



MSME & Startup Updates

Quarterly e-Newsletter



March 2026



Message from the Chairman

CA. Gyan Chandra Misra
MSME & Start-up Committee, ICAI

Dear Members and Stakeholders,

It is with immense pride that I once again step into the role of Chairman of the MSME & Start-up Committee. Building on the strong foundation laid last year, we now move forward with a clear focus on execution and impactful initiatives to further strengthen the MSME and startup ecosystem. Together, I am confident that we will continue to create meaningful outcomes for this vital sector.

I am pleased to share the key initiatives undertaken by the MSME & Start-up Committee, ICAI during the past quarter. Our efforts have remained focused on strengthening the MSME and startup ecosystem through knowledge sharing, professional engagement and outreach, while reinforcing the role of Chartered Accountants as trusted advisors to enterprises across the country.

During the quarter, the Committee organised several programmes aimed at promoting collaboration and capacity building. One such initiative was the Angel Investors Meet titled "Empowering Startup through CA Expertise", hosted by the Indore Branch on 15th January 2026. The meet provided a platform for meaningful interaction between angel investors and Chartered Accountants, encouraging collaboration and exploring opportunities within the startup ecosystem.

The Committee also organised a Networking Meet on "Digitalising the Procure to Pay Process for MSMEs: Role of Chartered



Message from the Vice-Chairman

CA. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal
MSME & Start-up Committee, ICAI

Dear Members and Colleagues,

It is a privilege and an honour to serve as the Vice Chairman of the MSME & Start-up Committee. Working in the MSME and Startup sector is incredibly rewarding as it is a powerhouse of innovation, entrepreneurship, and job creation that drives our economy forward. I look forward to working closely with the Chairman and fellow members to support the committee's initiatives and contribute to strengthening the MSME and startup ecosystem. Together, we will strive to drive meaningful initiatives and create impactful outcomes for this vital sector.

The past quarter has been focused on strengthening outreach and creating meaningful engagement with the MSME and startup ecosystem. The MSME & Start-up Committee has continued to promote initiatives that enable Chartered Accountants to play an active role in advisory, knowledge sharing and institutional collaboration.

One of the key initiatives during the quarter was the Angel Investors Meet titled "Empowering Startup through CA Expertise", hosted by the Indore Branch on 15th January 2026. The meet created an important platform for interaction between angel investors and Chartered Accountants, encouraging collaboration and opening new opportunities for professional engagement in the startup ecosystem.

Accountants" on 17th January 2026 under the aegis of WIRC. The programme highlighted the importance of digitalisation in MSME operations and the critical role of Chartered Accountants in guiding MSMEs on digital adoption, regulatory compliance and strengthening internal control systems, with insights from experts from NPCI Bharat BillPay Limited and Tally.

The ICAI MSME Clinic Programme continues to create significant grassroots impact. From 12th December 2025 till date, 145 MSME Clinic events have been conducted across all five regions with participation of 96 Expert Advisers, who provided guidance on compliance, finance, banking and business operations. During these sessions, 32 MSMEs were connected with the advisors, most of their issues were resolved on the spot.

The Committee also participated in Vision Rajasthan 2026 at Sirohi and "जागृति 2026" at Jaisalmer, creating awareness on corporate governance, entrepreneurship and MSME formalisation.

The MSME & Start-up Committee published a Handbook for MSME, Startup, OPC and Others as a practical guide for entrepreneurs. It covers business formation, compliance, taxation, labour laws, government schemes, funding opportunities and digital transformation, supporting informed decision-making and strengthening the role of Chartered Accountants as trusted advisors to MSMEs and startups.

The ICAI MSME Pathshala Series, conducted every Friday, continued to strengthen knowledge dissemination among members.

I sincerely appreciate the support of members, branches and stakeholders in making these initiatives successful.

Another significant programme was the Networking Meet on "Digitalising the Procure to Pay Process for MSMEs: Role of Chartered Accountants", organised under the aegis of WIRC on 17th January 2026. The session highlighted the growing importance of digitalisation in MSME operations and the role of Chartered Accountants in guiding enterprises on compliance, digital adoption and strengthening internal systems.

The ICAI MSME Clinic Programme continues to expand its outreach across the country. From 12th December 2025 till date, 145 MSME Clinic events have been organised across all five regions with the participation of 96 Expert Advisers. These clinics have provided practical guidance to MSMEs on compliance, finance, banking and documentation matters, 32 MSMEs were connected with the advisors, most of their issues were resolved on the spot.

