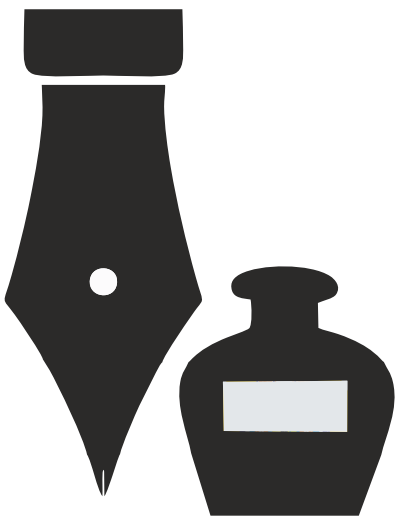




Central India CA Students Association  
Indore Branch of CIRC of ICAI

**NEWSLETTER**

**FEBRUARY - 2023 | Digital Edition**



## Chairman's Message



*Dear CA Students,  
It is my honor to extend a heartfelt welcome to each of you through the pages of our newsletter. As Chairman of this esteemed branch, I take immense pride in addressing a community of bright minds aspiring to embark on the challenging yet rewarding journey of Chartered Accountancy. In the realm of finance and accountancy, the path to success is paved with dedication, perseverance, and a thirst for knowledge. This newsletter is more than just a compilation of updates; it is a testament to our collective commitment to nurturing the next generation of accomplished Chartered Accountants.*

*As you delve into the insightful articles, updates, and experiences shared within these pages, remember that your pursuit of excellence is not solitary. Our institution stands as a pillar of support, providing guidance, resources, and a platform for collaboration.*

*The field of Chartered Accountancy is ever-evolving, and your education here equips you with the tools needed to navigate this dynamic landscape. Embrace the challenges, learn from every experience, and build connections with your fellow students who share this remarkable journey with you.*

*I encourage each one of you to make the most of the opportunities presented during your academic tenure. Engage with your studies, participate in extracurricular activities, and forge relationships that will last a lifetime.*

*May this newsletter serve as a source of inspiration and information, guiding you through the intricacies of your academic and professional pursuits. I have full confidence that you, as future Chartered Accountants, will contribute significantly to the world of finance and make us proud. Wishing you a successful and enriching journey ahead.*

*Warm regards,*

*Wishing you all a very Happy Baisakh*

*Warm Regards,*

**CA Swarnim Gupta**

Chairman,  
CICASA, indore



# WHAT ARE TAXES EVEN ?

## Need of the Hour

Whether you're a student studying tax codes or a person paying them, some questions are sure to cross your mind some or the other time.

What are taxes ? Where do they come from ? Should I go ahead and take that raise that's going to bump me into the next tax bracket ?

In this article we're gonna go through these and such other question and try to make make a little 'Crash Course' on taxes.

So CA Students, bring your curious cousins in and call your 'Non-Commerce' friends too 'cause this is gonna be one useful read.

### **Taxes – Where do they come from ?**

Take a seat and be comfortable because we're gonna start at the very beginning. While your struggles with taxes and the tax code may seem particularly unpleasant to you today, people have been paying (and complaining) about taxes for a long time. Way longer than any of us have been alive. Or our parents. Or our grandparents.

Ancient Mesopotamians paid taxes in the firm of livestock and labor. There are ancient Egyptians texts and tomb scenes showing evidence of taxes, tax collectors, and even tax shelters. Taxation and tax collectors also show up in Bible over and over. Taxes appear in scripture as a necessity, like: "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's". More recently, in 1927, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote: "Taxes are what we pay for civilized society."

### **Taxes – Why do we have them ?**

So we've had taxes pretty much as long as we've had records of organized society. But why? What are the goals of taxation?

At the most basic level, taxes raise money for government services. Taxes are used to promote the well-being of society. They help us afford services markets might not pay for on their own. Things like public safety and national defense and education. Taxes can be used to protect the environment. They can help a country implement fiscal and monetary policies, meant to push along economic growth.

Taxes can also be used as a way to redistribute wealth in a society –

from people who have more to people who have less. This can happen in a couple of ways – some more direct than others. An income tax system that taxes high income earners at a higher rate than low-income earners is one example. And we'll come back to that.

