



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



ICAI: Key Stakeholder in the MSME and Startup Ecosystem



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MSMEs Contribute more than 30% to India's GDP



32.80 cr.+
Employment Generated



45%+
Share in Exports of MSMEs



2.50 lakh+
MSME Samadhaan Filed



Approx **21%**
MSMEs are Women Entrepreneurs

9.40+ Cr. MSME have Registered on Udhyam and Udhyam Assist Platform

India: 3rd Largest Start-up Ecosystem in World



130+
Unicorns



140+
Soonicorn



1100+
Incubators



220+
Accelerators

2.40 Lakh + DPIIT Recognised Startups



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MSME & Startup Committee, ICAI



ICAI initiatives towards growth of MSME & Startup Ecosystem

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has established the MSME & Startup Committee to specifically address the needs and challenges faced by MSMEs and startups. This committee is dedicated to empowering these sectors through various initiatives, including Capacity Building and Training programs, Policy Advocacy, Mentorship and Advisory Services, and Resource Development.

ICAI-DFO "MSME Manthan Meet 2026

The meet was held in Shimla on 7-8 May 2026, with approximately 70 Development & Facilitation Officers from the Ministry of MSME, eminent speakers and key stakeholders from the MSME ecosystem, including KVIC, NSIC and Laghu Udyog Bharati, in attendance. The event served as a high-level convergence of policy and practice, further strengthening ICAI's position as a Partner in Nation Building. It gained further prominence through the virtual recorded address by the Hon'ble Union Minister of MSME, Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi. He acknowledged and appreciated ICAI's role in fostering the growth of the MSME sector and congratulated the Institute for conceptualising the residential meet. His address, alongside the participation of senior Ministry officials, reflects the Government of India's trust in ICAI to contribute meaningfully to the national dialogue on MSME growth.

ICAI MSME Mahotsav 2026

As part of its nationwide drive, the Committee celebrated ICAI MSME Mahotsav on 27th June 2026, with over 130 ICAI branches organizing dedicated events across the country. The Mahotsav achieved two notable recognitions: A Guinness World Record for "Most people to sign up for a financial advisory campaign online in one week" and Asia Book of Records and India Book of Records recognition for "Maximum MSME Mentorship Felicitations Achieved in a Day."

All India MSME Associations Meet 2026

The MSME & Startup Committee of the Institute successfully organized the first All India MSME Associations Meet 2026 in virtual mode on 1st April 2026, graced by the esteemed presence of Smt. Smriti Irani Ji, Former Union Minister, who shared her valuable insights and guidance. The meet witnessed participation from senior representatives of GeM, KVIC, NSIC and prominent MSME associations across the country. Following its success, the second All India MSME Associations Meet was organized on 15th June 2026, engaging MSMEs, startups, industry associations, professionals, and ecosystem partners. The meeting focused on startup innovation, MSME growth, funding, digital transformation, and policy support, while promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing. More than 100 stakeholders participated in these association meetings, reflecting the strong engagement towards strengthening the MSME and startup ecosystem in India.

ICAI Scale-up India Summit 2026

ICAI Scale Up India Summit 2026, held on 26th & 27th June 2026 at Mumbai, concluded on a highly successful note, garnering appreciations from stakeholders across the MSME and Startup ecosystem. Organized to coincide with International MSME Day, the Conclave reaffirmed ICAI's commitment to empowering India's grassroots entrepreneurs, innovators, and small business owners by bridging the gap between policy, nance, professional expertise, and entrepreneurial needs.

The Conclave emerged as one of the largest initiatives of ICAI in the MSME and Startup domain, attracting an overwhelming response from all the stakeholders.

1500+ delegates and visitors

19+ technical and keynote sessions

35+ eminent speakers

40+ exhibitors

100+ startups registered their presence

SME Fund Raising Conclave

The Committee organised the SME Fund Raising Conclave as a key initiative to facilitate access to finance and unlock growth opportunities for MSMEs. Held on 30 April 2026 at ICAI Bhawan, Indore, the initiative was jointly organised with SEBI, BSE and AIBI. The programme was graced by Mr. Rajesh Dangeti, Chief General Manager, SEBI, as the Chief Guest, who shared valuable insights on capital market access and regulatory perspectives for MSMEs. The Conclave created awareness among MSMEs and professionals on diverse fund-raising avenues, including SME IPOs, private equity, venture capital and debt financing. The deliberations focused on enabling MSMEs to explore structured financing options, strengthen financial preparedness and transition towards formal capital markets.

