

Diwali Edition





The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (Setup by an Act of Parliament)



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My dear learners and future colleagues,

As we step into the tax audit season again due to extension, I want to share a few words of encouragement with each of you. Each client interaction, every audit file, and every discussion with your team will teach you lessons that no textbook can fully capture. So, embrace the work with enthusiasm, and make the most of every opportunity to learn.

Approach every assignment with curiosity and responsibility. Each return reviewed, each ledger analysed and every audit query discussed will add credits to your professional maturity. Make the most of the guidance from your seniors and peers and never hesitate to ask questions or seek clarity, asevery doubt cleared today is a step towards confidence tomorrow.

May this audit season sharpen your technical skills and strengthen your professional attitude. Keep learning, keep growing, and continue to uphold the integrity and diligence that define our profession.

At the same time, many of you might be waiting for your exam results. I know that anticipation can bring a mix of hope and worry. But remember, results are just one milestone in a long journey. Do not let the outcome, define your self-worth or limit your spirit. Success will come, sometimes through victories and sometimes through lessons. What truly matters is your perseverance and your belief in yourself.

Remember, the CA journey is not a race, it's a test of endurance, patience, and faith. And I have complete faith that each of you will reach your destination in your own time. Wishing you a fulfilling audit season and all the very best for your upcoming results. Don't be afraid just keep moving forward with faith and determination.

To all my fellow students it's a privilege to see your growth and commitment and thank you for making this journey meaningful.

Every Chartered Accountant was once a student who refused to give up."

With warm regards,
CA M VISHNU KUMAR
SICASA Chairman,
TIRUPUR BRANCH OF SICASA



BALANCING BOOKS AND DIYAS

Festivals like Diwali bring joy, light, and togetherness but professional students, they also bring a test of balance. Between relatives visiting, sweets being passed around, and lights glowing in every corner, sitting down with your books can feel almost impossible. But remember discipline during distractions is what separates achievers from the rest.

A flexible plan reduces guilt and ensures you don't feel left out of the fun. Even if you can't study for 6–8 hours, make your 2 hours deeply productive. Turn off notifications, light a diya near your table and immerse yourself completely. A festive atmosphere can actually boost your mood and focus if you channel it positively.

Festive evenings are usually filled with lights and laughter, so make the most of your mornings. A calm dawn study session, before the sounds of celebration begin, can give you peace and progress together.

It's okay to join in the celebrations!

Just set limits, maybe one evening for family and friends, and the next morning for your goals. Balance is the key. Don't isolate yourself completely; instead, remind yourself that every bit of effort during Diwali will shine as your success later.

Diwali is the festival of light of removing darkness and confusion. Let that inspire you to clear the doubts and light up your learning. Remember, studying during festive times isn't about missing out, it's about proving your consistency, even when the world celebrates.

Just as Diwali lamps burn bright through the night, let your determination glow through distractions.

The celebrations will end in a few days, but the joy of achieving your dreams will sparkle for a lifetime.



NATCHATHIRA POORANI SRO0711696



<u>Doctrine of Business Restructuring</u>

(A Newsletter Series on Business Turnaround and Revival)

CHAPTER 3:

Anatomy of a Successful Turnaround: 5 Essential Components

A turnaround, in financial parlance, is the structured reversal of a firm's declining performance through operational restructuring, balance sheet optimization, and strategic repositioning. While each turnaround is unique, successful cases tend to share five essential components. This article dissects these components and illustrates their interplay through one of the most compelling real-world turnaround stories—Apple Inc.'s revival under Steve Jobs.

1. Diagnostic Precision: Understanding the Root Cause:

The first pillar of a turnaround is an accurate diagnosis. Without a clear assessment of what went wrong, any corrective action risks being a mere band-aid. A robust diagnostic involves:

- **Financial Statement Analysis:** Identifying liquidity pressures, negative operating cash flows, declining EBITDA margins.
- Market and Industry Analysis: competitive positioning, demand shifts, and regulatory changes.
- **Operational Mapping:** Spotting inefficiencies, underutilized assets, and unprofitable product lines.

