

UDIN DIRECTORATE THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

(Set up by an Act of Parliament)



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SUMMARY

UDIN is an exceptional initiative of the ICAI to layout universal verification mechanism for discerning the legitimacy of the documents signed by Indian Chartered Accountants. The ICAI boasts the pre-eminence of UDIN being an unequalled pursuit in augmenting numerous dynamisms of ICAI in the quest of transparent financial reporting in India. Since its inception, UDIN has become a *sine qua non* for trust and credibility. It assists the Government, regulatory bodies, banking and financial intermediaries among other stakeholders in establishing the genuineness of the documents received by them from the Chartered Accountants, in turn giving aid in policy and decision-making processes.

UDIN Report for 2023-24, among others, presents the reflections on UDINs various usage, members' registration with the UDIN portal, cardinal numbers of generated UDINs during the reporting year, and selected statistical analysis of its relevant features. The Report not only presents its mandate and its linkages with the Vision and Mission of the ICAI, but it also brings to the fore the numerical and pictorial narratives of the UDIN's efficacious transcendence during the reporting year.

The novelty of the UDIN has been lauded by Smt. Droupadi Murmu, the Hon'ble President of India in her speech at 75th Chartered Accountants Day on 1st July, 2023.

This year, UDINs have crossed a mark of 6 crores during the reporting year, a chef-d'œuvre for the Institute.



PRESIDENT's MESSAGE

CA. Aniket Sunil Talati

President, ICAI

Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN), one of the pivotal instruments of accountability and transparency launched by the Instituted of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has arguably achieved its initial objectives since its inception in 2019. As envisaged, the implementation of UDIN has brought to the fore various aspects of financial governance and the need for systemic improvements necessitating cotemporaneous changes in the system. It is earnest to note that the UDIN system has been relied upon by the various regulators, and other agencies of the Governments both at the Center and the State level. Many of these agencies have conveyed their appreciation and credence for the features and innovative concept of UDIN.

The ICAI has always been providing technical and professional support to the government and various regulators while showcasing its expertise in the fields of education, professional growth, and the maintenance of high Accounting, Auditing, Ethical, Forensic Accounting and Investigation, Internal, Valuation and Social Audit Standards.

The fifth edition of the progress report is unveiling the advancement of the UDIN in 2023-24. During the reference period, the members have generated a total of around 1.7 Crore UDINs, which highlights its importance and total generation of UDINs have crossed the mark of 6 crores which is indeed a significant achievement.

On this note, I wish that this concept brings many more recognitions in the future as well.



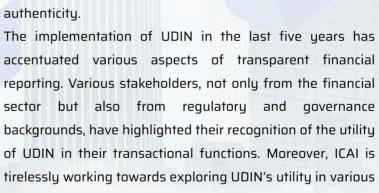
VICE- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CA. Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal

Vice-President, ICAI

unexplored domains.

Establishing a climate of trust, transparency, accountability, creating financial stability and ensuring sustainable growth are some of the main objectives enshrined in the various endeavors of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). The initiative to introduce the innovative concept of **UDIN** in **2019** has been applauded and embraced by stakeholders. UDIN began creating its niche in the accounting ecosystem since its inception, and its efficacy and effectiveness have traversed beyond the bounds with the passage of time. It is now widely recognized as a seal of authenticity.



This report, being the 5th Annual Report of UDIN, unleashes its growth trajectory during the reference period, namely, 2023–24. During this period, the members have generated a total of around 1.7 crore UDINs, highlighting their effectiveness in bringing transparency and accountability to the financial ecosystem in India.

I hope that the UDIN Directorate achieves great accomplishments in the times to come.



CONVENOR's MESSAGE



CA. (Dr.) Raj Chawla Convenor, **UDIN** Directorate

The Annual Report 2023-24 for the UDIN, is about presenting the instrument of quaranteeing transparency, financial prudence and institutional trust in the system of accounting governance. UDIN, as an instrument, is a timely response to facilitate the accountancy profession in favour of independence, integrity and excellence in the profession. While issues relating to transparent financial reporting certainly have an ethical dimension, they are also hard-wired to the very functioning of our economies. The purpose of ICAI's initiative like UDIN is precisely to create an environment of trust, transparency and accountability necessary for obtaining long-term investment, financial stability and sustainable growth.

I am enthralled to observe that the UDIN has progressed into leaps and bounds in the short span of five years since its beginning; I am, however, hopeful to see the UDIN to scale new heights in the coming years.

During this year, UDIN has marked its presence beyond the institutional members and has made its presence felt by the other intuitions of governance.