Government subsidies and vouchers – like food stamps and housing programs also shift wealth. So do luxury taxes – basically an additional tax bill on expensive items like jet planes, expensive fur and that really annoying diamond ring space on the Monopoly board.

Governments can also use taxes to TRY to change people's behavior. Sin taxes on not-good-for- you products like cigarettes and alcohol are meant to reduce consumption of unhealthy products.

- Gasoline taxes are meant to encourage people to drive less.
- France passed soda taxes, to try to get people to drink fewer sugary drinks.
- Denmark passed, and then got rid of, a "fat tax" on foods that were relatively high in saturated fat.
- A handful of governments, including those in British Columbia, Ireland, & Chile have

instituted carbon taxes. These carbon taxes basically charge businesses and sometimes households for the amount of polluting greenhouse gases they use or create.

### Taxes – How many are there ?

When experts talk about taxes, they sometimes divide them into direct taxes and indirect taxes.

- **Direct Taxes** are paid directly by a person or organization to the government body that imposed the taxes. These include property taxes and income taxes – where there's no intermediary – and I can't pass off the tax burden to someone else.
- **Value Added Taxes & sales taxes** aren't exactly the same thing, but they're both good examples of Indirect Tax. They're collected by a store or seller or producer of goods, but are actually paid by consumers. They're taxes that ALL consumers have to pay, regardless of how much money they make. Experts also characterize taxes as regressive, progressive and proportional.
- **Regressive taxes** are typically applied across the board – and, on their face, they might seem equitable, because everyone pays the same amount. But regressive taxes take a higher toll on people with lower-income than high-income earners. Sales taxes, especially on essential items, are considered regressive.
- **Progressive taxes** are more or less the opposite of regressive taxes – in that they shift the burden of taxation to people who make more money, and away from those who make less. In India, our income tax is a progressive tax, meaning individual's pay more in taxes as they make more income.
- The third type of taxes are proportional taxes. Proportional taxes require the same percentage of income for all taxpayers, regardless of how much they make. A flat tax is an example of a proportional tax.

### Taxes – How important are they ?

Like we mentioned before, there are experts who argue that the progressive income tax in India offsets some of our other, more regressive taxes. They say a flat tax would shift the total tax burden away from the wealthy to the lower and middle classes, actually making our broader tax policy regressive. All of this is complicated. Even if it sounds simple. Before you buy into anyone's plan to reform the tax code, take the time to really read into what it might mean to the economy. And make sure you're comfortable with all the implications.

speaking of implications of tax policy. They can be incredibly serious. And fascinating. A poor tax choice by a government can and has resulted in rebellion around the world. One tax rebellion you've probably heard of is the Salt March.

In 1930 India, the British were in charge, and they had laws in place at the time that outlawed Indians from collecting or selling salt. Instead they had to buy it from a British monopoly, which collected an 8.2% salt tax. Mahatma Gandhi decided to defy the Salt Act – by walking 240 miles to the coast of the Arabian sea – to gather tax-free salt. Along his route, more and more Indians joined him in the peaceful civil disobedience. He got to the beach, picked up a piece of salt, and broke the law. Thousands of others followed his lead – making and selling non-British salt – in a non-violent resistance. The Salt March went on to become a flagbearer symbol of non-violent Indian struggle for Independence.

All that because of taxes.

### Taxes – Are they good for us ?

There is plenty of room for disagreement over how big government should be – and what it should and shouldn't be doing. All those discussions matter to you as a taxpayer, and as someone who benefits from taxation and government services. But, as we've mentioned time and time again – there are some services the market just won't provide. Some protections it won't guarantee. No one likes paying taxes. But we do like what they do for us.

Thank you for your read. I hope this read helped you become a little more informed decision maker and as a tax payer a better member of the economic system.

Cheers !



**Shivam Chourasia**

CRO 0724618

# New and Emerging Opportunities for Chartered Accountants Beyond Traditional Routes

In the ever-evolving landscape of business and finance, Chartered Accountants (CAs) find themselves at the forefront of change, navigating through a myriad of opportunities beyond the conventional roles they have traditionally played. As technological advancements, globalization, and shifting economic paradigms reshape industries, CAs are discovering new and diverse avenues to apply their skills and expertise. This essay explores the emerging opportunities for Chartered Accountants, delving into how they can transcend traditional boundaries and contribute meaningfully to the dynamic business environment.