Case Example: Apple in the mid-1990s:

By 1996, Apple was losing market share, its product portfolio was bloated, and losses had ballooned to nearly \$1 billion annually. Its current ratio deteriorated, inventories were misaligned, and operating margins were deeply negative. The root causes included lack of product focus, weak brand differentiation, and supply chain inefficiencies.

2. Strategic Realignment: Setting a Clear Direction:

Once the diagnosis is complete, the next essential component is strategic realignment—redefining the company's purpose, positioning, and scope of operations. This involves:

- **Portfolio Rationalization:** Divesting or shutting down non-core or loss-making business units.
- Repositioning: Redefining the brand's value proposition in the market.

Apple's Strategic Realignment

Jobs slashed Apple's sprawling portfolio of more than 40 products down to just four quadrants: consumer vs. professional and desktop vs. portable. He killed underperforming projects and focused on innovation pipelines like the iMac. This clarity of direction allowed Apple to channel resources into high-potential areas, laying the groundwork for future products like the iPod and iPhone.

3. Financial Restructuring: Stabilizing the Balance Sheet:

A turnaround cannot succeed without repairing the financial foundation. Financial restructuring addresses liquidity constraints, solvency risks, and capital misalignments. The tools include: **Debt Restructuring, Working Capital Optimization, Asset Monetization & Fresh Capital Infusion**

4. Operational Excellence:

A brilliant strategy without operational rigor is meaningless. Operational excellence in a turnaround means re-engineering processes, driving efficiency, and instilling a culture of accountability. Key levers include:

- **Lean Operations:** Reducing waste, improving throughput, and adopting just-in-time (JIT) practices.
- **Performance Metrics:** Introducing KPIs tied to profitability, efficiency, and customer satisfaction.
- **Talent Realignment:** Removing underperformers, bringing in turnaround specialists, and motivating existing employees with aligned incentives.
- Technology Integration: Using automation, ERP systems, and analytics to drive efficiency.

5. Leadership and Culture: Driving the Psychological Turnaround:

No turnaround is complete without cultural revival. Employees, customers, and investors must believe in the company's ability to recover. Effective leadership in turnarounds requires:

- Visionary Communication: Articulating a compelling vision for revival.
- **Empowered Culture:** Encouraging innovation, accountability, and ownership at every level.

Apple's Cultural Revival

Jobs not only restructured Apple's strategy and finances but also reignited the company's culture of innovation. His mantra—"Think Different"—was not just a marketing campaign but a rallying cry that reoriented employees and customers toward a shared identity. Apple employees became motivated not just to save the company but to create products that would change the world.

Conclusion:

The anatomy of a successful turnaround can be dissected into five essential components: diagnostic precision, strategic realignment, financial restructuring, operational excellence, and leadership with cultural revival. Each component acts as an organ in the corporate body; together, they bring life back into organizations that were once written off as dead.

This article sets the stage, but it is only the beginning. In next month's feature, we unveil an original framework designed specifically for the Indian corporate ecosystem:

"The 5D Turnaround Framework: A New Model for Indian Revival."



KOUSHICK PARAMASIVAM SROO803346



RECENT UPDATES **GOODS AND SERVICES TAX**



Major Changes in GST:

- GST 2.0 Launched in India: A major GST overhaul, called GST 2.0, came into effect nationwide on September 22, 2025—simplifying tax rates and making goods cheaper for most people.
 - New GST Rate Slabs: The previous four slabs (5%, 12%, 18%, 28%) are now consolidated into two main rates—5% for essentials (milk, bread, medicines, packaged food, healthcare, etc.) and 18% for most other goods and services (electronics, appliances, cars, bikes, household items, etc.).
 - Zero Tax on Staples: Basic food items like roti, parantha, paneer, khakra, and education services remain at 0% GST.
 - Top Rate for Luxury/Sin Goods: Luxury cars, yachts, aerated drinks, and similar luxury or "sin" products now attract a 40% GST, replacing the old 28% plus Cess system.
 - No Change for Tobacco (Yet): Cigarettes, pan masala, gutkha will stay at 28% plus Cess for now, with a possible move to the new 40% slab in the future.
 - Insurance Premiums Exempted: Individual life and health insurance policies are now **fully exempt** from GST.
 - Textiles, Leather, Handicrafts at 5%: The GST rate for textiles, leather, footwear, and handicrafts is reduced to 5%, helping small businesses and local craftspeople.
 - Big Price Drops for Electronics: TVs, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners—now taxed at 18% (down from 28%)—are much cheaper for consumers.
 - Festive Season Relief: The government is calling this a "GST Bachat Utsav", highlighting extra savings for families during Navratri.
 - Easier Compliance for Businesses: With fewer rate slabs, invoicing and compliance become less complex, and software updates are recommended for businesses to adapt.

