



STUDENT NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025 EDITION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

Presidents Message

02

CMA First Prize Winners

04

CMA Students Take the Stage at
SAFA Quiz and Public Speaking
Competitions 2024

05

CMA's LMS: Your All-in-One
Exam Success Platform

07

CMA Training Partners:
Bridging Learning and Industry

08

Guiding the Next Generation of Profes-
sionals: CMA Hosts Seminar for Passed
Finalists

09

Installation of
Governing Council 2025-2027

11

CMA Sri Lanka Marks UN MSME Day 2025
with Business Development Summit and
Excellence Awards

13

Poson Dansala

14

Speech Craft Programme –
Advanced Professional Communication

16

Red Carpet

19

Contact us

MESSAGE from the President

Dear Students,

I am pleased to address you in this edition of the CMA Sri Lanka Student Newsletter. For the past 25 years, CMA Sri Lanka has been dedicated to developing competent, ethical, and globally competitive management accountants. This milestone reflects our commitment to preparing professionals who can meet the demands of today's rapidly changing business world.



Looking ahead, finance professionals must be ready to adapt to technological change and economic uncertainty. To support this, we introduced the Professional Program 2023–2027 under the theme “Equipping Future Accountants.” The programme develops professionals who are digitally enabled, value-driven, and solution-focused — qualities essential for success in the decades ahead. I encourage you to remain committed to your studies, complete your examinations, and become CMA members, unlocking the full potential of your chosen profession.

In this edition, we celebrate the many achievements of our student community, including participation in the SAFA Quiz and Public Speaking Competition, the growth of our Training Partner network, impactful Speech Craft Programmes, and the seminar for Passed Finalists. These accomplishments demonstrate the energy and dedication of our students who continue to enrich the CMA journey. Whether you are just beginning your studies or preparing to complete them, I congratulate you on being part of a profession that contributes to sustainable business and economic growth worldwide.

I also encourage you to engage beyond academics by joining the CMA Student Guild and the CMA Toastmasters Club. These platforms help build leadership, communication, and networking skills, which are vital to your future.

As we celebrate 25 years of progress, let us also look forward with confidence. Together, we can shape the next 25 years with integrity, innovation, and impact. I wish you every success in your academic and professional journey.

Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala

FCMA, FCA, FCMA (UK), CGMA, FCPM



Graduation Ceremony - 2007

SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS
OF SRI LANKA
Graduation Ceremony



CMA FIRST PRIZE WINNERS

The First Chapter of CMA

CMA's first passed finalists carved a special place in our history. Their determination and resilience transformed a new qualification into a trusted pathway for aspiring professionals. These trailblazers laid the foundation for the institute's journey, leaving a legacy that continues to inspire every student who follows in their footsteps.

Below are only a few among those who proudly received their Passed Finalist certificates for the very first time from CMA.



Mr. Manoj P. Punchihewa

Fellow Member of CMA Sri Lanka
Director/CEO Hayleys Free Zone Limited (Subsidiary of Hayleys PLC)



Mr. Lasantha Silva

Fellow Member of CMA Sri Lanka
Group Finance Manager of a leading conglomerate in Sri Lanka



Mr. W. B. Herath JP

Fellow Member of CMA Sri Lanka
Economic and Financial Advisor

CMA STUDENTS TAKE THE STAGE

at SAFA Quiz And Public Speaking Competitions 2024

Four exceptional students — Chathunima Fernando, Leroy Motha, Poorvi Weerakoon, and M.S. Nishanthi — proudly represented CMA Sri Lanka at the SAFA Quiz and Public Speaking Competitions 2024, held on 30th April 2025 at the CA Sri Lanka Auditorium in Colombo. The event brought together students from SAARC member countries, fostering regional engagement, collaboration, and friendly competition.



Chathunima Fernando

Certificate Level of CMA
Financial Engineering, University of Kelaniya (Reading)



Leroy Motha

Operational Level of CMA
Data Science and Business Analytics, University of London
Analyst at Global Systems (Pvt) Ltd.



