formidable engines of growth and social inclusion. Anchored in the principles of self-help, democratic governance, and collective welfare, the cooperative movement in India has not only empowered millions at the grassroots level but has also significantly shaped critical sectors such as agriculture, dairy, rural finance, and community development. With this month's theme—Cooperatives: Driving Force of Indian Economy—we aim to celebrate, analyse and reflect on the lasting impact and future potential of this powerful socio-economic model. The cooperative movement in India has become a vital component of inclusive and sustainable growth, especially in the agricultural and rural areas. Cooperatives, which have their roots in democratic governance and community ownership, empower underprivileged groups, boost regional economies, and advance social justice.

August - IFSC: Emerging as a dominant Gateway for India's Financial Sector

As India strengthens its position in the global financial arena, the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City is fast becoming a game changer. With its objective of bringing offshore financial services onshore, the IFSC offers a globally competitive regulatory environment, attractive tax incentives, and streamlined business processes. These features are drawing international investors, institutions and fintech innovators, making it a critical bridge between India's domestic financial ecosystem and global markets. The IFSC supports a wide range of cross-border activities including fund management, insurance, capital markets, and fintech services—within a robust legal and operational framework. Its evolution reflects the government's strategic ambition to establish India as a global financial services hub. Amid shifting global dynamics and a renewed focus on resilient economies, India's IFSC is poised not just to function as a financial centre but to serve as a dynamic gateway to global financial integration. It is helping to drive innovation, support sustainable finance, and contribute to India's aspirations of becoming an economic powerhouse under the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047.



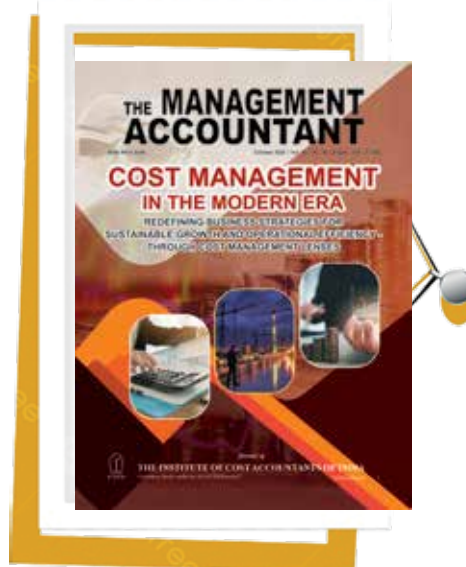
September - AI - The Genesis of the Virtual World of Business

As artificial intelligence continues to reshape business operations, the role of Cost and Management Accountants (CMAs) is evolving rapidly, often in subtle yet significant ways. Once mainly focused on cost control and compliance, CMAs are now being asked to lead AI initiatives, ensure responsible decision-making and provide financial clarity for new technologies. Far from being replaced by technology, CMAs are now central to it, helping businesses use AI more effectively and responsibly. Their ability to understand both numbers and nuances makes them essential for building trust in a digital future. The featured articles of the theme span across various domains—technology, finance, marketing, governance, and ethics—each shedding light on how AI is reshaping the roles, responsibilities and relevance of professionals in an increasingly digital era. The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) marks the dawn of a transformative era in the business world—one that is intelligent, interconnected and increasingly virtual.



October - Cost Management in the Modern Era: Redefining Business Strategies for Sustainable Growth and Operational Efficiency - through Cost Management Lenses

In today's rapidly evolving and highly competitive business environment, effective cost management transcends traditional notions of expense control—it has become a strategic enabler of innovation, sustainability and long-term resilience. This edition delves into how forward-looking organizations are reshaping their cost structures, embracing digital transformation and integrating sustainability into their business models to drive enhanced value creation. Through insightful research papers, case studies, and expert commentaries, we aim to provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of how cost management serves as a cornerstone for operational excellence and sustainable growth in the modern era. As businesses continue to operate in an era defined by digital disruption, environmental responsibility, and global uncertainty, cost management stands as a critical lever for achieving strategic resilience and sustainable success. The insights and perspectives shared in this edition underscore the importance of integrating financial discipline with innovation and sustainability.



November - Sustainable Finance: Steering India Towards a Greener Future

As India continues its trajectory of economic growth, integrating sustainability into financial decision-making has become a strategic necessity. Sustainable finance—anchored in green investments, ESG principles, and responsible lending—provides a framework to align capital flows with the nation's climate and development objectives. Sustainable finance has emerged as a crucial instrument for driving India's transition towards a low-carbon, resilient, and inclusive economy. With rising climate risks and ambitious national targets, including achieving net zero by 2070, financing mechanisms aligned with sustainability are pivotal. By embedding environmental and social considerations into financial systems, India can foster growth that is both resilient and inclusive. However, achieving this transition requires coordinated action. Policymakers, investors, and institutions must collaborate to strengthen green capital markets, standardize disclosure frameworks and incentivize sustainable business practices. The future of India's prosperity will depend not only on financial returns but also on our collective ability to fund progress that safeguards the planet.



December - Cost Audit: Enhancing Transparency, Efficiency and Strategic Decision-Making

In an increasingly competitive and compliance-oriented business landscape, cost audit has become an essential instrument for strengthening financial transparency and reinforcing organizational accountability. By independently validating cost records and ensuring conformity with cost accounting standards, cost audit enhances stakeholder confidence and assures them that resources are being utilized judiciously. At a time marked by evolving regulatory demands and closer scrutiny, cost audit provides clarity, reliability, and integrity in cost information, serving as a crucial pillar of sound governance. Cost audit has evolved from a statutory compliance activity into a strategic management tool that enhances transparency, operational efficiency, and informed decision making across industries. In today's globalized and technology-driven environment, cost information is not merely an accounting record—it is a competitive resource. However, the role of cost audit extends far beyond statutory compliance. It has evolved into a powerful driver of operational excellence and strategic decision-making. Insights generated through cost audit help management pinpoint inefficiencies, reduce waste, benchmark performance, and optimize resource deployment. These outcomes enable leadership to design informed strategies, improve profitability, and sustain long-term growth. Cost audit, therefore, is not just a regulatory formality—it is a strategic asset that enhances competitiveness and supports value creation.