- Transition Rules: For goods/services supplied before September 22 but invoiced or paid after, the "time of supply" rules determine the applicable GST rate.
- Aim: Reduce inflation, boost spending, simplify tax system, and support small businesses—making GST more consumer-friendly and easier for India's economy.

INCOME TAX

- ITR Filing Deadline Extended: The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) extended the last date for filing Income Tax Returns (ITR) for non-audit cases (AY 2025–26, FY 2024–25) from July 31, 2025, to September 16, 2025, giving taxpayers extra time due to portal issues.
- Tax Audit Report Deadline Extended: The CBDT also extended the due date for furnishing tax audit reports (for business taxpayers requiring audit) from September 30, 2025, to October 31, 2025, citing disruptions from floods and other natural calamities, and to ease compliance pressure for professionals.
- New Tax Regime Changes: The New Tax Regime (default from April 1, 2025) introduces revised tax slabs for individuals and HUFs. The 0% tax threshold rises to ₹4 lakh (from ₹3 lakh), and most slabs are broadened, with the top rate of 30% now kicking in above ₹24 lakh (up from ₹15 lakh). The 87A rebate ceiling for the new regime increases to ₹60,000, making income up to ₹12 lakh effectively tax-free for eligible taxpayers.
- Old Tax Regime Remains: The Old Regime continues unchanged for taxpayers who opt for it, allowing full deductions and exemptions as before.
- New Income Tax Act Passed: Parliament passed the Income Tax Act, 2025, a landmark reform designed to simplify, modernize, and clarify direct tax laws. The Act will be effective from April 1, 2026, introduces the concept of a unified 'Tax Year' (replacing 'Assessment Year' and 'Previous Year'), and provides clear definitions for Virtual Digital Assets (cryptocurrency, NFTs, etc.).
- Digital Initiatives: The Income Tax Portal remains stable and functional, with over 7.57 crore ITRs filed as of late September 2025. Pre-filled forms and real-time validation aim to make filing simpler and more error-free.
- Taxation of Virtual Digital Assets: The new Act clarifies the taxation of crypto and NFTs, reflecting the government's intent to keep pace with digital financial trends.

• Optional Regime for Pensioners: Central government employees have until September 30, 2025, to switch from the National Pension System (NPS) to the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)—a non-tax update but relevant for long-term tax planning.

MARKET AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC TRENDS

Indian Stock Market Updates:

