Subject: Invitation to join as a Member of our society

Respected Sir/Madam,

We have formed a voluntary professional accountancy body that addresses the issues of certification/training & development of –

- Independent Accountants who offer book keeping and compilation services but are not members of any statutory professional accountancy bodies in India
- Tax Practitioners who are registered as Income Tax & Sales Tax Practitioners with the government

Our founders felt that taxation laws are changing with time. Tax Practice nowadays is very challenging. Introduction of Tax Accounting standards in the form of Income computation and disclosure standards in Income Tax Act, 1961 makes it compulsory to understand Accounting Standards to Tax practitioners offering their services to non-corporates & SME’s. We believe IFRS implementation for SME’s too, has to be implemented through our tax practitioner brothers, as we work at grass root level. Formal knowledge of latest accounting concepts and recognition of our designation is the need of the hour...

Developments like GST will unite us all irrespective of states we belong, this is the time we must protect our Authorized Representative rights in the coming GST legislation. Our State Laws had a provision of representation by Authorized persons duly registered under the act and who has prescribed qualification in commerce and accountancy. The new GST legislation has provision AR provisions but registration mechanism like in Income tax acts ITP registration & enrollment is absent. Hence a uniform national Direct & Indirect Tax Practitioners enrollment & certification, that too in online and transparent manner has to be seriously represented by all our associations unanimously. Government has finalized a Legal Professionals draft bill 2012, it only addresses disciplinary issues but a uniform governing body or board too has to be demanded like they have in America, Australia, England & Wales, South Africa etc.
Further a formal degree and recognition is necessary for our new comer professionals who have failed to qualify final exam of CA/CMA institutes and who wish to enter into practice or job. They don’t have any respectable title if they couldn’t complete final hurdle, even after being trained for 3 years and investing so many years in attempting exams in these courses. We all know that everyone can’t become a CA/CMA! Agreed but right to audit accounts and offering accounting services are the two different things and auditors are licensed separately in foreign countries. Rather a right to audit is only licensed thing, accounting is not. In many countries professional accounting bodies apart from statutory accounting bodies do exist!!! UK has more than 15 accounting bodies.. Only 6 are statutory bodies that offer audit qualification and rights. Then why can’t we have it in India???

Hence to address these serious issues affecting thousands of accountants & tax practitioners we have formed “The Institute of Certified Public Accountants”. It is nonprofit organizations...It will be having recognitions from world’s largest SME’s oriented professional accountancy organizations that are IFAC Member bodies [(International Federation of Accountants) – A Global body governing professional accountancy organizations...]. [We are in the final leg of becoming international representatives of Institute of Public Accountants (Australia) & Institute of Financial Accountants (UK)..] Even our neighbor country like Srilanka has its own CPA & Accounting Technicians institute apart from statutory CA& CMA Institutes, Pakistan has CPA, ACCA, and International CPA’s operating in the their country, Bangladesh went even further it’s Accounting Technicians are government recognized. Their exist a global body of Accounting Technicians which is a Member body of IFAC... plus country like UK,USA & Australia has separate professional accounting bodies for Accounting technicians, Tax practitioners. Then why can’t India has its own body for Tax Practitioners???

We have chosen CPA “Certified Public Accountants” as the official title for our members by the reason that it’s most commonly used & popular title for professionals like us... And India doesn’t have its CPA professionals yet... Also in many foreign countries the title is respected...
The main features of our institute will be –

- It will issue Membership Certificates
- It’s Members can designate themselves as Associate/ Fellow Certified public accountants
- It will train and certify its members in informal way, using latest methods as online any time anywhere training and assessment. Flexible learning options like distance audio/video based continuing professional education that we professionals can take while managing our practice. Plus it will have an expert & procedural knowledge of all relevant accounting/taxation/finance/management sector
- It will govern it’s members practice in India on behalf of its global body, it will issue a practice certificate to its members
- All its members will enjoy highest professional ethics as everybody will have to follow a code of conduct of professional accountants
- A major plus point is it will be issuing membership to already practicing accountants & tax consultants based on their prior learning & experience.
- Its membership will be globally recognized.
- It will be working in line with national skill development initiative & Vocational education training …

everything can’t be summarized here …rather it will be too lengthy too explain everything here...We have taken the initiative like our Indian Registered Accountants took in 1930 while forming todays ICAI… we wish that you and your prestigious tax practitioners association should join our institute in big numbers so that our strength and voice will be heard in uniform manner at the national front…

Few examples of role you & your organization can play by joining us as members-

- Act as our National/State/District level committees
- Our members will have to complete a minimum number of CPE training every year to maintain their practice certificate, your associations seminars, workshop will be recognized CPE events so that your association will gain additional compulsory attendance from our members for all your events
- Your organizations may become our managing committee members if elected …
All your tax practitioner members will get a formal certification and training.

Following are the value additions an individual member will get from us-

- Membership Certificate entitling Associate/Fellow/CPA Designations
- Awarding of Certification as “CPA”
- Practicing Certificate to practice as member of the institute to sign as Accountant (No Audit Rights)
- Membership ID Card
- A Handbook on Membership
- Professional Practice Guides/Resources etc.

All this is offered at very small fees. We are sure that you will definitely participate in this venture. Your participation and cooperation is the key to our goals. Do write us back for any queries. Mail us or visit our website www.icpaindia.org for further details...if you visit our website then please see the About Us, Our certification, Our Membership sections, fees...it is under development...but still do visit our site...!!!

We hope to see you as a member

Thanks & Regards

Mohasin Tahasildar,
(AFA/MIPA, FCPA)

President,

Date: 16th Oct, 2015