

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

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM BRANCH (SIRC)**



**NEWS  
LETTER**

**MAR2026**

Edition  
Private Circulation Only

# CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



Dear Members,

It gives me immense joy to share a few reflections following the installation ceremony of the office bearers for the term 2026-27 of the Thiruvananthapuram Branch of ICAI. The ceremony was graced by the presence of our distinguished Chief Guest Dr. K. Vasuki IAS, along with CA Babu Abraham Kallivayalil, our Central Council Member, our senior-most member, CA Subbiah N, and many of our respected past chairmen. Their presence made the occasion truly memorable and inspiring.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our members who attended the ceremony. Your encouragement and support are the true strength of this branch, and I deeply value the trust you place in me and the committee.

It is with great privilege that I stand before you as the 4th Lady Chairperson among the 44 Chairpersons in the 54-year history of our branch. This milestone is not just personal, but a reflection of the collective progress and inclusivity of our branch.

As I take on this responsibility, my focus will be on strengthening student academics, creating meaningful member-centric programs, and enhancing ICAI brand-building activities. I believe these areas will help us grow together as a community and bring greater recognition to our branch.

I also wish to update you on our Continuing Professional Education seminars. While sessions could not be conducted during January and February, these will soon be compensated with informative programs. Our first CPE seminar was successfully held on 28th February, and the overwhelming turnout of members was truly encouraging.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting lineup of sessions and activities planned for March and beyond, including discussions on budget proposals for indirect taxes, bank audit workshops, study circle meetings, sessions on the Income Tax Act 2025, and members' tour programs.

Together, with your cooperation and guidance, I am confident we can take our branch to greater heights. Thank you once again for your presence at the installation ceremony and for your continued support.

Warm regards,

**CA. Julie G Varghese**

Chairperson

Thiruvananthapuram Branch ( SIRC )

# SECRETARY'S MESSAGE



Dear Esteemed Professional Colleagues,

Warm Greetings!

This note provides a brief overview of the key initiatives and activities carried out by the Thiruvananthapuram Branch of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India during February 2026.

The IT Help Desk at the Income Tax Office continued to extend valuable assistance to the public by addressing concerns and facilitating prompt solutions. During this month, the desk was efficiently managed by CA Sreeram Sekar, CA Bhaviga B V, and CA Ashwin C Nair, whose committed service ensured its smooth functioning.

The Branch completed its official handing-over process at the Branch Office on 16th February 2026, signifying a smooth transition of responsibilities and reaffirming our commitment to continuity and professional service.

The Installation Ceremony of the Managing Committee for the term 2026-27 was held on 23rd February 2026 at P. Subramanian Hall, Thiruvananthapuram. The event was graced by eminent dignitaries and members and marked the commencement of a new term with renewed energy and collective vision for the profession.

A CPE Seminar on "Direct Tax Proposals in Union Budget 2026" was conducted on 28th February 2026 at ICAI Bhawan, Thycaud. The session was led by CA Prasanth Srinivas (Kottayam), who shared practical insights into the budget proposals and their implications. The programme saw enthusiastic participation and engaging discussions, contributing to professional knowledge enrichment.

We sincerely thank all members, speakers, and dignitaries whose support and involvement made these initiatives successful. We look forward to your continued cooperation and active participation in the days ahead.

Jai Hind! Jai ICAI!

Warm Regards

**CA. Jithin Mathew Kurian**

Secretary

Thiruvananthapuram Branch ( SIRC )

In **Memory** of



**CA. GOPAKUMAR C R**

# BEYOND THE LEDGER: REMEMBERING MY MENTOR AND GUIDE



CA. SWETHA SREEJITH

As I am writing this, it has been exactly 41 days since I lost my mentor, Gopakumar sir. His presence continues to live in my heart, guiding me through this tough time. Every morning, as I pass by his office room, I can see him sitting in his chair, calling me over to ask about all the important matters to be taken care off that day.