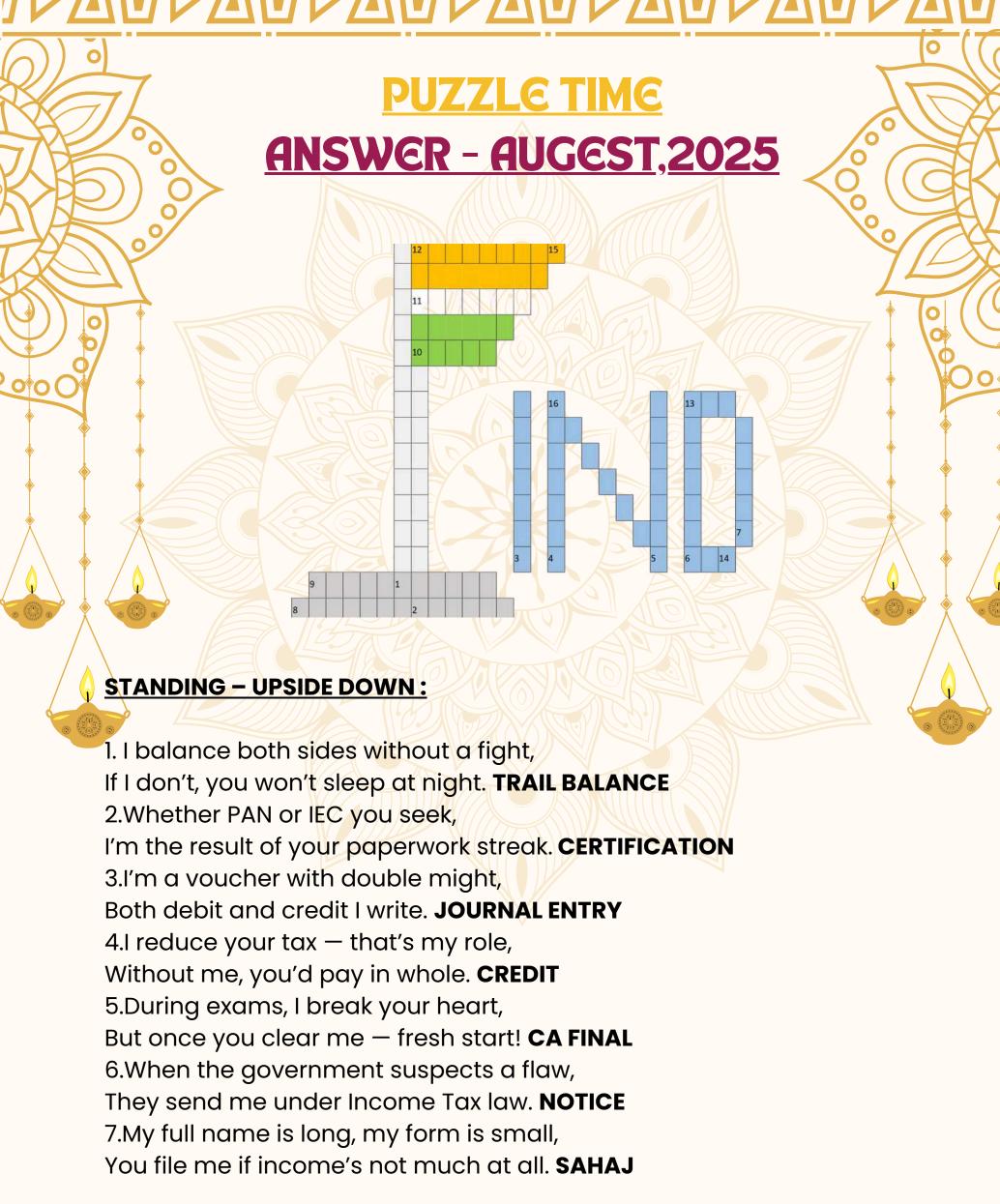
- Market Declines: Indian markets saw persistent weakness in September 2025, with both Sensex and Nifty falling for six consecutive days to end the month. The Sensex dropped 733 points (to 80,426), while Nifty ended below 24,900 (closing at 24,654.7 after a nearly 1% loss).
- Foreign Investor Outflows: Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) continued heavy selling, with net outflows over ₹4,995 crore in a single session and ₹13,450 crore for the month, reflecting rising global risk aversion amid trade tensions and Fed rate uncertainty.
- Weak Rupee: The Indian rupee remained under pressure, hitting levels close to its all-time low against the US dollar (above 88.7 per dollar), as global risk sentiment worsened and FIIs pulled out.
- **Sector Impacts:** Major banking and IT sector stocks (HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Infosys) led the decline, with only select stocks like L&T and Tata Motors showing resilience.
- **Domestic Triggers:** Recent US tariff hikes on Indian pharma exports and changes to H1B visa rules dampened sentiment, raising concerns for key export sectors.
- **Market Outlook:** Analysts see the market as oversold near-term, with technical support levels being tested. However, underlying concerns about global trade and slowing growth continue to weigh on investor confidence.

Global Economic Trends:

- Resilience Amid Uncertainty: Despite high geopolitical tensions and trade policy unpredictability, global growth has been more resilient than expected in the first half of 2025. Most developed markets are still near all-time highs, and emerging markets (outside China) show strong momentum.
- Regional Variations: US growth is slowing but remains positive, with consumer spending
 and the housing market showing strength. Europe is seeing improving, yet fragile, growth.
 China faces deflationary headwinds, while Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East show
 stronger growth.