I wish the officials of the UDIN Directorate a great year ahead with expectations to bring many more recognitions to the UDIN as also to the Institute.

DEPUTY CONVENOR's MESSAGE



CA. Dayaniwas Sharma Deputy Convenor, **UDIN** Directorate

The power of CA Profession may be due to a concentration of technical knowledge and expertise and accounting professionals are seen to be technical experts. Whether or not a profession is regarded as an institution of control, the level of knowledge that professions encompass in society and therefore the power which goes with that knowledge means that developing further understanding of professional acumen and innovation is a valid area for further research.

UDIN is one of the landmark reforms of ICAI and as foreseen, has gradually emerged as one of the superlative governmentalities that the agencies of the financial governance have embraced with open arms.

This is the fifth Annual Report of the UDIN encompassing the voyage of its growth through the numerical metaphor.

I congratulate the office of the UDIN Directorate for meticulously presenting various statements on the basis of the UDIN data during the reporting year. I wish them great success for the years to come.

COMPOSITION OF THE **UDIN DIRECTORATE 2023-24**

CONVENOR



CA. (Dr.) Rai Chawla

DEPUTY CONVENOR



CA. Dayaniwas Sharma

MEMBERS



CA. Vishal Doshi



CA. Durgesh Kabra



Hukamichand Khandelwal



CA. Purushottamlal CA. Mangesh Pandurang Kinare Savla



CA. Priti Paras



CA. Piyush Sohanrajji Chhaied



CA. Umesh Ramnarayan Sharma



CA. Prasanna Kumar D



CA. Rajendra



CA. Cotha S. Srinivas



CA. Sripriya K



CA. Sushil Kumar Goual



CA. (Dr.) Debashis



Agarwal



CA. Rohit Ruwatia CA. Abhay Kumar Chhajed



CA. (Dr.) Anuj Goyal



CA. Guan Chandra CA. Prakash



Sharma



CA. Kemisha



CA. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal



CA. Hans Rai Chugh



CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda



CA. (Dr.) Sanjeev Kumar Singhal

ABOUTICAL

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament, viz. The Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 (Act No.XXXVIII of 1949) for regulation and development of the profession of Chartered Accountancy in the country. The Institute, functions under the administrative supervision of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The ICAI is the largest accountancy body in the world, with a strong tradition of service to the Indian economy in public interest.

The affairs of the ICAI are managed by a Council in accordance with the provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988. The Council constitutes of 40 members of whom 32 are elected by the Chartered Accountants and remaining 8 are nominated by the Central Government generally representing the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Securities and Exchange Board of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance and other stakeholders.

Over a period of time the ICAI has achieved recognition as a premier accounting body not only in the country but also globally, for maintaining highest standards in technical, ethical areas and for sustaining stringent examination and education standards.

Since 1949, the profession has grown leaps and bounds in terms of members and student base.

ICAI'S VISION 2030

ICAI aims at harnessing the opportunities and addressing the challenges presented by the rapidly changing environment so that, by 2030, ICAI becomes:

World's **Leading accounting body**, a regulator and developer of **trusted and independent professionals** with **world class competencies** in accounting, assurance, taxation, finance and business advisory services.

ICAI'S MISSION STATEMENT

ICAI SETS OUT ITS MISSION AS

ICAI will leverage **technology and infrastructure** and partner with its stakeholders to:

Impart world class education, training and professional development opportunities to create global professionals

Develop an **independent and transparent regulatory mechanism** that keeps pace with the changing times

Ensure adherence to highest ethical standards

Conduct **cutting edge research and development** in the areas of accounting, assurance, taxation, finance and business advisory services

Establish ICAI members and firms as Indian multi-national service providers

UDIN... SEAL OF AUTHENTICATION

Chartered Accountancy, the profession, is characterised by the financial custodianship of the ecosystem. The Chartered Accountancy is bestowed with the inheritance of financial prudence as a service to the nation with great attentiveness, vision, perspicacity and providence. In continuation of the bequest, the present generation of the Chartered Accountants are obligated to carry out the responsibilities with absolute equanimity.

The Establishments, Manufacturing Industry and the Governments reckon with the affirmation and verification extended by the Chartered Accountants for reverberating financial accounting, delineate and effective financial affairs. Chartered Accountants (CAs) with their apt acumen evince excellent services that are eventually put to use in the economy. They professionally discharge their obedience with alacrity, sovereignty and perseverance.

Sometimes, non-CAs misrepresent them and authenticate documents as CAs thereby misleading the stakeholders. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has been playing a pioneering role in steering the Indian economy successfully throughout all the newer reforms and legislations being brought by the Government from time to time.