The silence left behind his absence is deep, but the memories and knowledge he gifted me are even deeper. He was not only a Chartered Accountant of exceptional caliber but also a mentor, guide and a pillar of strength to me and everyone who had the privilege of working with him. From the very first day I met him, I realized that I was standing in front of a person who carried immense knowledge with humility. His professionalism was reflected not just in his work, but also in his words, actions and discipline. His dedication to accuracy and ethics set a benchmark that I strive to follow.

One of the most admirable qualities of Gopakumar sir was his vast knowledge and his willingness to share it. Especially in the area of Income Tax assessments, he possessed an extraordinary ability to handle each and every scenario with ease and correctness. He never hesitated to teach me, all his juniors and the other staff members effortlessly. No matter how busy his schedule was, whenever we approached him with doubts, he would listen patiently, explain in detail with clarity, and ensure that we truly understood the concept. His explanations were simple yet backed by vast knowledge, and his guidance always came with practical wisdom gained over 38 years of experience.

For me, he was a fatherly figure who guided me in both my professional and personal life. He remains my inspiration and role model for what it means to be a successful Chartered Accountant as well as a good human being. The way he managed his office and the administration he provided was exceptional; he gave all the staff the maximum amount of freedom and provided everyone with all the facilities required for their needs.

His professionalism was visible in the way he handled pressure. During deadlines and challenging situations, he remained calm and composed. He taught me that panic never solves problems, but patience and planning always do. Watching his work was itself a lesson in discipline. He would always be available at the office

and arrived before office time started, prepared thoroughly, and completed his work with perfection. He always reminded me that a Chartered Accountant's reputation is built on trust and integrity. Even during his deteriorating health conditions, he never failed to perform his duties and responsibilities. Despite severe pain, he fulfilled all his responsibilities without any delay, maintaining his professionalism entirely throughout his life.

Beyond his professional excellence, what touched me the most was his human side. He treated every person like his own family. He encouraged everyone whenever we felt unsure of ourselves and motivated us when we made mistakes. Instead of criticizing harshly, he corrected us gently and taught us how to improve. His words carried warmth and confidence, and his smile had the power to remove all the stress, even during the busiest times.

I personally cherish the memories of sitting beside him for what was the most favorite part of my day. All the experiences I gained from him are, and will be forever priceless. He taught me that success is not measured only by money or position, but by the respect we earn and the values we uphold. He believed in continuous learning and often said that the acquisition of knowledge should never end. Even after achieving so much in his career, he remained humble and curious, which is what made him truly great.

The void created by his absence can never be filled. Our office feels incomplete without his presence, his guidance and his comforting words. However, his legacy continues through the lessons he taught us and the principles he lived by. Every time I work with sincerity, every time I help a client with honesty, and every time I guide someone in need with patience, I am following his path.

Today, when I remember him, I do so with gratitude and respect. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from such a noble professional. As an aspiring young Chartered Accountant, the exposure he provided me is a gift I will take with me forever. Though he is no longer physically with us, his values, knowledge, and memories remain forever in my heart.

May his soul rest in eternal peace. His journey on earth may have ended, but I believe his influence will continue to guide me professionally and in my personal life. He will always be remembered as a true Chartered Accountant, a devoted mentor and a kind human being.

