

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

(Set up by an Act of Parliament)

CHENGALPATTU DISTRICT BRANCH (SIRC)

E-Newsletter - March 2026



Address : ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai - 47.

Phone : 044-22390098 | 8056244300 | 7550009811

Email : chengalpattu@icai.org

Website : www.chengai-icai.org



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ARTICLES INVITED FROM MEMBERS

Note: Articles are invited from members for publishing in Newsletter. The articles shall be either on the specific subject or a general article. Members can send their articles with Name, Membership Number, Mobile Number, Residential Address, Office Address & Photo to our E-mail id mentioned below:

E-mail id: chengalpattu@icai.org

Note: The views expressed in the articles published, are their own views and Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC) does not endorse or take responsibility.

From the Chairperson's Desk

March 2026



Dear Students,

Warm greetings to all.

CA. MADHUMITHA R

It is a privilege and honour to address you through this edition of our Branch Newsletter. I express my heartfelt gratitude to all the members of the Chengalpattu District Branch for the trust and confidence placed in me to serve as the Chairperson for the year 2026–27.

The Installation Ceremony of the Managing Committee, held on 16th February 2026 at ICAI Bhawan, marked a memorable beginning for the new team. The occasion was graced by eminent dignitaries including CA Kirlosh Kumar R, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, as the Chief Guest. The ceremony was further honoured by the presence of CA Rajendra Kumar P, Central Council Member, ICAI, along with distinguished leaders of the profession from SIRC. Their presence and inspiring words have strengthened our commitment to serve the members and students of this branch with dedication.

As we commence this new term, our vision is to create a vibrant and progressive branch that focuses on professional excellence, continuous learning, and student empowerment. The Managing Committee has planned several initiatives including:

- * Regular technical sessions and CPE programmes for members
- * Full-day workshops and knowledge series on emerging professional areas
- * Strengthening student support initiatives, including mentoring and exam guidance
- * Providing better facilities such as the Reading Room at ICAI Bhawan for CA students
- * Conducting special programmes for women professionals focusing on health, finance, and professional development
- * Encouraging member engagement, networking, and knowledge sharing

The month of March holds special importance for Chartered Accountants as it marks the closing of the financial year. It is a time when the dedication and professionalism of our members play a vital role in ensuring financial transparency, compliance, and good governance.

I sincerely invite all members and students to actively participate in the programmes and initiatives of the branch. Together, let us continue to uphold the values of our noble profession and work towards strengthening the professional community in Chengalpattu. Wishing all members a productive and successful professional season ahead.

Warm Regards,
CA. Madhumitha R
Chairperson
Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC)

PHOTO GALLERY

CPE Meeting

Topic: Union Budget 2026 - How will it impact you?

Date: 3rd February 2026

Time: 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI SALAI, TAMBARAM SANATORIUM, CHENNAI-600 047.



March 2026



CPE Meeting

Topic: Fuelling to Fitness the right way and Fund Management Simplified

Date: 7th February 2026

Time: 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI SALAI, TAMBARAM SANATORIUM, CHENNAI-600 047.





March 2026

CPE Meeting

Topic: CODE OF CONDUCT & PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Date: 16th February 2026

Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI SALAI, TAMBARAM SANATORIUM, CHENNAI-600 047.



Program

Topic: Installation Function

Date: 16th February 2026

Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI SALAI, TAMBARAM SANATORIUM, CHENNAI-600 047.



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March 2026



Program

Topic: Tax Reforms - Income Tax Act 2025 - Budget 2026

Date: 21th February 2026

Time: 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI SALAI, TAMBARAM SANATORIUM, CHENNAI-600 047.