Poorvi Weerakoon

Strategic Level CMA student
Law Graduate, University of Colombo (Second Class Upper)
Freelance announcer



M.S. Nishanthi

Strategic Level CMA
BSc. (Hons) Graduate in Accountancy and Business Finance, Wayamba University
Finance Executive at Travelco Holidays (Pvt) Ltd

Each participant embraced the experience with enthusiasm and pride. Their shared message to fellow students is clear: "Take the initiative, step beyond your comfort zone, and let opportunities like these shape your journey."

The SAFA Competitions were more than contests — they were powerful platforms for learning, leadership, and connection beyond borders.

CMA's LMS:

Your All-in-One Exam Success Platform

The CMA Sri Lanka Learning Management System (LMS) has become an essential platform for students preparing for their examinations. Designed to provide centralized access to learning resources, revision materials, and practice exams, the LMS plays a vital role in helping students prepare efficiently and effectively.

The LMS hosts the Online Revision Program, which offers approximately 15 hours of intensive revision per module, delivered by senior lecturers from leading universities. These sessions are rich in content and insight, offering expert guidance to help you master complex topics in a short span of time.

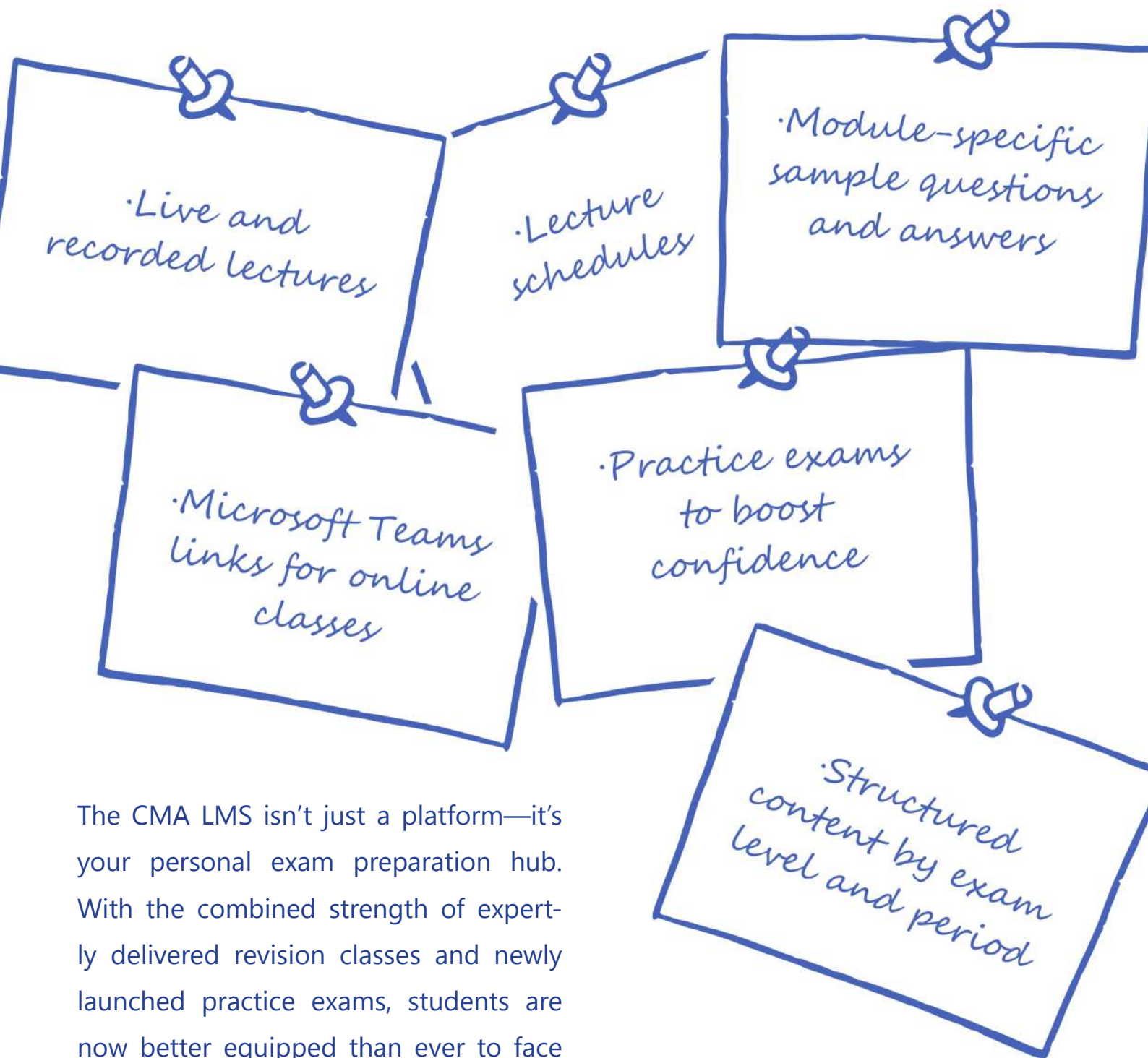
Whether you are preparing for the Operational, Managerial, or Strategic Level exams, these revision sessions provide a comprehensive review of key areas while also offering practical insights, exam tips, and real-world applications to enhance understanding.