The ICAI, as a part of its role in aiding proactive process towards partner in nation building and for better governance and regulation for the very first time in the world came out with an innovative concept of Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN). It is contemplated that UDIN Directorate will emerge as a pivotal instrument for Regulatory and Monitoring mechanisms for effective compliances.





NEED FOR UDIN

The concept of UDIN is an endeavor of the ICAI as a universal verification mechanism for ascertaining the authenticity of the documents signed by Chartered Accountants. Further, UDIN is an important step in bringing transparency and combating malpractices of impersonation as CAs in business and industry. In other words, therefore, the essence and justification of the provenance of UDIN among others, may be covered in section 26 of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 (hereinafter Act), which reads as under:

Sec26(1). Unqualified persons not to sign documents

The purpose of ICAI's initiatives like of UDIN is precisely to create an environment of trust, transparency and accountability necessary for obtaining long-term investment, financial stability and sustainable growth.

With a view to ensure public trust in financial reporting, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) introduced

> the concept of Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN) and made it mandatory for various certificates and audits with effect from various dates in 2019.

KEY BENEFITS



Gives identity to every document certified by a Chartered Accountant.

Seal of Authentication on documents signed by genuine Chartered Accountant.





Anytime and anywhere online verification of documents bearing UDIN by Regulators and stakeholders.

Message alerts to the verifier in case the UDIN is revoked after its verification.







MILESTONES

OF UDIN

2011

ICAI introduced UDIN on

UDINs were generated.

voluntarily basis which comprised

of 32 characters and approx. 7500

However, It could not proceed

further due to various reasons

2018

PD Committee decided to implement UDIN with revised and enhanced feature

The Council of ICAI at its 374th Meeting held during 21st to 24th March 2018 decided to Implement UDIN on recommendatory basis with effect from 1st July, 2018

In the 379th Meeting of Council held during 17th to 18th Dec, 2018, it was decided to make UDIN mandatory for every full time practicing Chartered Accountant.

2016

The Professional
Development (PD) Committee
decided to re-work on the
concept of UDIN.

2019

UDIN was made mandatory in following phases

For all Certifications w.e.f. 1st Feb. 2019

For all GST & Tax Audit Reports w.e.f. 1st April, 2019

For all other Audit, Assurance and Attestation functions w.e.f. 1st July, 2019

2023

Implementation of the 420th Council decision

Restricting revocation of the UDINs to 48 hours

Archive UDINs after one year of their generation to ease off the load on the server

2022

In 408th meeting of the Council held on 3rd - 4th February, 2022, decided to enable the provision for generation of UDIN by legal heir, in case of death of Sole Proprietor/Individual Practitioner, and generation of UDIN by nominated partner, in case of death of firm's partner.

202

Alignment of time limit of generation of UDIN within 60 Days of signing the documents, in line with SQC-1 and SA 230, w.e.f 17th Sep, 2021

2015

Request was received from Indian Banks' Association for Unique Number on documents signed by CAs because of fraud done by non CAs.

2017

PD Committee explored various options like UDIN, Barcode System, e-paper etc. for verifying the authenticity of the documents.

UDIN-FROM CHALLENGES TO SOLUTIONS

PROBLEMS

SOLUTIONS



Impersonation of CAs by Non-CAs misrepresenting themselves as CA Members. Registered CAs based on certain key fields can generate UDIN.