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Program

Topic: New Labour Code - An integration of 44 Laws

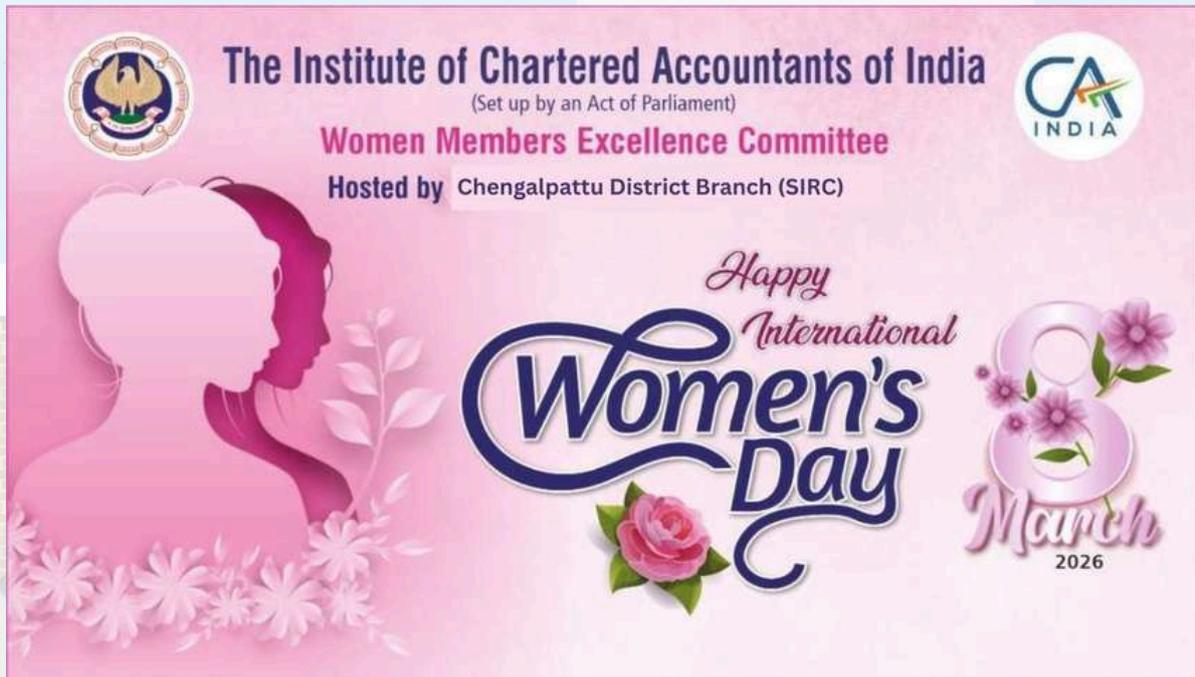
Date: 28th February 2026

Time: 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI SALAI, TAMBARAM SANATORIUM, CHENNAI-600 047.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
(Set up by an Act of Parliament)

Women Members Excellence Committee
Hosted by Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC)

Happy International
Women's Day
8 March 2026

Rise. Lead. Transform - Beyond Boundaries

 CA. Prasanna Kumar D President, ICAI	 CA. Mangesh Pandurang Kinare Vice President, ICAI	 CA. Purushottam H. Khandelwal Chairman, WMEC	 CA. Sripriya Kumar Vice Chairperson, WMEC
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 CA. Madhumitha R Chairperson Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC)	 CA. Aanand Pasupathy Secretary Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC)
 CA. Bharathi P S Program Convenor Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC)	 CA. Jayasree R Program Convenor Chengalpattu District Branch (SIRC)

Fee - Rs.590/- including GST

(Nil Fee for ARC Members of Chengalpattu District Branch)

Scan here for registration **Registration Link: <https://events.cglportal-icai.org/member>** Scan here for Location

	Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai - 600047. (Opp to Tambaram Sanatorium Railway Station - East Exit)	
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Chief Guest



Dr. Sudha Seshayyan
Professor of medicine and a feted orator
Padma Vibhushan, Kalaimamani Awardee



Guest of Honour
Rekha Murthy Rangarajan
President
Vivekananda Educational Trust
Director, Data Patterns



Special Invitee
Radhameena Rajesh
Entrepreneur,
Trekker - Himalayan Basecamp

8.3.2026 (Sunday)	9.30 AM Onwards	Registration	
	9.45 AM	Inauguration	
	10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Women's Health & Wellness	Dr. J.P. Venthamarai Selvi, M.D. (Siddha) 
	11:30 AM to 1:00 PM	Wealth Management for Women Professionals	Ebony Wealth Private Limited
	1.00 PM to 1.45 PM Lunch Break		
	1.45 PM to 2.30 PM	Women's Mobility – A Key to Success in Profession and Life – Yoga & Physical Therapy	Ms. Vidhya S D Senior Physiotherapist Female Ergonomics Specialist 
	2.45 PM to 5.00 PM	Mental Health 360° for Women Professionals	Dr. Jemima Wesley Ph. D - Psychologist 

Followed by Games

March 2026

Topic - One day Workshop on GST

Date - 14.03.2026 (Saturday)

Speaker - CA. Vishal V, CA. Bharath Kumar NK, CA. Ashwin Kumar P and
CA. Shankara Narayanan V

CPE - 6 Hrs

Venue - ICAI Bhawan, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai 600 047.