## 1. Data Analytics and Business Intelligence:

One of the most transformative trends in the business world is the increasing reliance on data-driven decision-making. Chartered Accountants equipped with a strong foundation in finance and accounting are well-positioned to leverage their analytical skills in the realm of data analytics and business intelligence. The ability to interpret complex financial data and derive actionable insights is invaluable in helping organizations make strategic decisions. CAs can explore roles such as data analysts, business intelligence consultants, or financial analysts specializing in data-driven decision support.

## 2. Risk Management and Compliance:

As regulatory frameworks become more intricate and businesses operate in an environment of heightened scrutiny, the



**Ankit Singh Gurjar**  
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demand for professionals skilled in risk management and compliance is on the rise. Chartered Accountants, with their deep understanding of financial regulations and ethical standards, can play a pivotal role in ensuring that organizations adhere to legal and ethical guidelines. Opportunities in risk management, internal auditing, and compliance consulting offer CAs a chance to proactively contribute to the sustainability and integrity of businesses in diverse sectors.

## 3. Financial Technology (Fintech):

The rapid evolution of technology has given rise to the financial technology (Fintech) industry, creating an array of opportunities for CAs beyond traditional finance roles. Fintech companies are disrupting the financial services sector, and Chartered Accountants can contribute their financial acumen to roles such as fintech analysts, blockchain specialists, or even as consultants guiding traditional financial institutions through digital transformations. The intersection of finance and technology opens up innovative paths for CAs to shape the future of financial services.

## 4. Entrepreneurship and Business Advisory:

Beyond serving in established corporations, CAs can leverage their expertise to fuel entrepreneurial ventures and provide strategic business advisory services. Start-ups and small New and Emerging Opportunities for Chartered Accountants Beyond Traditional Routes

In the ever-evolving landscape of business and finance, Chartered Accountants (CAs) find themselves at the forefront of change, navigating through a myriad of opportunities beyond the conventional roles they have traditionally played. As technological advancements, globalization, and shifting economic paradigms reshape industries, CAs are discovering new and diverse avenues to apply their skills and expertise. This essay explores the emerging opportunities for Chartered Accountants, delving into how they can transcend traditional boundaries and contribute meaningfully to the dynamic business environment. businesses often lack the financial acumen needed for sustainable growth. Chartered Accountants can fill this gap by offering their insights on financial planning, budgeting, and taxation. Moreover, CAs can become entrepreneurs themselves, establishing consulting firms or startups that specialize in financial management, offering a unique blend of technical and entrepreneurial skills.

### **5. Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Reporting:**

With a growing emphasis on corporate social responsibility and sustainability, there is a burgeoning demand for professionals who can navigate the complexities of ESG reporting. CAs, with their understanding of financial frameworks and accountability, are well-suited to ensure that businesses transparently report their environmental, social, and governance practices. This emerging field not only aligns with the global shift towards sustainable business practices but also provides CAs with an avenue to contribute to the broader societal and environmental goals.

### **6. Forensic Accounting and Cybersecurity:**

In an era where white-collar crimes and cyber threats are on the rise, Chartered Accountants

can carve out a niche in forensic accounting and cybersecurity. Investigating financial irregularities, fraud detection, and ensuring the security of financial data are critical aspects of safeguarding an organization's integrity. CAs can collaborate with cybersecurity experts to create robust systems that protect sensitive financial information, making their expertise indispensable in the evolving landscape of financial security.

The traditional roles of Chartered Accountants, while still essential, are no longer the sole avenues for professionals in this field. The evolving business landscape presents CAs with a plethora of new and exciting opportunities to apply their skills in innovative ways. From data analytics to entrepreneurship, the adaptability of CAs positions them as key players in shaping the future of finance and business. As the global economy continues to transform, Chartered Accountants are not merely record-keepers; they are architects of financial resilience, ethical governance, and sustainable business practices. In part two of this essay, we will delve deeper into the challenges and considerations associated with these emerging opportunities and how CAs can navigate them successfully.