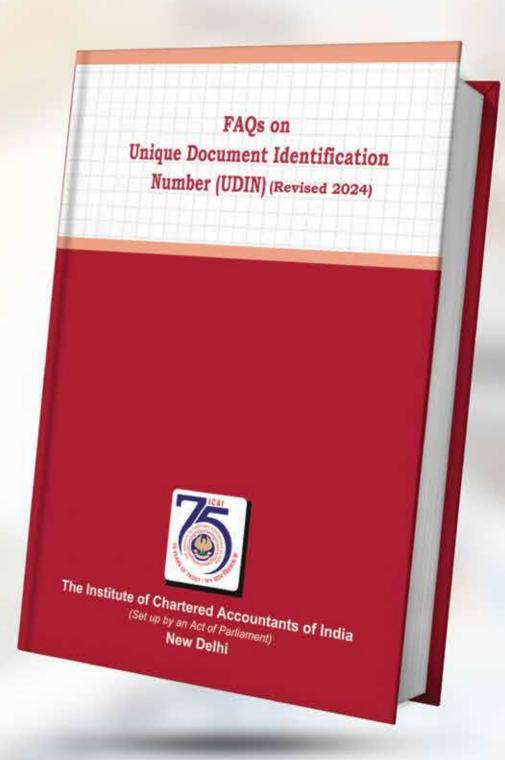


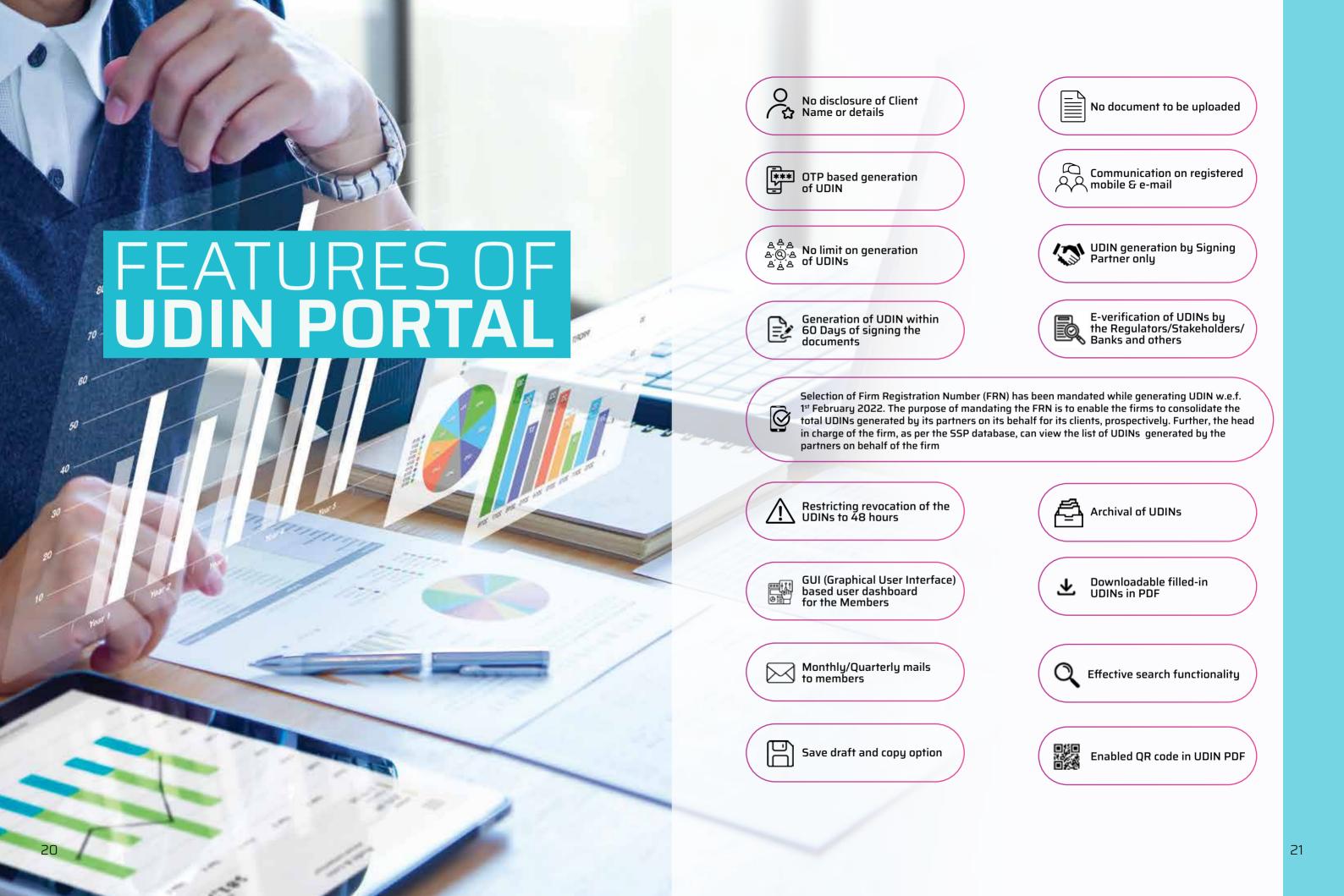
Fake financial documents/ certificates misleading to Stakeholders. Identification of every Document Certified by Chartered Accountant.



Hampering the credibility of Chartered Accountants Online mechanism for verification of authenticity of CA documents online real time thus enhancing creditability

4TH EDITION OF **FAQS**





NATIONAL RECOGNITION

For the first time, the **Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG)** used the UDINs as one of the elements for the purpose of empanelment of CA firms/LLPs by them for the year 2023-24.

Hon'ble Comptroller and Auditor General of India Sh.

