



The Institute of Chartered  
Accountants of India,  
Singapore Chapter



From the Outgoing Chairperson 2024-25  
**CA. Nishant Kumar Surana**

**Triumph, Yes! Yet we humbly stand,  
Grateful, Yes! For work done by every hand.  
Risen, Yes! But with heart and grace,  
Building, Yes! Future we all can embrace.  
Success, Yes! We give thanks and see,  
I, No! — it's all of "we."**

Dear Friends

As I stood there at the AGM'25 dias to deliver the Chapter Achievements for the year 2024-25, the realisation dawned how fast this term has gone! It's with a deep sense of pride, gratitude, love and a bit of relief, that I reflect on the remarkable journey we've had together. What we have achieved together in this term has been nothing short of extraordinary, and while it will surely have a lasting impact on the coming future, I am equally excited for the boundless growth that our Chapter is looking ahead!

I still recall the day at last AGM when we were analysing the Year ahead. This was the first term as Category A Chapter and the jump in expectations was exponential from Category B to Category A!

Challenges ahead, but so were the opportunities!

The foundation was our Strategic Vision for the Chapter – ICAI Singapore Chapter 2.0 – around 3Es – Engage, Empower, Enable. The very reason that we were able to crystallise our thoughts around these

3Es, led us to have a focussed concentration of our efforts and achieve our goals in accelerated manner!

As I mentioned at the start, it was all "WE". Along with each and everyone of you, it was the TEAM that pull it off with aplomb. And that's why first and foremost is to recognise our team which pulled this feat off. The new Managing Committee had five first timers, but each one brought their own strengths, determination, passion and energy! We have a vibrant Volunteer base which are always ready to take up newer challenges. We have a Membership base, whose love and support knows no bounds! The culmination of all these was that we reached the milestones we have today. The passion for excellence, tireless effort, and willingness to collaborate and grow together have propelled us as Chapter forward.

Result – being recognized as one of Top 3 in rankings in Cat A in the first year itself! Truly outstanding!

Now, for sharing with the audience when I was preparing the Executive Summary slide, I was pleasantly surprised at the amount of work we as a team were able to deliver! It was a real -real struggle to fit all those in one slide and I had to ultimately play with the font size to do fit in. And knowing how many ideas are in pipeline by the incoming team, I am pretty sure, they would be doing this summary in 2 slides, so exciting times ahead for us a Chapter!

Now, as I delved deeper into the work done, I realised there are **3 distinct categories which are coming – Heart-warmers, Pride and Areas of Excellence!**

So start with **The Heart-warmers** – work which gave us pure JOY! And thinking that we started most of these this year, gives so much satisfaction!

**1) Migrant Workers Cause** – 10 weeks of pure joy. The volunteers who were part of this will truly understand the joy it gave at the end of 10<sup>th</sup> week when some of the Migrant workers were presenting their business plans! The Chapter had partnered with Hope Initiative Alliance (HIA) and Alliance of Guest Workers Outreach to support migrant workers in Singapore to develop actionable business plan for success back home.

**2) Mental Wellness Programme** – Our partnership with The School of Positive Psychology where each member will get 2 complimentary Mental Wellness Sessions. What can I say about this one. When we were told that few of the members have already availed this facility, we were spellbound. The fact that we were able to bring some mental relief to someone's life, was a feeling not being able to describe in words!

**3) Chartered Accountants' Benevolent Fund (CABF) Launch** – We managed to make some life members and also generate donations for the Fund. Every act of such kindness should be promoted!



**4) School visits to 2 International Schools** – those who visited will know the curious minds and their curiosities knows no bounds.

**5) Singapore Heart Foundation** – it's the continuation of the journey with them! We were volunteers at their walk, separately generated donations for them, and when we listened to the stories they have to share, pure bliss.

**6) Volunteers Appreciation Night** – It was room full of energy and fun and laughter and dance moves and what not! We hope that we will see a bigger gang of volunteers dance and party during next Volunteers Appreciation Night!