The rapid pace of technological advancement requires CAs to engage in continuous learning and skill diversification. While traditional roles may rely heavily on accounting principles, emerging fields such as data analytics and fintech demand a broader skill set encompassing technology, programming, and advanced data analysis. CAs must embrace a mindset of lifelong learning, staying abreast of industry trends and acquiring new skills to remain competitive in the evolving job market.

### **Ethical Dilemmas in Technology and Data Analytics:**

As CAs increasingly delve into data analytics and technology-driven roles, they may encounter ethical dilemmas surrounding data privacy, security, and responsible use of technology. Striking

a balance between leveraging data for strategic decision-making and upholding ethical standards

poses a unique challenge. CAs must navigate this terrain with a keen awareness of ethical considerations, ensuring that their analytical insights are not at the expense of privacy or ethical business practices.

- **Balancing Innovation and Risk Management:** Innovation often comes hand in hand with increased risk. For CAs venturing into entrepreneurial roles or contributing to fintech startups, striking the right balance between innovation and risk management is crucial. While embracing new technologies and business models, CAs must also

assess and mitigate potential financial, regulatory, and operational risks. Developing an advanced understanding of risk and innovation ensures that CAs contribute to sustainable growth without compromising organizational stability.

**-Interdisciplinary Collaboration:**

Many emerging roles for CAs involve interdisciplinary collaboration, requiring them to work closely with professionals from diverse fields such as technology, law, and environmental science. Effective collaboration demands strong

communication and interpersonal skills, as CAs navigate different organizational cultures and languages. Developing a collaborative mindset and fostering effective communication is essential to harness the collective expertise of interdisciplinary teams and drive successful outcomes.

As Chartered Accountants explore new and emerging opportunities, they must navigate a landscape marked by change, innovation, and interconnected challenges. The key lies in embracing a proactive and adaptive mindset, continuously honing skills, and staying attuned to ethical considerations and regulatory landscapes. CAs are not only financial experts but also catalysts for positive change in diverse industries. By addressing the challenges associated with emerging roles, Chartered Accountants can maximize their potential and play a pivotal role in shaping the future of finance and business. The journey toward a more dynamic and inclusive professional landscape is one where CAs can thrive, bringing their expertise to the forefront of innovation and sustainable business practices.





# Try Meditation It Helps!



**Tejaswini Rajput**

In the hustle and bustle of our modern lives, where stress and distractions often reign supreme, the ancient practice of meditation emerges as a beacon of tranquility and self-discovery. Beyond the misconceptions of it being solely a spiritual or esoteric practice, meditation is a scientifically proven method for enhancing mental well-being, reducing stress, and fostering a deeper connection with oneself. This article explores the transformative power of meditation, shedding light on its benefits and the science behind this ancient practice. At its core, meditation is a practice that involves training the mind to achieve a state of focused attention, clarity, and inner calm. Contrary to common belief, meditation is not about emptying the mind of thoughts; instead, it encourages a gentle observation of thoughts without attachment or judgment. This process allows individuals to cultivate a heightened awareness of the present moment, leading to a myriad of physical, mental, and emotional benefits. Numerous scientific studies have underscored the positive impact of meditation on both the brain and the body. Regular meditation has been linked to reduced stress levels, improved emotional well-being, enhanced concentration, and even changes in brain structure associated with heightened self-awareness. The practice has also shown promise in alleviating symptoms of anxiety, depression, and other mental health conditions, making it a valuable tool in the realm of holistic well-being. One of the most well-documented benefits of meditation is its ability to mitigate the effects of stress. Stress, a ubiquitous companion in our fast-paced lives, can take a toll on both our mental \ and