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Goods and Services Tax			
Date	Return	Period	Particulars
10	GSTR - 7	Feb 2026	Return for authorities deducting tax at source for February 2026
10	GSTR - 8	Feb 2026	Details of supplies effected through e-commerce operator and the amount of tax collected
11	GSTR - 1	Feb 2026	Details of outward supplies of taxable goods and or services effected in February 2026
13	GSTR - 1 IFF	Feb 2026	Invoice Furnishing Facility in lieu of GSTR-1 for QRMP Filers
13	GSTR-5	Feb 2026	Return for Non-resident foreign taxable person
13	GSTR-6	Feb 2026	Return for Input Service Distributor
20	GSTR-3B	Feb 2026	If aggregate annual turnover above Rs 5 crores
20	GSTR-5A	Feb 2026	Return of OIDAR service provider
22	GSTR-3B	Feb 2026	If aggregate annual turnover below Rs 5 crores
25	Challan PMT 06	Feb 2026	Monthly payment through challan for QRMP filers
31	RFD-11		Furnishing of LUT in RFD 11 for export of goods/services for FY 2026-27
Tax Deducted at source and Tax collected at source			
2		Jan 2026	Deposit TDS under section 194-IA/IB/M/S with challan-cum statement
7	Challan 281	Feb 2026	Payment of tax deducted
15	Form 16B	Jan 2026	Issue of TDS certificates for tax deducted u/s 194 IA, 194 IB, 194M
30		Feb 2026	Deposit TDS under section 194-IA/IB/M/S with challan cum statement
31		Mar 2026	Deposit TDS (without challan)- Government Offices
Income tax			
15		AY 2026-27	Advance Tax – 4th Instalment (100%) for AY 2026-27
31	Updated Return	AY 2021-22	Furnishing updated return
31	Form 67		Uploading of statement of foreign income offered to tax and tax deducted or paid on such income in previous year 2024-25 to claim foreign tax credit (if return of income has been furnished within the time specified under section 139(1) or section 139(4))
Foreign Exchange Management Act			
7	ECB-2	Feb 2026	By borrowers of ECB through AD Bank
Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance			
15	PF		PF Payment
15	ESI		ESI Payment

## **Companies Compliance Facilitation Scheme, 2026**

The Companies Act, 2013 requires all companies to file the Annual Return and Financial Statements. Fees for filing such statements, documents, returns, etc. are governed by section 403 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Registration Offices and Fees) Rules 2014. With effect from 1st July, 2018, an additional fee of Rs. 100/- day is applicable in respect of delay in filing annual returns and financial statements, without any upper limit.

2. This Ministry has been taking several initiatives from time to time to provide ease of doing business to the corporates. The number of active companies has crossed the 20 lakh mark and the rate of growth of companies in the country corresponds to the increase in the formalization of the economy, which consists of many new-age entrepreneurs, MSMEs, producer companies, OPCs, etc. The Ministry has received representations from various stakeholders, including these companies, with a request to waive off additional fees through a scheme. It has been noted that some of these companies, including MSMEs and private companies, have not been able to complete their annual compliances in time, leading to a situation of additional financial burden on account of additional fees payable due to delay.

3. In order to give a one-time opportunity to allow companies to file their documents related to Annual Return and Financial Statements in the MCA-21 registry, or to file for dormancy/closure, the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 460 read with section 403 of the Companies Act, 2013, has decided to condone the delay in filing the above-mentioned documents with the Registrar, wherever applicable, through a Scheme namely "Companies Compliance Facilitation Scheme, 2026 (CCFS-2026)". The Scheme is aimed at improving compliance levels and ensuring that the corporate registry reflects accurate and up-to-date information. Additionally, it is aimed at facilitating inactive or defunct entities to opt for dormancy/closure by paying lesser fees

4. Under the Scheme, companies/inactive companies have the option to: a. get their pending annual filings completed by paying only 10% of the total additional fees payable on account of delays; or b. get their companies declared as 'dormant company' under section 455 of the Act by filing e-form MSC-1 and paying half of the normal fee payable under the rules. The said provision enables inactive companies to remain on the register of the companies with minimal compliance requirements; or c. get their companies struck off by filing an application in e-form STK-2 during the currency of the scheme, by paying 25% of the filing fees

## COMPANIES ACT

5. The details of the Scheme are as under: - (i) The scheme shall come into force on 15.04.2026 and shall remain in force till 15.07.2026. (ii) Definitions - In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires, - (a) "Act" means the Companies Act, 2013;