All sessions are conducted online via Microsoft Teams, and full access—including the lecture schedule, Teams links, and recordings—is available through the CMA LMS.

As part of CMA Sri Lanka's ongoing commitment to academic excellence and student support, we are excited to announce the launch of a comprehensive set of practice questions on the Learning Management System (LMS). These newly introduced resources are specifically designed to help students reinforce their understanding, apply their knowledge, and approach their upcoming examinations with greater confidence and clarity.

Examinations are not just a test of memory—they're a test of how well students can apply what they've learned. Recognizing this, the CMA LMS now offers module-wise practice question sets and sample answers, carefully developed to reflect the structure, style, and complexity of actual CMA exam questions.

What Can You Access on the LMS?



The CMA LMS isn't just a platform—it's your personal exam preparation hub. With the combined strength of expertly delivered revision classes and newly launched practice exams, students are now better equipped than ever to face their CMA exams with confidence.

Whether you're revisiting core concepts or tackling practice papers, every click on the LMS brings you one step closer to success.

CMA TRAINING PARTNERS:

Bridging Learning and Industry

The CMA Training Partners initiative marks a major milestone in CMA Sri Lanka's commitment to preparing students for the demands of the modern professional landscape. By forging strategic collaborations with leading organisations, this initiative offers CMA students invaluable hands-on training and real-world experience — opening doors to practical learning that complements their academic foundation.

This programme represents a vital step towards bridging the gap between classroom knowledge and industry application, ensuring that aspiring CMAs are well-equipped and career-ready from the outset.

These partnerships are a testament to CMA Sri Lanka's dedication to nurturing well-rounded, industry-ready professionals who are equipped to make meaningful contributions from the very start of their careers.



GUIDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PROFESSIONALS:

CMA Hosts Seminar for Passed Finalists

CMA Sri Lanka recently organised an inspiring and insightful seminar for its passed finalists, providing essential guidance on the next steps in their professional journey and emphasising the importance of becoming a CMA member. This milestone event served as a valuable platform to connect, learn, and prepare for the path ahead.

A highlight of the seminar was the keynote address by Mr Jehan Perinpanayagam, CEO of Infomate (Pvt) Ltd, who delivered a thought-provoking session on Artificial Intelligence and Its Practical Implementation for Accountants. His insights underscored the evolving role of the accounting profession in a technology-driven world. The event was further graced by several distinguished guests, including Ms Dilani Perera, Business Relationship Manager – Learning at ACCA Sri Lanka; Prof Lakshman R Watawala, President of CMA; Mr Asanga Indunil Wimalaratne, Council Member and Chairman of the Education Committee; and Ms Madumi Perera, Senior Director – Examinations at CMA.

The ceremony was a momentous occasion, marked by the formal presentation of results sheets to the passed finalists — a symbolic gesture honouring their hard work, perseverance, and exceptional accomplishments.



