



Chairman's Communiqué

CMA Harshad Shamkant Deshpande

Chairman

Journal & Publications Committee,
Banking, Financial Services & Insurance Board and
AI Strategy & Innovation Board, ICAI

“Great dreams of great dreamers are always transcended” - Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Dear Professional Colleagues,

My warm greetings to the entire CMA fraternity;

I feel deeply honoured to continue serving as Chairman of the Journal & Publications Committee of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India and to have been entrusted with the additional responsibility of Chairing the AI Strategy & Innovation Board and the BFSI Board. I sincerely thank the Hon'ble President, CMA Chittaranjan Chattopadhyay, Vice President, CMA Manoj Kumar Anand and the Council for their continued faith, trust and encouragement. Their confidence inspires me to discharge these responsibilities with renewed commitment and dedication towards the growth of the Institute and the advancement of the CMA profession.

My vision for *The Management Accountant* is to transform it into a dynamic, knowledge-driven platform that fosters continuous learning, dialogue, innovation and professional growth. By bringing together students, professionals, academicians and industry leaders, the Journal will offer diverse perspectives through contemporary articles, expert insights and analyses. With a forward-looking focus on emerging areas such as AI, sustainability, digital transformation, BFSI and global developments, *The Management Accountant* aspires to be a trusted platform for thought leadership and professional excellence, empowering the CMA fraternity to navigate change with confidence and foresight.

As India progresses towards a developed economy, the BFSI sector will play a pivotal role in driving financial inclusion, infrastructure financing and economic growth. Through specialised courses, knowledge programmes, publications and industry interactions, the BFSI Board continues to strengthen the capabilities of CMAs in emerging areas of finance and banking. Looking ahead, initiatives such as the Banking Conclave, expanded learning programmes and new knowledge resources will further deepen professional engagement. As Chairman of the Journal & Publications Committee and the BFSI

Board, I remain committed to fostering knowledge, innovation, professional excellence and meaningful engagement across both these important platforms.

I am equally privileged to serve as the Chairman of the AI Strategy & Innovation Board at a time when Artificial Intelligence is rapidly transforming the global business and professional landscape. Beyond technology, AI has emerged as a strategic enabler of intelligent decision-making, innovation and value creation, presenting significant opportunities for the CMA profession. The Board is committed to fostering awareness, encouraging innovation and building the capabilities required to enable the CMA fraternity to embrace emerging technologies with confidence and competence.

The BFSI Board, AI Strategy & Innovation Board, and Journal & Publications Committee embody our commitment to building a future-ready, innovative and empowered CMA profession. While the BFSI Board focuses on strengthening domain expertise and expanding professional opportunities, the AI Strategy & Innovation Board seeks to foster innovation and future-readiness and *The Management Accountant* continues to serve as a vibrant platform for knowledge sharing and thought leadership. Together, these initiatives will help empower CMAs with contemporary knowledge, emerging skills and a forward-looking perspective, enabling the profession to contribute meaningfully to India's journey towards *Viksit Bharat 2047*.

I conclude with the timeless words of Benjamin Franklin: “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.” May our collective pursuit of knowledge, innovation and excellence continue to strengthen the CMA profession. With warm regards, I extend my sincere wishes for continued growth, professional excellence and success to the entire CMA fraternity, along with my heartfelt festive greetings and best wishes to all our readers, members and stakeholders.

CMA Harshad Shamkant Deshpande

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