- Monetary Policy: Global central banks are shifting to easing—the US Federal Reserve resumed rate cuts in September, the European Central Bank (ECB) has cut rates significantly, and the Bank of England is expected to follow. China's central bank is also prepared to ease further.
- Al & Tech Boom: US equity markets (especially tech and Al-related stocks) continue to surge, with the Nasdaq up 23% year-to-date. The "wealth effect" from rising stock portfolios is boosting consumer spending, but also highlighting wealth inequality.
- Inflation & Labor Markets: Inflation remains mild in the US and Europe, allowing for continued policy support. However, job growth is slowing, and concerns about a weaker labor market persist.
- **Trade Tensions:** US tariffs on Indian pharmaceuticals and broader global trade realignment are creating uncertainty for businesses, leading to paused investment and cautious expansion plans
- Global Growth Forecast: Growth is expected to slow in the second half of 2025, with forecasts for a mild, not sharp, economic slowdown.





SLEEPING - FLAT :

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For mismatched entries and wrong selections! RECTIFICATIONS
9. I'm not food, but I get consumed,
Costing teams keep me assumed RAW MATERIAL
10. Debit me when I grow in size,
Credit me when I say goodbye. ASSET
11. A slip I am, with numbers fine,
Use me to prove your expense line. INVOICE
12. I'm a line on the P&L that brings pain,
When expenses exceed your gain! NET LOSS
13. The British taxed salt and took our will,
Now new one to tax your bill. GST
14. I'm a number that's 10 digits long,
With me, taxes can't go wrong (Reverse) PAN

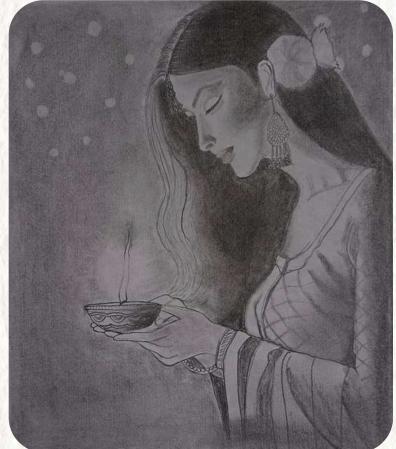
SLIDING:

15. GST demands me, that's no feat, HSN codes in a summary......SHEET 16. Section famous, savings king, It's where LIC and PF cling. SEC 80C

ANSWER - SEPTEMBER, 2025

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V.Abinaya SRO0820313

MEME CORNER





Diwali office party

Festival of lights celebratory fiscal congregation





KIRAN KUMAR SRO0745173



PHOTO GALLERY

PREPARATION OF TAX AUDIT REPORT U/S 44AB





SPEAKER: CA RAGHAVENDAR S

TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION







NTS PRICE DISTRIBUTION





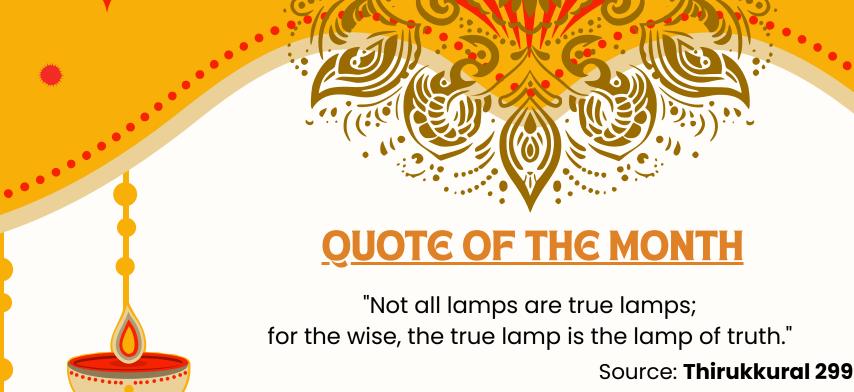


GMCS BATCH NO.:3



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<u>Message:</u>

Diwali lamps may brighten our homes, but the lamp of truth brightens our hearts and lives. Just as darkness disappears before the smallest flame, ignorance and injustice fade before truth and righteousness. In our profession, honesty and fairness are the diyas that never extinguish—guiding us with clarity, illuminating the path of integrity, and ensuring that our light continues to shine beyond festive nights.



ASWIN .S .A Treasurer SICASA - Tirupur SRO0819663

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