Rajiv Mehrishi on UDIN at 69th Platinum Jubilee Annual Function of ICAI on 4th February 2019 -"I was very impressed when I learned about the

"I was very impressed when I learned about the Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN) because that really protects every member of profession from being defrauded by means of copying of their signatures or seal. All in all, I would not like to repeat all the activities and outcomes that the ICAI has been achieving over the last few decades under the very able and guiding leadership but I must say that without doubt it has now outshone its mother Institute, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales".

Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) authorities of many states have already included a column for mentioning UDIN in the certificates/forms issued by CAs. *CG-RERA* approached the UDIN Directorate in Oct, 2023 to provide an API to verify the UDINs on a real-time basis for their usages.

Department of Telecommunications, Office of the Principal Controller of Communication Accounts, Kolkata has conveyed that while reviewing and assessing the Documents submitted by ISPs (Internet Service providers) the department has benefited immensely using UDIN – an initiative of ICAI.

Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Government of India approached the UDIN Directorate, for placing systematic reliance on UDIN to assess the veracity of the information certified by Chartered Accountants in the prescribed format for the empanelment of the news agencies based on circulation and rates. The certified information by a Chartered Accountant becomes a basis for empanelment of the news agencies.

Ministry of Corporate Affairs had appreciated the initiative of ICAI for bringing this concept of UDIN which will eradicate the practice of bogus certificates and save various regulators, banks etc. from being misled.

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has highly appreciated the concept of UDIN which will enable the regulators to easily verify the authenticity of the documents certified by CAs and have mandated the validation of the UDINs in all the IT forms and Tax Audit Reports filed by CAs at the e-filing portal.

CBDT in response to our representation dated 12th May 2021, has provided the facility of bulk updation of UDIN at the e-filing portal for all the IT forms including 15 CB forms.

Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has communicated to all the Banks to Impress for UDIN in all certificates certified by CAs submitted to them.

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has included column for mentioning UDIN in their forms issued by CAs.

Various **Government Departments** and stakeholders have been actively utilizing the services of UDIN Portal to verify the authenticity of the documents.

Various **State Governments** have mandated mentioning UDIN in Form II (for judging financial capability) submitted by the bidders participating in their tender process. They have also been verifying the authenticity of the documents received by them from UDIN Portal.



Expression of Interest for Adoption of UDIN by Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria: A meeting with the delegation from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICA Nigeria) was held on 18th October 2023, to discuss the process and protocols for implementation of UDIN in Nigeria.

Expression of Interest for Adoption of UDIN by National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA), Tanzania: A delegation from National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA), Tanzania held a couple of meetings with UDIN Directorate in the months of February and April, 2023 to discuss the process and protocols for implementation of UDIN in Tanzania.

The 21st World Congress Of Accountants (WCOA) held in Mumbai during 18th-21st November, 2022, exclusively discussed the significance, impact and consequences of the UDIN for safeguarding the interest of the profession among others under the theme namely, Robust Regulatory Framework. The panelists impressed upon the uniqueness of the UDIN as also its being one of the pivotal instruments of institutional governance.

3rd meeting of the Task Force to implement UDIN in SAFA Member Bodies was held on 22nd June 2021.

Presentation of UDIN at 11th Annual General Meeting of Asian Oceanic Standards Setters Group (AOSSG) in November 2019 at Goa.

Presentation of UDIN to IFAC Council during International Networking Meet organized by British Columbia, Vancouver, Chapter of ICAI in November, 2019.

ICAI heads the SAFA Task Force to implement the UDIN in SAFA Member Bodies and had 1st Meeting on 29th July, 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

TRADEMARK **& COPYRIGHT**

The acronym "UDIN' has been registered under the Trademarks Act, 1999 with effect from March 15, 2019 in the name of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India under the seal of Registrar of Trade Marks dated September 7, 2019. Institute has obtained Copyright for UDIN on February 9, 2021.



STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

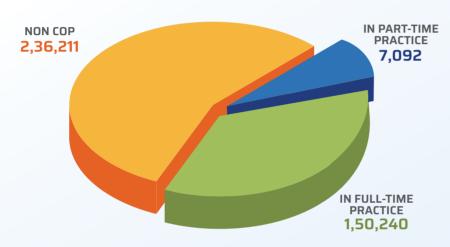
UNVEILING TRENDS, NUMBERS AND INSIGHTS



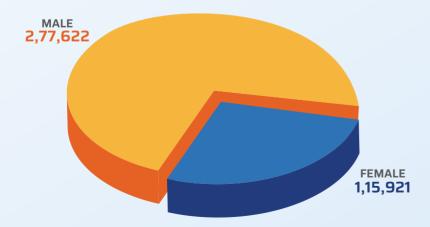
PANORAMIC VIEW MEMBERS & UDINS

1. ICAI MEMBERSHIP AT A GLANCE (Till Jan, 24)

Total: 3,93,543

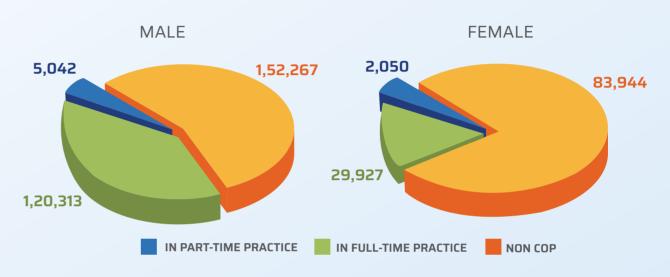


2. ICAI MEMBERSHIP - A GLANCE - BASED ON GENDER (Till Jan, 24)



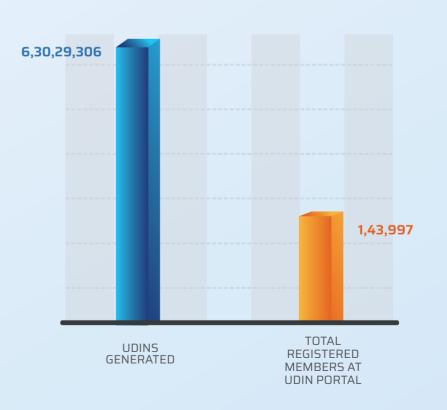
Source: Self Service Portal

3. ICAI MEMBERSHIP - A GLANCE - GENDER-WISE MEMBERS' STATUS OF PRACTICE (Till Jan, 24)



Source: Self Service Portal

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF UDINs GENERATED (Till Jan, 24)



UDIN ANALYSIS

(DATA RANGE OF UDINs: JAN-DEC, 2023)

5. TOTAL UDINS GENERATED IN THE YEAR 2023

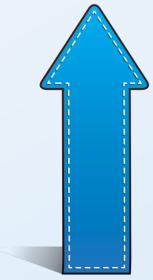




6. HIGHEST UDINS GENERATED IN A SINGLE DAY IN THE YEAR 2023



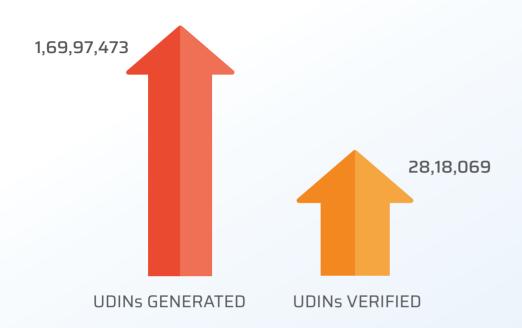
UDINS GENERATED ON 29TH SEP 2023



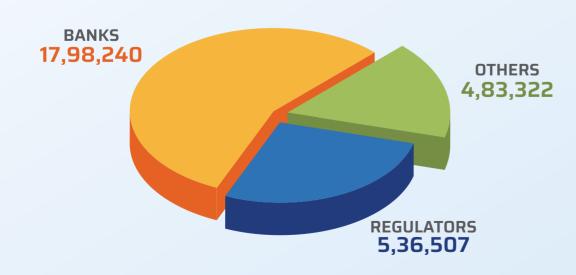
7. TIME SPAN IN WHICH UDINS WERE GENERATED IN THE YEAR 2023



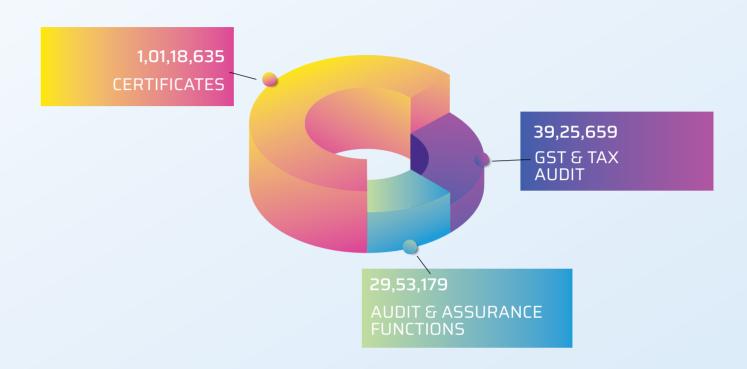
8. UDINs GENERATED V/S UDINs VERIFIED BY BANKS, REGULATORS & OTHERS IN THE YEAR 2023