**7) Value Added Benefits for the Members** – The discounts and coupons and special deals negotiated for the Members! We have just started on this!

Next comes **PART II – The Pride** – Work which we can be Super Proud of! The ones which will help in strengthening the foundation more and more!

**1) Business Leaders Forum** – Our leap of faith! Till the D-Day, we were not sure whether we will be able to pull it off! But we did and we did the way which amazed not only industry but US too! This really helped in bring the premiumisation image to the Chapter and opened lot of doors for us.

**2) Word Forum of Accountants (WOFA)** – WOFA was where we punched above our weight! The group was vibrant as we were together! We

had a speaking slot at the event where our Chapter was very well represented. We quickly became cynosure of all eyes! And the best part, when we were awarded, the group went together on stage to receive the PRIZE!! Truly symbolizing that this was a TEAM's victory! Mesmerizing!

**3) Booth at AccountanCity 2024**– Another First! Another milestone event for the Chapter! We along with Board of Studies, set up and run the booth at AccountanCity event set up by ISCA. The event attracted a diverse audience, including students and professionals who were eager to explore what the ICAI curriculum had to offer. Our team was at the booth for 2 full days! The team was mobbed!

**4) Training** – We explored! We started! We delivered! Feedback – PLEASE DO MORE OF THESE!

**5) Our Mechandise** – As simple as our Merchandise! We turned the gifts which we give to our Speakers into the Memories that they will carry from our side.

**6) Constitution Review** – 15 members over 15 meetings took this herculean task after 15 years of its coming into existence. We had a great learning curve.

Last but not least **PART III – Our Areas of Excellence** – The part we have mastered it and keep delivering at amazing efficiency.

**1) Professional Events** – 13 events in 12 months and covering as diverse topics as possible!

**2) Social Events** – The glue which makes our society family. We upgraded here. Had our first outdoor picnic, first playful Holi and offcourse the Mega Deepawali! Not to mention our various walks, CA Day celebrations, micro events, etc.

**3) Engagements** – Our Engagements with High Commission of India, Singapore, Local accounting bodies, ICAI India Head Office, Various International Chapters, visiting dignitaries, have all gone up manifold!

**4) Media Coverage** – we are slowly-slowly becoming part of local media too! Strait Times, Tamil Murusu, Tabla, Local Hindi newspapers in India too and offcourse apart from our bi-annual Namaskaar we have launched our monthly LinkedIn Newsletter!

The work of the Chapter has not gone unnoticed by the **India ICAI Leadership** team. They have shared videos with glowing comments about the work done in the current year and also how they are now expecting so much more from incoming team too. During AGM, videos of **CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda**, President, ICAI, **CA. Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal**, Immediate Past President, ICAI

and **CA. Dhiraj Khandelwal**, Chairman MSME & Startup ICAI, (2021-24) were shared.

Over the past one year, I can humbly say with pride in heart that we have strengthened our core values and created lasting relationships within and beyond the walls of our Chapter. Whether it was launching new initiatives, running our events, celebrating togetherness, overcoming difficult challenges, or making significant strides in our industry, we've done so with love and smile on our face!

As I transition out of this role, the foremost emotion is that of excitement of even brighter future that's coming ahead for our Chapter! To the incoming leadership, I offer my full support and trust. I have no doubt that we will continue to build on the work we've started and lead the Chapter to even greater success. The strength of this Chapter has always been in the collective strength of its members, and I know that the future is in good hands.

Before I conclude, I want to take a moment to thank each and every of our members with warm hugs and lots of love. The support you all gave to me was really heartwarming and energizing!

**Thank you for the gifts, so precious and true,  
I'll cherish them always, in all I pursue.**

With this, I sign off, with a big Thank you! And may the best be yet to come!

**Yours Loving**  
**CA. Nishant Kumar Surana**  
**Chairperson, ICAI Singapore Chapter (2024-25)**