INSTALLATION OF GOVERNING COUNCIL 2025–2027

CMA Sri Lanka Inducts New President and Council for 2025–2027

The Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA Sri Lanka) held its Induction Ceremony for the new President and Council Members for the 2025–2027 term on Friday, 13th June 2025 at the Grand Crystal Ballroom, Taj Samudra, Colombo. This event also marked the commencement of CMA's Silver Jubilee Celebrations, commemorating 25 years since its founding in 1999 and formal launch in 2000. Established with support from CMA Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), CMA Sri Lanka has grown under the vision of its Founder President, Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala. Incorporated by Act No. 23 of 2009, CMA is the national professional body for management accounting in Sri Lanka and a member of IFAC, SAFA, and CAPA, representing the country globally.

The ceremony was graced by distinguished guests, including Chief Guest Mr. Hemaka Amarasuriya, Chairman of the CMA Advisory Council, and Guest of Honour Mrs. Nilima Casie Chetty, a founding Council Member. Hon. Ravi Karunanayake and Hon. Sunil Kumara Gamage, both Fellow Members of CMA, were also present as Guests of Honour. The new Governing Council, led by President Prof. Lakshman Watawala and Vice President Mr. H. M. H. Bandara, was formally inducted. Several new Committee Chairpersons were also appointed to lead key areas including sustainability, AI, women's leadership, and research.

Special recognition was awarded to individuals for their service to the profession and public interest, and outgoing Council Members were honoured for their contributions. Addressing the gathering, Hon. Sunil Kumara Gamage highlighted the crucial role played by management accountants and encouraged further professional empowerment for the youth through CMA Sri Lanka.



CMA SRI LANKA MARKS UN MSME DAY 2025

with Business Development Summit and Excellence Awards

In celebration of the United Nations Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Day 2025, the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA) hosted the "MSME Business Development Summit 2025" and the "MSME Business Excellence Awards 2025" on the 27th of June at the BMICH.

The "MSME Business Development Summit 2025" was graced by the presence of Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, as the Chief Guest. The "MSME Business Excellence Awards 2025" was held later in the evening, with Mr. Takafumi Kadono, Country Director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), serving as the Chief Guest.

This national-level event brought together a wide network of stakeholders, including MSME clients and representatives from commercial banks and finance companies that are shareholders in the newly launched National Credit Guarantee Institution (NCGI). The summit provided a platform to address pressing issues and challenges in MSME development, with a special emphasis on financial sector collaboration.

The technical sessions featured insightful contributions from key personalities such as Ms. Joni Simpson, Country Director for Sri Lanka and the Maldives at the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and Mrs. Thilaka Jayasundara, Secretary to the Ministry of Industries. Their expertise added depth to the discussions on empowering and supporting MSMEs across Sri Lanka.

Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala, President of CMA Sri Lanka, welcomed participants and dignitaries, underscoring the Institute's role in fostering entrepreneurship and business leadership. Dr. Kulatunga Rajapaksa, Emeritus Chairman of DSI Group, also addressed the audience, highlighting the vital work of the MSME Committee in strengthening the local business ecosystem.



POSON DANSALA



SPEECH CRAFT PROGRAMME –

Advanced Professional Communication

The certificate presentation ceremony for Batch 57 of the Speech Craft Programme, conducted in collaboration with the Toastmasters of CMA Sri Lanka on 6th June 2025, was a truly memorable occasion.

Participants confidently took the stage to reflect on their learning journey, demonstrating the communication and leadership skills they developed during the programme. The event highlighted their personal growth and the positive impact of the Speech Craft experience.

Certificates were awarded in recognition of the participants' dedication, active participation, and commitment to self-improvement.

Congratulations to all participants on this achievement and for embracing the path of personal and professional development!



Participants of Batch 58 displayed remarkable confidence and eloquence on stage at the certificate presentation ceremony held on 7th June 2025. The event, conducted in collaboration with the Toastmasters of CMA Sri Lanka, was a testament to the transformative power of the Speech Craft Programme. Attendees were impressed by the noticeable progress and growth demonstrated by the participants, who embraced every opportunity to develop their public speaking and leadership skills.

Congratulations to all participants for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to self-development!

