



CMA Amit Apte
Chairman Communique
Committee for Accounting Technicians

Dear Professional Colleagues,

At the outset, I thank you all for reposing confidence in me and providing me with an opportunity to serve our profession as a Central Council Member. As the youngest member of the present Council, I thank the President and my colleagues in the Council for giving me an opportunity to Chair the Committee for Accounting Technicians.

Certificate in Accounting Technicians Course (CAT) was introduced by the Institute in the year 2009 in consultation with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The major objective of the CAT has been to provide an opportunity to the students' community from rural and semi-urban areas who could not get the benefit of professional courses so far. Another objective of the CAT has been to provide trained entry level accounting professionals to the Industry.

In order to reach the unreached, the Institute has so far established 281 Oral Coaching Centres across the country. Majority of these centres are in the locations where our Chapters do not exist and nearly 70% of these centres are in semi-urban areas. CAT has established centres in Srinagar and Nagarcoil (Kanyakumari), symbolizing our presence across the country. Starting with a batch of 16 students for the June 2009 Examination, presently CAT student strength currently stands at around 3900.

The entire CAT has been structured keeping the expectation of the Industry from the entry level functionaries. The Course has two stages- Foundation (Entry level 1) and Competency Level. The CAT Students have to undergo 60 hours Computer Training in Tally ERP, 15 days Orientation Course and 3 months Internship with industry. The Institute has entered into an MOU with Tally and has developed a 60 hour Computer Training course for the students. The intention is to make this course more of an

employment oriented than merely an academic in nature.

During the year we have been taking several initiatives on continuous basis to enhance Students Services. With a futuristic view in mind we have decided to change the examination pattern for CAT Level I to Multiple Choice Questions to be answered in OMR sheets. The Examination will be held on a single day. I am happy to say that the first examination under the revised pattern was successfully conducted in 21 Centres on 24th June 2012. Examination centres have also been established in remote locations like, Palampur in HP, Shajahanpur in UP, Raigarh in Chatisgarh and Srinagar in J&K, for the benefit of the students. CAT Competency Level examination will also go on-line from December 2012 onward. We also propose to soon move over to quarterly examinations instead of half yearly examination pattern so far.

Having established a net work of 281 centres, we have been working on a model to make use of this wide net work for taking the benefits of our core course of Cost & Management Accountancy to the wider sections of the society. I assure you that this will also help in the Brand Building exercise of our Institute where the recognition to our courses is received from across the society.

I wish to state here that all this would have been impossible but for the sincere efforts put in by the CAT directorate who have strived to bring the CAT course to the new trajectory. The support I have received from my council colleagues and the President is also of paramount importance.

Finally I express my heartfelt appreciation to CMA Prasad Joshi & CMA Avinash Foujdar who were a part of the successful expedition to Mt. Everest. Mountaineering is a team effort and it requires equally strong climbing & support teams for its success. What is most encouraging is that when one of our members (CMA Prasad Joshi) was braving the adversities of nature to make it to the summit of Mt. Everest, the other (CMA Avinash Foujdar) was coordinating the effort from the Base Camp and ensuring all the support.

And what a day they chose to conquer Mt. Everest; 19th May 2012, the foundation day of our Institute!!!

With warm Regards,



CMA Amit Apte
1st July 2012