(b) "Company" means a company as defined in clause (20) of section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013; (c) "relevant e-forms" means i. ii. Any one or more of the e-forms MGT-7, MGT-7A, AOC-4, AOC-4 CFS, AOC-4 NBFC (Ind AS), AOC-4 CFS NBFC (Ind AS), AOC4 (XBRL), ADT-1, FC-3, FC-4 (the Forms notified under the Companies Act, 2013 and the Rules thereunder), and Any one or more of the e-forms Form 20B, Form 21A, Form 23AC, Form 23ACA, Form 23AC-XBRL, Form 23ACA-XBRL, Form 66 and Form 23B (the Forms notified under the Companies Act, 1956 and the Rules thereunder);

(d) "Rules" means the Companies (Registration Offices and Fee) Rules, 2014; (e) "Scheme" means the Companies Compliance Facilitation Scheme, 2026 (CCFS-2026)

(iii) Applicability: All companies except for the following are permitted to file relevant e-forms which were due for filing on any given date in accordance with the provisions of this Scheme: a) companies against which action of final notice for striking off the name u/s 248 of the Act (previously section 560 of Companies Act, 1956) has already been initiated by the Registrar; b) companies which have filed application for striking off their name from the register of companies; c) companies which have filed for obtaining Dormant Status under section 455 of the Act before the inception of this Scheme; d) companies which have been dissolved pursuant to a scheme of amalgamation under the Act; e) vanishing companies;

(iv) Manner of payment of normal fees and additional fees, as the case may be, under the Scheme:

Every company shall be required to pay the fees on the filing of each relevant e-form as per the following table

Type of Fees	Amount
Normal fees	As prescribed under the rules
Additional fees	10% of the additional fees as prescribed under the rules

## COMPANIES ACT

a. Every company which files an application for obtaining the status of a “dormant company” under section 455 in e-form MSC-1 shall pay a fee of one-half of the normal filing fees applicable in this regard under the rules.

b. Every company which applies for striking off by filing e-form STK-2 shall be required to pay only 25% of the applicable filing fees under Companies (Removal of Name of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016.

(v) Immunity pursuant to the filing of relevant e-forms: (a) In view of the express provisions of the proviso to section 454(3), the relevant proceedings under section 92 or section 137 shall be concluded and no penalty shall be leviable, if the filings are made under the scheme: i. prior to issuance of the notice by the adjudicating officer; or ii. within thirty days of the issuance of the notice by the adjudicating officer. In all other cases, i.e. where the filings are made under the scheme but the period of 30 days, after the issuance of notice for adjudication, has expired, or where the adjudication order imposing the penalty for the defaults under section 92 and section 137 has already been passed, the liabilities of the companies and its officers to pay the penalties [not the fees for filing of documents under section 403 of the Act] shall not undergo any change by virtue of the fact that such companies have made filings under this Scheme.

(b) In respect of e-forms ADT-1, FC-3, FC-4, Form 20B, Form 21A, Form 23AC, Form 23ACA, Form 23AC-XBRL, Form 23ACA-XBRL, Form 66 and Form 23B, the immunity would be granted against any prospective penal action in respect of delayed filings of such forms, if: i. the said forms are filed under the Scheme; and ii. no prosecution has been filed, or adjudication proceedings have been initiated by issuance of a show cause notice, for such default, before the filing of such forms under the Scheme.

6. At the conclusion of the Scheme, the Registrars of Companies concerned shall take necessary action under the Act against the companies who have not availed this Scheme and are in default of filing these documents in a timely manner.

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## **Advisory on Interest Collection and Related Enhancements in GSTR-3B**

It is hereby informed that from January-2026 period onwards, the following enhancement have been made in filing of GSTR-3B:

### **Update in Interest Computation for GSTR-3B**

From January-2026 tax period onwards, the interest calculation in table 5.1 of GSTR-3B on portal has been enhanced, providing the benefit of the minimum cash balance available in the Electronic Cash Ledger of the taxpayer from the due date of return filing until the date of tax payment (offset) in line with the proviso to Rule 88B(1) of the CGST Rules, 2017. The said change shall be applicable on the delayed returns filed for January 26' tax period for which interest shall be auto-populated in February 26' tax period's GSTR-3B. The revised interest computation formula is mentioned below for better understanding of the taxpayers.