Topic - Workshop on Bank Branch Audit

Date - 21.03.2026 (Saturday)

Speaker - CA. Subhashini Ganapathy, CA. U. Saran Kumar, CA. Ramesh R

CPE - 6 Hrs

Venue - ICAI Bhawan, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai 600 047.

Topic - Panel discussion on book closure 360 degree

Date - 28.03.2026 (Saturday)

Panelist - CA. K V Murali, CA. Manimaran Kathiresan, CA. Giridharan,
CA. Narasimma Raghavan R

Moderator - CA. Venkatanarayanan M J

CPE - 6 Hrs

Venue - ICAI Bhawan, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai 600 047.



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
(Set up by an Act of Parliament)



CHENGALPATTU DISTRICT BRANCH (SIRC)

**Certificate Course on AI
for Chartered Accountants (AICA)**



**Registration Fees
Rs. 5000/- + GST**

Batch 652

**CPE Hours
18 Structured**



Date and duration

**27th, 28th and 29th March 2026
(Friday, Saturday, Sunday)**



Time

10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

**Please refer the attached
course module**

**Venue: ICAI BHAWAN, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai - 600047.
(Opp to Tambaram Sanatorium Railway Station - East Exit)**

Registration Link: https://ai.icai.org/course_details.php?id=659



REGISTER NOW

SCAN HERE FOR LOCATION



Outstation Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodation.

**CA. Madhumitha R
Chairperson**

**CA. Aanand Pasupathy
Secretary**

ICAI Bhawan, ICAI Salai, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai - 600 047.
(Opp to Tambaram Sanatorium Railway Station - East Exit)
Ph: 044-22390098 | 7550009811 | Mail id: Chengalpattu@icai.org

LEGAL UPDATES

March 2026

by



CA. SIVAGURUNATHAN T

Key Considerations for Chartered Accountants

The DPDP Act establishes a comprehensive legal structure for the processing of digital personal data while balancing the rights of individuals with the need for lawful and legitimate data processing by organizations. For Chartered Accountants and CA firms, this legislation is particularly important because their day-to-day professional work involves handling extensive personal and financial data of clients, employees, and other stakeholders.

Understanding the Relevance of the DPDP Act for CAs

In the course of providing services such as audit, taxation, GST compliance, company law advisory and financial consultancy, CA professionals routinely collect and process personal data. Such data may include Permanent Account Numbers (PAN), Aadhaar numbers, bank account details, income details, payroll records, investment information, and other confidential financial records.

Under the DPDP Act, such information qualifies as personal data, and the entity that determines the purpose and means of processing such data is considered a Data Fiduciary. In many professional engagements, CA firms effectively function as data fiduciaries or data processors depending on the nature of the engagement.

Therefore, CA firms must ensure that personal data collected from clients is handled responsibly, securely, and strictly for legitimate professional purposes.

Client Data Confidentiality – A Reinforced Obligation

Confidentiality has always been a cornerstone of the Chartered Accountancy profession. The ICAI Code of Ethics mandates that a Chartered Accountant must not disclose client information without proper authority unless required by law.

The DPDP Act further reinforces this obligation by imposing legal responsibilities on organizations handling personal data. Unauthorized disclosure, careless handling of data or failure to implement reasonable security safeguards may lead to serious legal consequences and financial penalties.

Therefore, CA professionals must adopt structured internal practices to ensure that confidential client information is not accessed, shared, or disclosed improperly.

Obtaining Consent and Transparency in Data Use

A fundamental principle of the DPDP Act is that personal data must generally be processed based on the consent of the individual, known as the Data Principal. For CA firms, this means clients should be aware of the purpose for which their personal information is being collected and used.