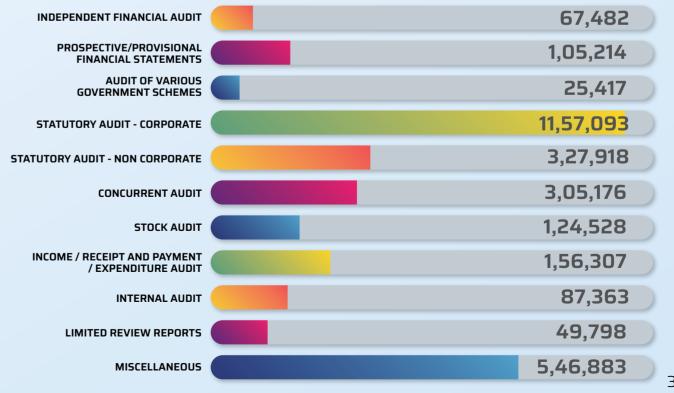
9. TOTAL NO. OF UDINS VERIFIED - BANKS, REGULATORS & OTHERS IN THE YEAR 2023



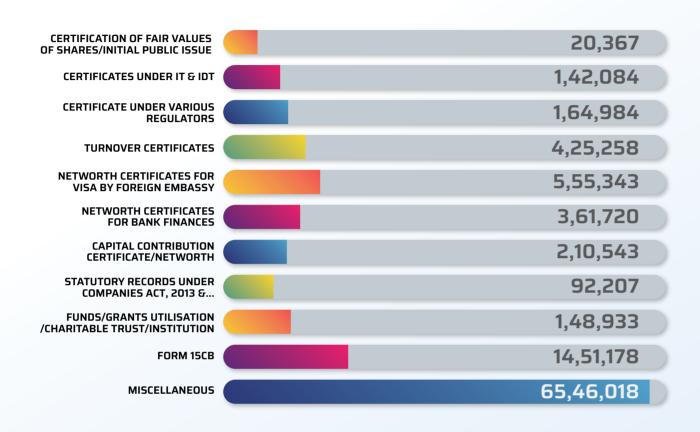
10. CATEGORY-WISE UDINS GENERATED IN THE YEAR 2023



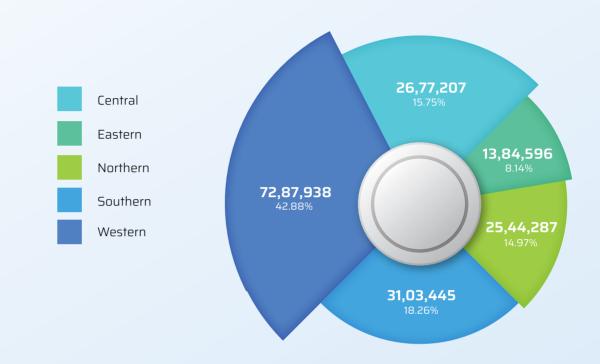
11. SUB-CATEGORY WISE UDINS GENERATED UNDER AUDIT & ASSURANCE FUNCTIONS IN THE YEAR 2023



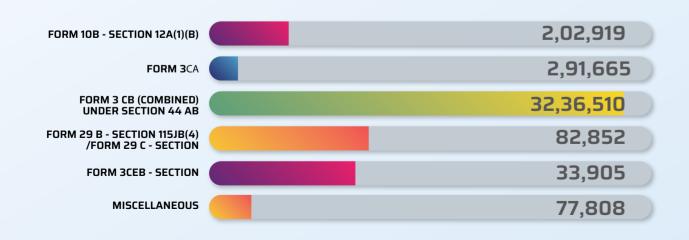
12. SUB-CATEGORY WISE UDINS GENERATED UNDER CERTIFICATES IN THE YEAR 2023



14. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED IN THE YEAR 2023



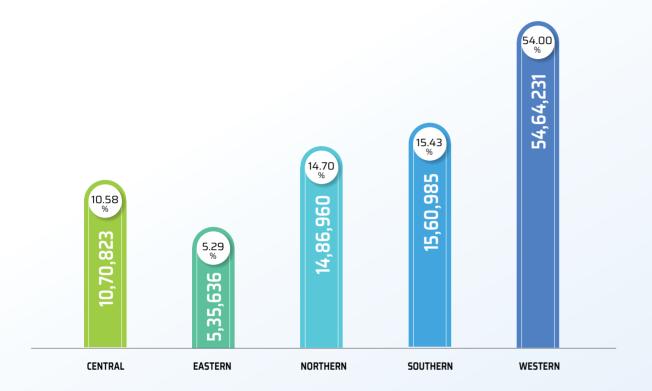
13. SUB-CATEGORY WISE UDINS GENERATED UNDER GST & TAX AUDIT IN THE YEAR 2023



15. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED FOR AUDIT & ASSURANCE FUNCTIONS IN THE YEAR 2023



16. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED FOR CERTIFICATES IN THE YEAR 2023



17. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED FOR GST & TAX AUDIT IN THE YEAR 2023



PROGRESSIVE STRIDES OF UDINS

(DATA RANGE OF UDINs: JAN-DEC)

18. TRENDS OF MEMBERS OPTING FOR PRACTICE DURING 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023

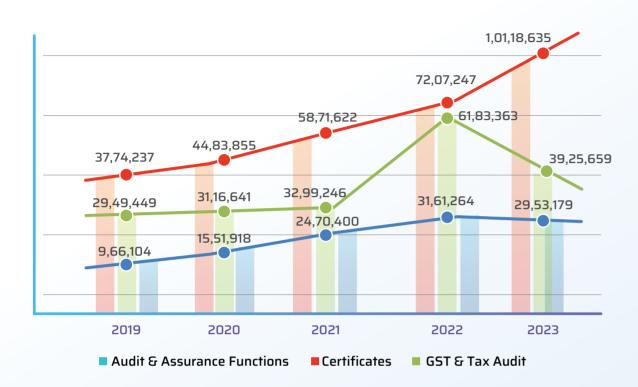


19. TRENDS OF MEMBERS REGISTERING AT THE UDIN PORTAL VIS-À-VIS UDINS GENERATED DURING 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023



■ Total Members registered at UDIN Portal ■ UDINs Generated by Registered Members

20. YEAR-WISE TRENDS OF UDINS GENERATED DURING 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023



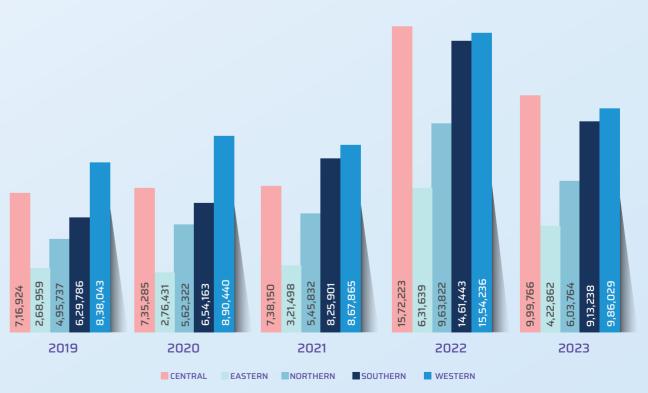
21. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED FOR AUDIT & ASSURANCE FUNCTIONS DURING 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023



22. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED FOR CERTIFICATES DURING 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023



23. REGION-WISE UDINS GENERATED FOR GST & TAX AUDIT DURING 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023



MEMORY LANE

Meeting with delegation from National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA), Tanzania on 21th February, 2023 at ICAI, New Delhi.



CA. (Dr.) Raj Chawla, Convenor, UDIN Directorate, CA. Dayaniwas Sharma, Deputy Convenor, UDIN Directorate and Mr. Dismas Peter Albert, ICT Officer (ICT issues) (NBAA), and team have attended the meeting on 21st February, 2023

Meeting with Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India on 27th February, 2023 at ICAI, New Delhi.



CA. (Dr.) Raj Chawla, Convenor, UDIN Directorate, CA. Dayaniwas Sharma, Deputy Convenor, UDIN Directorate, CA. Prasanna Kumar D, Central Council Member along with representatives of UDIN Directorate and CBC team had attended the meeting 27th February, 2023 at ICAI Bhawan, New Delhi

Meeting with Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICA Nigeria) on 18th October, 2023



CA. (Dr.) Raj Chawla, Convenor, UDIN Directorate, with team and Mr. Fadele Adetoyese and Ms. Yemisi Adedokun, Directorate of Technical and Education (ICAN) with team from the ICA Nigeria had attended the meeting on 18th October, 2023

Meeting with Chhattisgarh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (CG-RERA) on 10th November, 2023



CA. (Dr.) Raj Chawla, Convenor, UDIN Directorate, with team and Dr. Anupriya Mishra, Registrar, with team from the CG-RERA, have attended the meeting on 10th November, 2023

ICAI PRESENCE



UDIN Directorate
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
'ICAI Bhawan', Indraprastha Marg, New Delhi - 110002, INDIA