### **Revised Interest Computation Formula**

Interest = (Net Tax Liability - Minimum Cash Balance in ECL from due date to date of debit) × (No. of days delayed / 365) × Applicable Interest Rate

**1. System-Computed Interest in Table 5.1:** The interest auto-populated on the basis of the revised computational formula mentioned above, in table 5.1 of GSTR-3B shall be non-editable and taxpayers would not be allowed to amend the auto-populated values downward. It may be noted that the interest autopopulated in GSTR-3B is only the minimum interest that is required to be paid by the taxpayer. However, the taxpayers needed to self-assess their correct interest liability, and amend the auto populated values upward, if required

### **2. Auto-Population of Tax Liability Breakup Table in GSTR-3B**

The 'tax liability breakup table' in GSTR-3B capture the supplies of previous tax periods, reported in current period. The tax is being paid for such supplies in current tax period. Hence, for the filing of GSTR-3B from January-2026 tax period onwards, the GST Portal shall auto-populate the "Tax Liability Breakup Table" in GSTR-3B on the basis of date of documents related to supplies reported in GSTR-1 / GSTR-1A / IFF pertaining to any previous tax period. Where the corresponding tax liability has been discharged in the current period's GSTR-3B. This enhancement is intended to assist taxpayers in accurate reporting of tax liability and align the computation of interest as per proviso of Section 50 of CGST Act, 2017.

## Key Features

- Auto-populated values are suggestive in nature.
- Taxpayers may modify upwards these values based on their own records and computations, if required.

The auto-populated breakup can be viewed at:

Login → GSTR-3B Dashboard → Table 6.1 (Payment of Tax) → Tax Liability Breakup

## 3. Update in Table 6.1 – Suggestive Cross-Utilization of ITC

From January-2026 period onwards, once the available IGST ITC has been fully exhausted, the GST Portal will allow to pay IGST liability in Table 6.1 of GSTR-3B using available CGST and SGST ITC in any sequence,

## 4. Collection of Interest in GSTR-10 for Delayed Filing of Last Applicable GSTR-3B

In case of cancelled taxpayers, if the last applicable GSTR-3B return has been filed after the due date, then the interest applicable on such delayed filing shall be levied and collected through the Final Return i.e., GSTR-10

## Facility for Withdrawal from Rule 14A

GSTN has enabled a new online facility for eligible taxpayers to apply for withdrawal from the option availed under Rule 14A of the CGST Rules by filing Form GST REG-32 on the GST Portal.

### 1. Who can apply

- Active Taxpayers who are registered under Rule 14A, may apply for OPT OUT in accordance with the provisions of the law.

### 2. How to apply on the GST Portal

- After login, navigate to:

Services -> Registration -> Application for Withdrawal from Rule 14A

The link will be visible only if the taxpayer is registered under Rule 14A and is active.

- The field "Option for registration under Rule 14A" will be selected as "No" by default.
- Enter "Reason for withdrawal from Rule 14A".
- Proceed to Aadhaar Authentication tab for Aadhaar Authentication of Primary Authorized Signatory and one Promoter/Partner.