While professional engagements often imply consent through engagement letters and professional arrangements, it is advisable for firms to ensure clarity regarding the scope of data usage. Data collected for tax filing, audit, or compliance services should not be used for unrelated purposes without proper consent.

Providing transparency about data usage strengthens professional trust and aligns with the principles of the DPDP framework.

Strengthening Data Security Practices in CA Firms

With increasing cyber threats and digital vulnerabilities, data security has become a critical concern for professional service firms. Chartered Accountants often maintain extensive electronic databases containing sensitive client records. Protecting this information is not only a legal responsibility but also a professional necessity.

CA firms should implement appropriate security safeguards such as password-protected systems, encryption of sensitive files and restricted access to confidential folders, secure cloud storage solutions, and regular data backups. Anti-virus protection, firewall systems, and periodic IT security reviews can also significantly reduce the risk of unauthorized access or cyber-attacks.

Equally important is ensuring that sensitive documents are not casually shared through unsecured communication channels.

Data Sharing with Third Parties

In many professional assignments, CA firms may need to share information with third parties such as legal consultants, valuation professionals, IT vendors, payroll service providers, or cloud accounting platforms. When such sharing becomes necessary, firms must exercise due diligence to ensure that the receiving party also maintains adequate data protection standards.

Only relevant and necessary information should be shared, and wherever possible, confidentiality clauses or data protection undertakings should be included in professional arrangements.

Establishing a Data Retention Policy

Another important principle under the DPDP framework is that personal data should not be retained indefinitely. Organizations should retain data only for as long as it is necessary to fulfil the purpose for which it was collected or as required by law.

For Chartered Accountants, certain records must be preserved for statutory or regulatory purposes. For example, tax records and audit documentation may need to be retained for several years under various legal provisions. However, once the retention requirement is fulfilled, unnecessary data accumulation should be avoided. Establishing a clear internal data retention policy helps firms maintain compliance and reduces the risk of misuse of out-dated data.

Preparing for Data Breach Situations

Despite strong safeguards, data breaches can occasionally occur due to cyber-attacks, system failures, or human errors. The DPDP Act emphasizes the responsibility of organizations to address such incidents promptly.

CA firms should have a basic response mechanism in place to identify, contain, and rectify potential breaches. Internal awareness among staff members about cyber risks, phishing attempts, and safe digital practices can significantly minimize such risks.

Employee Awareness and Internal Controls

Many data protection failures occur due to lack of awareness or negligence rather than intentional misconduct. Employees and trainees working in CA firms often handle sensitive documents as part of their routine responsibilities.

Therefore, firms should educate their staff about confidentiality requirements; secure handling of digital records, and responsible use of professional information. Simple internal controls such as restricted file access, secure login credentials, and supervision of document sharing can strengthen data governance practices.

The Way Forward for CA Professionals

The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 represents a significant step toward strengthening privacy protection in India's digital economy. For Chartered Accountants, the Act should not be viewed merely as a regulatory requirement but as an opportunity to enhance professional credibility and client confidence.

By adopting structured data protection practices, strengthening cyber security systems, maintaining transparency in data usage, and reinforcing the culture of confidentiality, CA firms can align themselves with the evolving expectations of the digital era.

Ultimately, safeguarding client information is not only a legal responsibility but also a reflection of the trust that society places in the Chartered Accountancy profession.



RECENT DECISIONS IN DIRECT TAXES **March 2026**

by



CA. Muthu Abirami T V

Source: Taxguru.com

1. ACIT Vs Neena Jain (ITAT Delhi)(ITA No.4450/Del/2025)(Date of Decision 20/02/2026)

Held: An assessment under Section 153A cannot survive where no incriminating material relating to the assessee is found during search, especially when the search was conducted in the case of third parties. Further, approval under Section 153D must reflect proper application of mind and cannot be mechanical.

2.Creative Poly Packs Pvt. Ltd. Vs Assessment Unit (Calcutta High Court)(WPA 8698/2025)(Date of Decision 10/02/2026)

Held: The High Court held that failure to click the "seek video conferencing" button does not deprive the assessee of personal hearing when a specific written request was made. Passing the assessment order under Section 143(3) r/w 144B without granting such hearing violated principles of natural justice. The Revenue's hyper-technical objection was rejected, and alternative remedy was held no bar in cases of natural justice violation. Accordingly, the assessment and consequential penalty orders were set aside and the matter was remanded for fresh hearing.

