CA Day 2026, Theme, Celebrations, Chartered Accountants, ICAI

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Chartered Accountants (CA) Day was observed across India on 1 July 2026 to commemorate the 78th Foundation Day of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).

CA Day 2026

CA Day is celebrated every year on **1 July** to mark the establishment of the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** under the **Chartered Accountants Act, 1949**. It honours Chartered Accountants for their role in strengthening India's financial system, promoting ethical business practices, and safeguarding public trust.

Why is CA Day celebrated on 1 July?

CA Day is observed on **1 July** because it was **on this day in 1949 that the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 came into force**, leading to the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) through an Act of Parliament.

CA Day 2026 Theme

The theme for CA Day 2026 has not been announced yet by ICAI. The day is aligned with the motive as seen in the past years to honour the Chartered Accountants of India and the World for their roles and contributions.

CA Day Celebrations 2026

The CA Day Celebrations 2026 marked the 78th Foundation Day of ICAI and highlighted the contributions of Chartered Accountants to India's economy, transparency and good governance.

- The 78th Chartered Accountants Day 2026 was celebrated on 1 July 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, in the presence of the Vice President of India and ICAI leadership.
- The **ICAI Jan Utsav Portal**, developed with MyGov, was launched to increase public participation and spread awareness about the role of Chartered Accountants in nation building.
- ICAI released the **75th edition of The Chartered Accountant Journal** and launched a **digital Peer Review Portal** to improve transparency, efficiency and compliance.
- Nationwide programmes such as knowledge sessions, blood donation camps, tree plantation drives, and social outreach activities were organised to mark the occasion.

Who are Chartered Accountants (CAs)?

Chartered Accountants (CAs) play a crucial role in managing finances, ensuring legal compliance, and promoting transparency in businesses and public institutions.

- **Maintain Financial Records**: Prepare accurate financial statements and balance sheets.
    - **Example**: Preparing the annual financial statements of a company.
- **Conduct Audits**: Verify whether a company's accounts are correct and free from fraud.
- **Tax Planning and Compliance**: Help individuals and businesses pay taxes correctly and file **GST** and Income Tax returns.
    - **Example**: Advising a business on GST compliance.
- **Business Advisory**: Guide companies on investment, budgeting, cost control, and expansion.
    - **Example**: Helping a startup prepare a business plan to attract investors.
- **Ensure Legal Compliance**: Ensure compliance with laws such as the Companies Act, Income Tax Act, and GST laws.
    - **Example**: Filing statutory returns on time.
- **Support Mergers and Acquisitions**: Assist companies in mergers, acquisitions, and valuation.
    - **Example**: Valuing a company before it is acquired.
- **Risk Management**: Identify financial risks and strengthen internal controls.
    - **Example**: Detecting accounting irregularities to prevent fraud.
- **Support Start-ups and MSMEs**: Help new businesses with registration, accounting, funding, and compliance.
    - **Example**: Advising a startup on maintaining books of accounts.

- **Build Investor Confidence**: Ensure transparent financial reporting, helping investors make informed decisions.Audited financial statements increase trust among shareholders.
- **Promote Good Governance**: Encourage ethical business practices, accountability, and financial discipline.

Chartered Accountancy (CA) Profession in India History

The Chartered Accountancy profession in India has its roots in the British colonial period, much before the establishment of ICAI.

- **1913**: The Companies Act, 1913 required registered companies to maintain proper books of accounts and have them audited. This created the demand for professionally trained accountants in India.
- **1918**: To meet this demand, the Government introduced the **Government Diploma in Accountancy (GDA) in Bombay (now Mumbai).**
- **1930**: The Government of India started maintaining an official Register of Accountants. Professionals whose names appeared in this register were known as **Registered Accountants (RAs).**
- **1948**: Recognising the need for an autonomous professional regulator, the Government constituted an Expert Committee, which recommended establishing an independent body to regulate accounting standards and professional conduct.
- **1949**: The Chartered Accountants Act established ICAI, giving statutory recognition to the profession.

Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is India’s statutory professional body responsible for regulating the Chartered Accountancy profession and promoting high standards of accounting, auditing, and professional ethics.

- **Established**: 1 July 1949.
- **Statutory Basis**: Constituted under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949.
- **Administrative Ministry:** Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- **Headquarters**: New Delhi.
- **ICAI’s Motto**: **“Ya Esha Supteshu Jagriti”**. Meaning – “The one who remains awake when others sleep.” The motto, derived from the Upanishads, symbolises: Vigilance, Integrity, Ethical conduct, Accountability and Commitment to public interest.
- **Regulatory Role**: Sole authority to regulate the Chartered Accountancy profession in India.
- **Objective**: To uphold financial transparency, accountability, and excellence in the accounting profession while protecting the public interest.

The affairs of the ICAI are managed by a Council in accordance with the provisions of the **Chartered Accountants Act, 1949** and the **Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988**. The **Council constitutes of 40 members of whom 32 are elected by the Chartered Accountants and remaining 8 are nominated by the Central Government** generally representing the **Comptroller and Auditor General of India**, **Securities and Exchange Board of India**, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance and other stakeholders.

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