**BATCH 58**

RED CARPET

NOVEMBER 2024 – LEVEL 4 (STRATEGIC LEVEL)



M.H.M. MUFASSAL

MERIT PRIZE

Mufassal Hanifa, from Pottuvil in the Ampara District, is a Development Officer at the Divisional Secretariat and a part-time Lecturer at DigitalTutors.lk. A BBA (Finance) graduate from South Eastern University, he completed AAT in 2019 and earned his ACMA designation in 2025. Mufassal was drawn to CMA Sri Lanka for its global recognition, IFAC membership, and value-added offerings like Speech Craft and Data Analytics. Despite work commitments, he prepared through self-study and CMA revision classes, dedicating 1–2 hours daily. His structured, concept-focused approach led to exam success. He encourages students to stay committed and reminds them that success doesn't depend on location or background: "If I could achieve this from Ampara, so can you." Mufassal's journey is a testament to the power of self-discipline and determination in achieving professional goals through CMA Sri Lanka.



M.F. FERNANDO

MERIT PRIZE

Francesco Fernando, a final-year Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) undergraduate at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, is the Hirdaramani Prize winner for highest GPA. He's also an AAT finalist, CA Sri Lanka student, and intern at BOC Nugegoda's International Division. Francesco chose CMA Sri Lanka for its globally relevant, forward-thinking syllabus, especially in AI and sustainability. Balancing university exams and CMA preparation was challenging, but through disciplined self-study—rising at 4 a.m. to study and solving sums at night—he managed both successfully. He credits consistency, time management, and deep conceptual understanding for his achievements. Francesco also teaches accounting to students, reflecting his passion for sharing knowledge. His advice to students: "Master concepts, not just content. Stay disciplined and focused." He strongly recommends CMA to undergraduates, calling it a valuable complement to academic learning and a gateway to global career opportunities in finance and management.



J JUMANIYA

MERIT PRIZE

Jumaniya Jamaldeen. A first-class graduate in Business Administration (Specialised in Accounting) from the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Jumaniya has recently completed the strategic level and ICS exams of the CMA qualification in May 2025 and now awaits her results with optimism.

Her journey with CMA began through a trusted source — her father, seminars and peer recommendations. Balancing self-study with selected online revision, she maintained unwavering discipline and structured her study plan with precision, dedicating 3–4 hours daily, and increasing her efforts closer to the exam period. As she looks ahead to exciting professional opportunities, she encourages fellow students to believe in themselves, stay focused, and embrace the challenge. To prospective students, Jumaniya has a clear message: "CMA is a gateway to a world of opportunities — if you are ready to commit, the rewards are truly worth it."

RED CARPET

DECEMBER 2024 – LEVEL 1 (CERTIFICATE LEVEL)



G.A.M. SAMARAWICKRAMA

MERIT PRIZE

SUBJECT PRIZE - CL 1.2_FA
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

Madushan Samarawickrama is currently employed as an Assistant Accountant at Rainbow Packaging while actively pursuing the CMA qualification. With a background in HNDA, he discovered CMA as a natural next step to deepen his expertise in accounting and management. Relying on CMA materials and past papers, he prepared through disciplined self-study, dedicating time daily. His success stems from consistency, focus, and effective time management. Madushan encourages fellow students to focus on understanding concepts and to practise regularly. He firmly believes CMA is an excellent opportunity for those aiming to advance in the accounting profession.



S.H. KARUNASINGHA

MERIT PRIZE

Supuni Hansani Karunasinghe is an Accounts Assistant (Junior Executive) at Raigam Solar (Pvt) Ltd. She is a graduate with a BA (Hons) in Economics from Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. Her interest in CMA was sparked through self-initiated academic research, and she was particularly drawn to the programme's practical orientation and its relevance to today's dynamic business environment.

To prepare for her exams, Supuni turned to OnlineAccounting.lk. With disciplined time management, she dedicated 2–3 hours daily on weekdays and increased her efforts on weekends. Her commitment, coupled with the willingness to make sacrifices, played a key role in her success. Supuni encourages fellow CMA students to stay consistent and patient, reminding them that perseverance is crucial. To those considering the CMA path, her message is clear: "CMA is a strong stepping stone into the world of finance, accounting, and business strategy. It lays a powerful foundation for a rewarding career. Supuni's journey reflects the spirit of ambition and resilience — values that embody the essence of CMA Sri Lanka's future professionals.



