

ICWAI to introduce 'certified accounting technician' course

Staff Reporter

CHENNAI: The Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India (ICWAI) will introduce a 'certified accounting technician' course to cater to the requirement of accountants in small and medium scale companies.

Kunal Banerjee, ICWAI president, told reporters here recently that the course would be open to students who have completed Class XII. Although it is not a full professional programme, the course would equip candidates for work in several small firms, the retail sector and business process outsourcing units, he said.

"It is estimated that at least one million accounting technicians will be required within the next three years in India," said Mr. Banerjee.

The entry level syllabus for the technician's course will be the same as the foundation course of the ICWAI examination.

This will be followed by the competency level consisting of two more papers.

Students desiring to pursue the complete professional programme would be able to switch to it from the technician's course and vice-versa. The technician's course can be completed in a year and costs about Rs.8,000.

The institute also conducts

campus recruitment programmes.

The institute recently held discussions with the Institute of Management Accountants, USA and Certified Management Accountants, Canada to undertake joint research programmes.

A.Om Prakash, chairperson of Southern India Regional Council of ICWAI, said a regional Cost convention on the theme 'Strategies for managing economic uncertainties - Cost and management accountants as facilitators' would be held in Bangalore on December 19 and 20.

For more details, call 28554443 or 28554326.

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Institute's new name to help cost accountants

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THE Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India (ICWAI) has made significant progress in getting the government to change its name to Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of India (ICMAI), which would brighten the job prospects of Indian cost accountants abroad, a top official said.

ICWAI has been vigorously pursuing the agenda for a name change, since it first made the demand in 1972.

"The issue has been pending for a long time now. Despite being well-qualified, Indian cost accountants do not get the recognition abroad due to the present name — Cost and Works Accountant, thereby hurting their job prospects," Kunal Banerjee, president of ICWA told Financial Chronicle.

He also added that the institute has made significant process in the last one year in pursuing the agenda, but only the time frame for change is unknown, which will give their students global recognition.

"Works accountants are no longer recognised. Even the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of England and Wales, on which our institute was named, changed its name

This would brighten their prospects of finding jobs abroad

to Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. In future, if foreign management accountants are allowed to practice in any country, our students will be at a loss," Banerjee said.

He noted that even countries like Pakistan, Srilanka and Bangladesh have changed the name to Management accountants.

A N Raman Chairman of Committee on Global summit on management accounting of ICWAI said that the term "works" relates more to the manufacturing sector.

In its effort to get the brand makeover, ICWAI is conducting number of conferences to get more visibility across the globe.

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