physical health. Meditation acts as a counterbalance, activating the relaxation response and promoting a sense of calm. Through mindful breathing and focused attention, individuals learn to navigate stressors more effectively, fostering a harmonious mind-body connection. Meditation isn't just about calming the mind; it's also about understanding and regulating our emotions. Regular practice has been associated with increased emotional resilience, greater empathy, and a heightened sense of overall well-being. By cultivating a mindful approach to our thoughts and feelings, we gain the tools to respond to life's challenges with equanimity and grace. In a world brimming with distractions, the ability to focus has become a precious commodity. Meditation, particularly mindfulness meditation, has been shown to enhance cognitive functions such as attention and concentration. By training the mind to remain present and attentive, individuals find themselves better equipped to navigate the demands of work, study, and daily life with clarity and efficiency. Beyond its immediate benefits, meditation serves as a gateway to self-discovery. In the quietude of the practice, individuals can explore the depths of their consciousness, gaining insights into habitual thought patterns and uncovering a profound sense of inner peace. This journey of self-discovery is a transformative process that extends beyond the meditation cushion, influencing how individuals perceive themselves and engage with the world. Embarking on a journey of meditation is a personal and enriching experience. Part 2 of this article provides practical tips and introduces various meditation techniques to help you integrate this transformative practice into your daily routine.



### **1. Start with Mindfulness Meditation:**

- Begin with mindfulness meditation, a technique rooted in focusing on the present moment. Find a quiet space, sit comfortably, and direct your attention to your breath. Notice the sensation of each inhalation and exhalation. When your mind wanders (as it inevitably will), gently bring your focus back to your breath. This simple yet profound practice builds the foundation for other meditation techniques.

### **2. Explore Guided Meditations:**

- For those new to meditation, guided sessions can be immensely helpful. Numerous apps and online platforms offer guided meditations led by experienced practitioners. These sessions often incorporate soothing background music and gentle prompts to guide your awareness. Choose a theme that resonates with you, whether it's stress reduction, self-love, or gratitude, and let the guidance lead you into a state of relaxation.

### **3. Body Scan Meditation:**

- Body scan meditation involves directing your attention to different parts of your body, systematically observing sensations without judgment. Start from your toes and work your way up to the crown of your head. This practice promotes awareness of bodily sensations, helps release tension, and cultivates a sense of deep relaxation.

### **4. Loving-Kindness Meditation (Metta):**

- Metta meditation, or loving-kindness meditation, focuses on generating feelings of compassion and love towards oneself and others. Begin by directing these feelings towards yourself, then extend them to loved ones, acquaintances, and even those you may be in conflict with. This practice nurtures a sense of interconnectedness and compassion.

### **5. Transcendental Meditation (TM):**

- TM is a widely practiced form of mantra meditation. In TM, individuals silently repeat a mantra, a specific word or sound, to quiet the mind and facilitate a state of restful awareness. While TM often involves personalized instruction from a certified teacher, the fundamental principle of using a mantra for focused meditation can be adapted to your personal preferences.

### **6. Zen Meditation (Zazen):**

- Zazen, or Zen meditation, is a seated meditation practice rooted in traditional Zen Buddhism. Find a comfortable yet alert sitting posture, focus on your breath, and observe your thoughts without attachment. The emphasis is on maintaining a balanced and relaxed presence, cultivating mindfulness and insight.

### **7. Walking Meditation:**

- Meditation doesn't always require sitting in stillness. Walking meditation involves bringing mindfulness to the act of walking. Pay attention to the sensations in your feet as they lift and touch the ground. Coordinate your breath with your steps.

This practice combines the benefits of meditation with the physical activity of walking.

### **8. Create a Consistent Practice:**

- Consistency is key when establishing a meditation practice. Start with short sessions, gradually increasing the duration as you become more comfortable. Set aside a specific time each day, whether it's in the morning, during lunch, or before bed, to cultivate a routine that works for you.

### **9. Be Patient and Gentle with Yourself:**

- Meditation is a skill that develops over time. Be patient and compassionate with yourself, especially if your mind tends to wander. The essence of meditation is not to eliminate thoughts but to observe them without judgment. Each session, no matter how brief, contributes to the overall well-being of your mind and spirit. In conclusion, meditation is a versatile and accessible tool that can be tailored to suit your preferences and lifestyle. By incorporating these practical tips and exploring various techniques, you can embark on a journey of self-discovery, enhanced well-being, and a deeper connection with the present moment. As you navigate the path from mindfulness to loving-kindness, from body awareness to transcendence, may your meditation practice become a source of peace, resilience, and profound transformation.



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From Failure To Success



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