**P.M. ISURU HESHAN
MUHAMDIRAM**

MERIT PRIZE

Isuru Heshan, a third-year Agricultural Engineering undergraduate at the University of Ruhuna, balances academic excellence with dynamic leadership roles. Hailing from Wennappuwa, he's passionate about branding, sustainability, and business innovation. Isuru discovered CMA through personal research and was impressed by its industry-focused and affordable curriculum. He passed the Certificate Level with a Merit Prize through a blend of self-study and online classes at Colombo Graduate Campus. With 2–3 hours of daily preparation, he mastered key concepts through consistency and discipline. Isuru encourages aspiring professionals to embrace CMA as a practical pathway to leadership in finance and management.

RED CARPET

MARCH 2025 EXAMINATION – LEVEL 1 (CERTIFICATE LEVEL)



A. L. MOTH

MERIT PRIZE

CL 1.4_OMB QUANTITATIVE
METHODS FOR BUSINESS

Leroy Motha is currently employed as an Analyst at Global Systems Solutions Pvt. Ltd. He first came across CMA Sri Lanka through social media and recommendations from relatives.

Dedicated to his professional journey, Leroy has been preparing for his CMA examinations through a combination of self-study and online classes. With strong determination, he set his sights on passing the exam on his very first attempt, committing himself fully to this goal.

Sharing a message with his fellow CMA students, Leroy believes that “nothing is impossible if you try hard and commit yourself towards achieving your goals.” He further encourages anyone aspiring to build a career in the field of accounting to consider joining CMA Sri Lanka, which he regards as a valuable pathway to success.



W.W.P.N.C FERNANDO

MERIT PRIZE

CL 1.1_CMAF COST & MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNTING FUNDAMENTALS
CL 1.2_FA FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING
CL 1.3_BF BUSINESS FUNDAMENTALS

Chathunima Fernando is currently pursuing a degree in Financial Engineering at the University of Kelaniya while simultaneously working towards her professional qualification at CMA Sri Lanka.

She has successfully completed the first level of the CMA program, gaining a strong foundation in management and business principles. This achievement has further inspired her to continue her CMA journey with determination and enthusiasm, as she strives to advance both academically and professionally.

CONTACT US

By Post

Chief Executive Officer
Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka
29/24, Visakha Private Road
Colombo 04
Sri Lanka

By Telephone

+94 (0)11 2506391 | +94 (0)11 2507087
+94 (0)11 4641701-3 | +94 (0)11 2596696

Essential E-mail Addresses

Student Registrations:

info@cma-srilanka.org |
promotion@cma-srilanka.org

Annual Subscriptions:

renewals@cma-srilanka.org

Study Packs:

logistic.officer@cma-srilanka.org

Exemptions:

exemptions@cma-srilanka.org

Practical Training (PER):

training@cma-srilanka.org

My CMA:

cmaexaminations@cma-srilanka.org

Computer Center | ITA | CBA:

computercenter@cma-srilanka.org

Virtual Learning:

onlinelearning.cma@gmail.com

Examinations:

cmaexaminations@cma-srilanka.org

Membership ACMA | FCMA:

registrations@cma-srilanka.org

By E-mail

secretariat@cma-srilanka.org

Essential Contact Numbers

Student Registrations:

0777593562 | 0766375456
0760678646 | 0775675824

Annual Subscriptions:

0778833363 | 0774526206

Study Packs:

0761698706 | 011 4641701 (Ext. 135)

Exemptions:

0706930446 | 011 4641701 (Ext. 139)

Practical Training (PER):

0743213860 | 011 4641701 (Ext. 145)

Computer Center | ITA | CBA:

0770574893

Virtual Learning:

0743213860

Examinations:

0770584753

Membership ACMA | FCMA:

0714705536 | 0770581587