The Committee also participated in outreach initiatives such as Vision Rajasthan 2026 at Sirohi and "जागृति 2026" at Jaisalmer, creating awareness on entrepreneurship, corporate governance and MSME formalisation. In addition, the Committee published a Handbook for MSME, State Specific MSME Policies, OPC and Others, serving as a practical reference guide on regulatory frameworks, government schemes, funding opportunities and compliance requirements.

Further strengthening professional learning, the ICAI MSME Pathshala Series, conducted every Friday, continues to provide valuable insights on MSME policies, compliance frameworks and emerging opportunities for members.

I sincerely appreciate the continued support and participation of members, branches and stakeholders in advancing these initiatives and strengthening the MSME and startup ecosystem.

Initiatives of MSME & Start-up Committee, ICAI

The Committee has undertaken several significant activities during this quarter to enhance professional development and Knowledge sharing with in the MSME & Startup Ecosystem. These activities include the following:

Empowering Startup through CA Expertise- Angel Investors Meet

Under the aegis of MSME & Start-up Committee Indore Branch hosted the Angel Investor's Meet titled "Empowering Startup through CA Expertise" on 15th January 2026. The meet was aimed at exploring opportunities for Chartered Accountants within the startup ecosystem and facilitating meaningful interaction between Angel Investors and Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the MSME & Start-up Committee, ICAI. The program provided a platform for knowledge exchange, networking and collaboration.



The poster for the "Angel Investor's Meet - Empowering Startup through CA Expertise" event, organized by the MSME & Start-up Committee of ICAI Indore Branch, is displayed. The event is scheduled for 15th January 2026 (Thursday) from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The venue is the Indore Branch, ICAI Bhawan, 19-B, CA Street, Scheme No.78, Part-2, Indore (MP). The event is followed by High Tea. The fee is nil, and the CPE hours are also nil. The event is chaired by CA. Gyan Chandra Misra, with CA. Arpit Kabra as Vice-Chairman and CA. Rajat Dhanuka as Chairman. The poster also features the logos of ICAI, MSME Ecosystem, and W3FA (World Forum of Accountants 2026), along with QR codes for MSME Portal and Registration Link.

Networking Meet: "Digitalising the Procure to Pay Process for MSMEs: Role of Chartered Accountants"

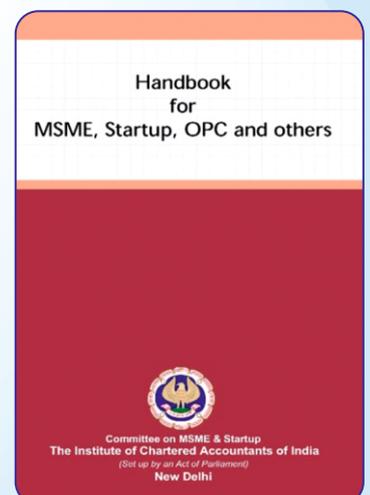
Under the aegis of MSME & Start-up Committee WIRC hosted the Networking Meet on "Digitalising the Procure to Pay Process for MSMEs: Role of Chartered Accountants" on 17th January 2026. The proposed program aims to provide practical insights into digitalisation of the procure to pay ecosystem for MSMEs, with a focus on regulatory aspects, recent developments, and implementation challenges. It also seeks to highlight the critical role of Chartered Accountants in advising MSMEs on digital adoption, regulatory compliance, and strengthening internal control systems, and features industry experts from NPCI Bharat BillPay Limited and Tally, facilitated knowledge sharing, professional interaction, and networking among members.



Handbook for MSME, Startup, OPC and others

The MSME & Start-up Committee published a comprehensive *Resource Handbook for MSME, Startup, OPC and Others* as a structured reference guide to support entrepreneurs, startups, MSMEs, One Person Companies and Producer Companies at various stages of their business lifecycle. The Handbook has been designed to provide clear, practical and updated guidance on business formation, regulatory frameworks and compliance requirements, covering key areas such as MSME (Udyam) registration, DPIIT startup recognition, incorporation and compliance for OPCs and Producer Companies, direct taxation, GST, cross-border taxation, labour laws, MCA compliances and intellectual property rights. Aligned with the national vision of Ease of Doing Business, Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047, the publication aims to simplify complex legal and procedural aspects and enable informed decision-making for first-generation as well as growing entrepreneurs.

The Handbook further provides detailed insights into government schemes, incentives and support mechanisms including PMEGP, PMMY, CGTMSE, Startup India Seed Fund, Fund of Funds, credit guarantee schemes, subsidies and funding opportunities, along with guidance on financial planning, access to credit, fund raising through SME exchanges, digital transformation, accounting system selection, sustainability initiatives, export promotion and digital marketing. Prepared as a ready reckoner and handholding document, the Toolkit serves as a valuable resource for MSME Clinics, outreach programmes and advisory initiatives of the Committee, while also strengthening the role of Chartered Accountants as trusted advisors and growth partners in building a resilient, inclusive and innovation-driven MSME and startup ecosystem.