### 3. Key pre-conditions

- The registered person shall not be allowed to file Form GST REG-32 unless he has furnished,
  - (a) returns for a period of minimum three months, if Form GST REG-32 is filed before 1st April, 2026;
  - (b) returns for a period of minimum one tax period, if Form GST REG-32 is filed on or after 1st April, 2026; and
  - (c) all the returns due for the period from the effective date of registration till the date of filing of Form GST REG-32

### 4. Aadhaar authentication

- Based on data analysis, the taxpayer will have to undergo either OTP based Aadhaar authentication or Biometric based Aadhaar Authentication.
- Authentication is required for:
  - Primary Authorised Signatory (mandatory), and
  - At least one Promoter/Partner (where applicable).
- ARN will be generated only after successful Aadhaar authentication

## **5. Important timelines**

- Draft application must be submitted within 15 days of creation.
- Aadhaar/Biometric authentication must be completed within 15 days from submission.
- If authentication is not completed within the prescribed time, ARN will not be generated.

## **6. Restrictions during processing**

- While Form GST REG-32 is pending after submission, Taxpayer cannot file Core amendment, non-core amendment and Self-cancellation application.

## **7. Post-Sanction of Opt-Out**

- The taxpayer who has received an order in Form GST REG-33 allowing withdrawal shall be able to furnish the details of output tax liability on supply of goods or services or both made to registered persons, exceeding the output tax liability of Rs.2.5 lakhs, from the first day of succeeding month in which the said order has been issued.

# Installation Ceremony of Managing Committee 2026



# Installation Ceremony of Managing Committee 2026



# HELP DESK @ INCOME TAX OFFICE

## MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026



CA. SREERAM SEKAR



CA. ASHWIN C NAIR



CA. BHAVIGA B V



# Greetings For Birthday Celebrants

2 MAR SASI KUMAR D

2 MAR VINAYA KRISHNAN K

3 MAR VELAYUDHAN NAIR V S

4 MAR ABRAHAM GEORGE

4 MAR SOYA K

6 MAR RAMAKRISHNAN H

7 MAR HARI JANARDHANAN NAIR SAVITHRI AMMA

7 MAR UNNIKRISHNAN S

9 MAR V SUNITHA REBECCA RAJ

10 MAR C D ISAAC

12 MAR ATHUL S

13 MAR NISHANTH GEORGE EARNEST

13 MAR LEKSHMY M B

13 MAR KRISHNAKUMAR V.

15 MAR JIM CYRIAC

15 MAR SRIPRIYA R

15 MAR GOPU SARAN G

17 MAR RAGHESH N S

17 MAR AJITH G

17 MAR SWATHI KIRAN R

18 MAR BITTU ABRAHAM

18 MAR GIRI M S

18 MAR SANGEETHA AJITH

19 MAR SELASTIN A

21 MAR SREEHARI G

21 MAR THAMPY MATHEW

22 MAR SARANYA GS

22 MAR VINCE RAJ I

23 MAR GEETHA VENUGOPAL

24 MAR MANJUNATH DINESAN

26 MAR KOSHY K I

26 MAR SUSMI MATHAI

28 MAR SHRUTHI TERESA ALEX

28 MAR SANGEETH THOMAS

30 MAR AADITHYA UMESH

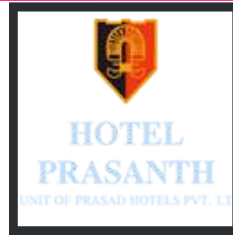
31 MAR VENKATA SUBRAMANIAN R

31 MAR RAMASUBRAMONIA IYER S

Institutional  
PARTNERS\*

# Thiruvananthapuram Branch (SIRC)

\*Discounts are Applicable only for ARS Members





## THIRUVANANTHAPURAM BRANCH (SIRC)

### Invitation for **ARTICLES / WRITEUPS**

Articles / Writeups are hereby invited from members on any key topics to be published in the upcoming e-Newsletter. Members may kindly send their articles to [trivandrum@icai.org](mailto:trivandrum@icai.org) with cc to [icaitvm@gmail.com](mailto:icaitvm@gmail.com) with the subject line "Article for Newsletter" on or before the 02nd of the following month along with mentioned details:

1. Name
2. Membership Number
3. Contact Number
4. E-mail id
5. Photo
6. Article in docx format

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