Empowering MSMEs through Strategic Collaboration with the Ministry of MSME

The Committee on MSME & Startup, ICAI, has initiated a formal collaboration with the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, for conducting Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) activities across the country. The Ministry has advised District Facilitation Offices (DFOs) to collaborate with ICAI in implementing Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes (EAP), Entrepreneurship-Skill Development Programmes (E-SDP), and Management Development Programmes (MDP). Leveraging ICAI's vast network of 185 branches, 5 Regional Councils, 50+ Overseas Chapters, and 160+ IT Centres, this collaboration aims to enhance financial literacy, compliance awareness, and entrepreneurial skills of MSMEs nationwide.

Strategic Meet With Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) & Quality Council of India (QCI)

A strategic meeting was held with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) on 11th August 2026 at ICAI Bhawan, New Delhi, to explore avenues for collaboration towards promoting the National Pension System (NPS) across the MSME sector. The deliberations focused on enhancing awareness among MSME's including ICAI members, enabling them to adopt and facilitate implementation of NPS among various stakeholders.

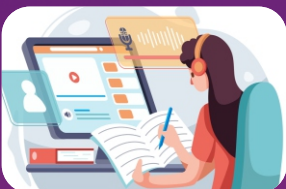
A strategic discussion was held with the Quality Council of India (QCI) to explore collaboration for promoting MSME Sustainable (ZED) Certification. The discussion focused on awareness, quality, productivity, sustainability, and competitiveness among MSMEs. Proposed initiatives included webinars for ICAI Members, non-CPE programmes for manufacturing MSMEs, and targeted outreach through ICAI's professional network to facilitate wider adoption of ZED Certification.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The Committee continues to strengthen its outreach through MoU-based collaborations with prominent Institutions, State Governments and Incubation Centres, including key partnerships already established and others currently in the pipeline. Some of the recent MoU's are mentioned below:

- Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udhog Nigam Limited (MPLUN)*
- Government e-Marketplace(GeM)*
- Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC)*
- Department of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Uttar Pradesh (MSME UP)
- Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT)
- NPCI Bharat BillPay Limited (NBBL)
- National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC)
- Gujarat Student Startup and Innovation Hub (i-Hub)

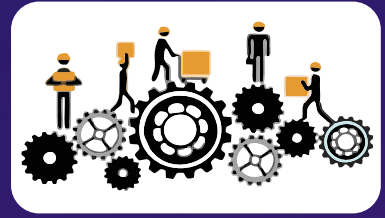
Residential Refresher Course on Startup



The Residential Refresher Course (RRC) on Startups & Role of CAs as Investment Catalysts are intended to equip Chartered Accountants to provide Knowledge based specialised modules to enhance their expertise in Startup. The committee has conducted five batches of the RRC at I Hub Ahmedabad, empowering more than 270 participants.

MSME Pathshala Series

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.



Publications



As part of this initiative, recently two valuable publications have been developed to support and empower the MSME and startup community. The Handbook for MSMEs, Startups, OPCs & Others provides practical insights on business formation, compliance, taxation, government schemes, funding, and digital initiatives. The All India State-wise MSME Policies brings together key policies, incentives, and support available across States and Union Territories, helping entrepreneurs and professionals make informed decisions and explore new opportunities for growth.

Newsletters



MSME & Startup Committee releases a quarterly newsletter, "MSME & Startup Updates and Gyan Sagar," aimed at enhancing technical skills, professional development, and capacity building to support growth and innovation in the industry. Visit <https://msme.icai.org/information-e-resources/> to view.

Certificate Courses On MSME & Startup:



Certificate Course on MSME is designed to equip professionals with in-depth knowledge and practical insights to support MSMEs. Through expert-led sessions, the course covers key topics in entrepreneurship, financing, and regulatory frameworks. With over 2050 participants across multiple batches, this course has empowered individuals to effectively contribute to the growth and development of the MSME.

Certificate Course on Startup is intended to equip Chartered Accountants to provide professional services as well as entering into Startup space themselves; to help achieve the national objectives. The committee has conducted eight batches of the Certificate Course on Startups to date, with approximately 900 participants. Additionally, the committee has come out with background material for the course, created by eminent resource persons.

MSME portal <https://msme.icai.org/>



MSME & Startup Committee releases a quarterly newsletter, "MSME & Startup Updates," aimed at enhancing technical skills, professional development, and capacity building to support growth and innovation in the industry. Visit <https://msme.icai.org/information-e-resources/> to view.

Start-up portal i.e. <https://startup.icai.org/>



A dedicated portal <https://startup.icai.org/> to disseminate information and facilitate various exchange services within the constituents namely – Startup, Chartered Accountants, Business Consultants, Mentors, Venture Capitalist and incubation Centres.

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