MSME Clinic Report

MSME Clinic Programs conducted from 12-12-2025 till date reflect significant outreach and participation across ICAI branches. During this period, a total of 145 MSME Clinic events were organized under all five regions—CIRC, EIRC, NIRC, SIRC, and WIRC—on a weekly basis, primarily on Fridays, ensuring structured and continuous engagement with MSMEs. The program witnessed the participation of 96 Expert Advisers, mainly comprising Business Advisers along with Institutional Support Advisers, who provided professional guidance and handholding support to MSMEs on compliance, procedural, operational, banking, finance, documentation, and other business-related matters. Throughout the clinics, 32 MSMEs were connected with the advisors, and most of their issues were resolved on the spot by the expert advisors, demonstrating the effectiveness of the initiative.



ICAI MSME Pathshala Series- Capacity Building Through Knowledge Sessions

ICAI MSME Pathshala Series has been conducted every Friday as part of a sustained effort to build capacity and enhance member engagement in the MSME and Startup ecosystem. The series is designed to equip Chartered Accountants and professionals with in-depth knowledge of MSME policies, compliance, sectoral opportunities, and regional schemes. It serves as a continuous learning platform to empower CAs to become effective growth partners for MSMEs across India. The weekly webinars have ensured consistent knowledge dissemination and have received encouraging participation from members across the country.

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

Committee on MSME & Startup, ICAI

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Webinar on
MSME
Pathshala Series 3.0

6th March 2026
(Friday)
11:00 AM to
01:00 PM

TOPIC > Latest reforms in TREDIS mechanism and Key Impact of Budget on MSME Sector

Opening Remarks & Address by		Speaker	Coordinator
CA. Gyan Chandra Misra Chairman Committee on MSME & Startup, ICAI		CA. Vishal Thappa	CA. Shobhna Rochlani

2
CPE Hours
(unstructured)

Fees:
Nil

MSME Portal:
msme.icai.org

Registration & View Link:
<https://live.icai.org/msme/06032026>

After Completion of the programme, unstructured CPE learning (2.0h) of the eligible members who will attend this Webinar will be credited by Organising POI and member will not claim unstructured CPE learning by their own at CPE Portal

MSME Website: <https://msme.icai.org/> | Ph: +91-011-30110569 | Email: msme@icai.in | Startup Website: <https://startup.icai.org/>

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Webinar on
MSME
Pathshala Series 3.0

13th March 2026
(Friday)
01:00 PM to
03:00 PM

TOPIC > SME IPO & Low Cost Financing

Opening Remarks & Address by		Speaker	Coordinator
CA. Gyan Chandra Misra Chairman Committee on MSME & Startup, ICAI		CA. Naveen Agarwal	CA. Saba Shaikh

2
CPE Hours
(unstructured)

Fees:
Nil

MSME Portal:
msme.icai.org

Registration & View Link:
<https://live.icai.org/msme/13032026>

After Completion of the programme, unstructured CPE learning (2.0h) of the eligible members who will attend this Webinar will be credited by Organising POI and member will not claim unstructured CPE learning by their own at CPE Portal

MSME Website: <https://msme.icai.org/> | Ph: +91-011-30110569 | Email: msme@icai.in | Startup Website: <https://startup.icai.org/>

Participation in Vision Rajasthan 2026- Mega Exhibition

Committee participated in the "Vision Rajasthan 2026" mega exhibition, held from 19th -21st January 2026 at Sirohi, Rajasthan, an Aspirational District identified by NITI Aayog, by setting up an exhibition stall at the event. The initiative aimed to create awareness on corporate governance, MCA21, Ease of doing business, MSME formalisation, Entrepreneurship, and Compliance, in alignment with ICAI's and in support of the outreach initiatives of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.



Participation in "जागृति 2026"- Mega Exhibition

Committee participated in the "जागृति 2026" mega exhibition, held from 26th -28th February 2026 at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, by setting up an exhibition stall at the event. The initiative aimed to create awareness on corporate governance, MCA21, Ease of doing business, MSME formalisation, Entrepreneurship, and Compliance, in alignment with ICAI's and in support of the outreach initiatives of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The exhibition embodies the spirit of Viksit Bharat 2047



MSME Portal:
msme.icai.org



Startup Portal:
startup.icai.org



MSME & Start-up Committee, ICAI

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