3. Creative Poly Packs Pvt. Ltd. Vs Assessment Unit (Calcutta High Court)(WPA 8698/2025)(Date of Decision 10/02/2026)

Held: The High Court held that failure to click the “seek video conferencing” button does not deprive the assessee of personal hearing when a specific written request was made. Passing the assessment order under Section 143(3) r/w 144B without granting such hearing violated principles of natural justice. The Revenue’s hyper-technical objection was rejected, and alternative remedy was held no bar in cases of natural justice violation. Accordingly, the assessment and consequential penalty orders were set aside and the matter was remanded for fresh hearing.

4. Elegance Reality Vs ACIT (ITAT Ahmedabad)(ITA No.2637/2025) (Date of Decision 09/02/2026)

Held: The Tribunal held that the notice issued under Section 148 for A.Y. 2015-16 on 11.06.2021 (during the extended period under TOLA) was barred by limitation in view of the law laid down by the Supreme Court in Union of India vs. Rajeev Bansal and related decisions. It was noted that the Revenue had conceded before the Supreme Court that notices for A.Y. 2015-16 issued on or after 01.04.2021 would not fall within the time limits prescribed under Section 149 as amended. Since the reassessment notice itself was time-barred, the assumption of jurisdiction under Section 147 was invalid. Consequently, the reassessment order was quashed. As the reopening failed on jurisdictional grounds, the additions made under Section 69, tax under Section 115BBE, interest under Sections 234B/234C/234D, and initiation of penalty under Section 271(1)(c) did not survive. The appeal of the assessee was allowed.

5. Bax India Ventures Pvt. Ltd. Vs Central Processing Centre & Ors. (Bombay High Court)(WP(L) No. 43004/2025) (Date of Decision 02/02/2026)

Held: The Bombay High Court held that issuance of prior intimation under the first proviso to Section 143(1)(a) is mandatory before making any adjustment while processing a return. Since no such prior intimation was issued to the assessee before denying the benefit of Section 115BAA and passing the impugned intimation dated 1 December 2025, the action was in breach of statutory requirements and principles of natural justice. The Court rejected the Revenue’s contention that denial of concessional tax rate was not an “adjustment” or that issuing prior intimation would be futile. Accordingly, the impugned intimation was quashed and set aside, with liberty granted to the Revenue to issue a fresh notice under Section 143(1)(a) and pass a fresh order in accordance with law.

6. CIT Vs Grandhi Sri Venkata Amarendra (Supreme Court of India)(SPL(Civil) Diary No.74316/2025 (Date of Decision 06/02/2026)

Held: The High Court held that recording of satisfaction by the Assessing Officer regarding violation of Section 269SS in the assessment order is a sine qua non for initiation of penalty proceedings under Section 271D. Since no such satisfaction or finding was recorded in the assessment order that the assessee had accepted cash loans in contravention of Section 269SS, the assumption of jurisdiction by the Joint Commissioner to levy penalty under Section 271D was invalid. In the absence of foundational satisfaction, the penalty order was unsustainable and was accordingly set aside. The Supreme Court dismissed the Revenue's Special Leave Petition both on the ground of unexplained delay of 350 days and on merits, observing that there was no reason to interfere with the High Court's order. Thus, the penalty stood quashed.

7. Kalptaru Cotton Industries Vs ITO (ITAT Ahmedabad)(ITA No. 1545/2025) (Date of Decision 13/02/2026)

Held: The Tribunal held that the assessee had duly discharged the onus under Section 68 by establishing the identity of the lender, genuineness of the transaction, and creditworthiness through documentary evidence including PAN, bank statements, ledger accounts, and proof of repayment through banking channels. Once the loan was received and repaid through proper banking channels and the flow of funds was established, the assessee could not be required to prove the "source of the source." The Tribunal further observed that repayment of the entire loan in the subsequent year constituted a strong corroborative circumstance supporting the genuineness and capacity of the creditor. Since the Revenue failed to bring any material to show that the funds belonged to the assessee, the addition of Rs.60,00,000/- under Section 68 was deleted.

