

An open Letter to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi  
Request for postponement of CA Exams scheduled in May'2024

29 March 2024

Dear Modiji,

Pranaam!!

At the outset, I heartily and with full gratitude congratulate you on the brilliant completion of the second term of yours with enormous success and dream come true for many Indians.

Be it consecration, Pran Pratishtha ceremony of Ram Mandir, historic landing of Chandrayan-3 at south pole of the Moon or with reaching at 40<sup>th</sup> Rank in Global Innovation index. The list is endless.

Every new day is filled with lots of faith, sense of versatility to do something new, achieve something big and keep working towards betterment of the nation.

From 2014 till date, I feel proud to be part of this history, where I see something that was unbelievable or impossible for fact, turning to be true & getting done and contributing towards the nation. Huge!!

Sir, one of the impossible tasks that got crystallized in your regime is having more educational institutes and bringing education to the door step of each family. Be it schools, digital learning systems, Skill India or having many more IIM and management institutes. Now a youngster has more options to pick and chose for his career and get better livelihood rather than being dependent on west influenced jobs and opportunities.

Here, I would like to draw your kind attention to one of the premier autonomous bodies of the India, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, "ICAI".

ICAI has more than 4 lacs registered Chartered Accountant "CA" members who either through jobs or through practice is partnering in the growth of the nation. CA have played pivotal role in penetration of reforms of central government through education and implementation of policies at ground level by reaching out to common people.

The best part of the CA course is the youngsters who come from lower income slabs find it accessible and study with full vigor. I myself come from one such humble background and proud to be CA and able to serve the nation in capacity I can.

The CA exams, are known worldwide to be one of the toughest courses and many youngsters do not join CA exams, for the fear of failing these exams. The exam attempts are not uncommon in CA exams. Many students keep appearing year after year but don't clear the exam. The passing percentage in CA exams are one of the lowest as compared to other courses.

This May 2024, 4 lacs ICAI students are scheduled to appear for exams. These exams are coinciding with the Lok Sabha Election dates. The exams will start from 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 and scheduled to end 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

The dates are directly coinciding with elections dates even if at phase level, they may not be impacting all students at same time.

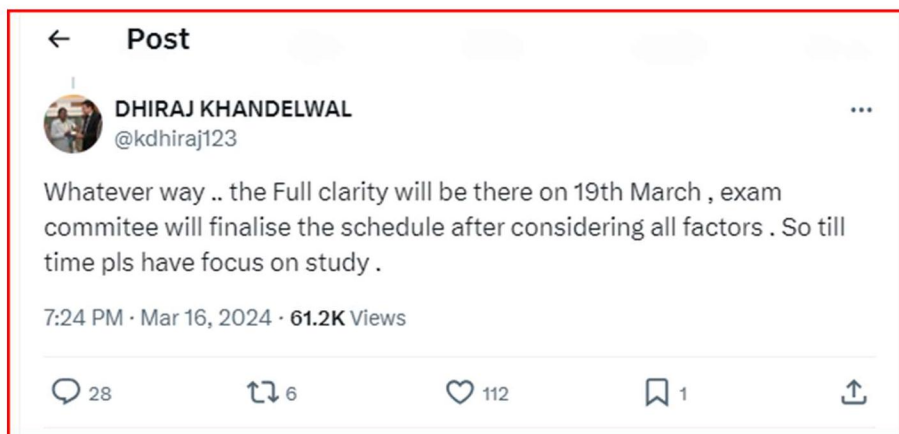
Be it May 2004, May 2009, May 2014 or May 2019. Whenever the Lok Sabha elections dates were announced, the CA exams, scheduled in those days were postponed and fresh dates were announced. There may not be only one reason for postponing the exams, that the exam centers are occupied but many other reasons as well, to avoid any conflict between two big events.

This year also, since the election was due, like every Indian, CA students were mentally prepared for the exam dates falling in last week of May 2024 and completion in 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June 2024.

Though the phenomena at ICAI is to announce dates as usual every year like ritual, and then post announcement of dates by Election Commission, formally postpone the exam dates and announce fresh dates.

This year also, after announcement of election dates, the ICAI positively posted on social media for postponement of exams.

CA Dhiraj Khandelwal is sitting central council member of ICAI.



However, for reasons, best known to ICAI Examination committee, except two dates, other exam dates were left untouched.

### **This action of ICAI has left students in dilemma.**

The elections in India are a festival of democracy. The elections are celebrated with full fun and fare by rich and poor, young and old.

There is lot of campaigning, meetings, celebrations already happening in India. Celebration for nominations, choice of constituency, region, place, state, merits and culture and many more. We have candidates campaigning with full vigor.

Amidst all this, there is also stringent checks, protocols and resistance placed by Election Commission of India along with other government agencies in every nook of corner of cities, metros and other places which may include sensitives areas as well.

Since the exams in India are treated as an exceptional activity by each family whose child is appearing for exam, lot of precaution and care is taken, so that the child appears for the exam with full comfort and is able to write his exams well and clear those with flying colours. For CA exams similarly, the parents take

due care and make adequate preparations for the child so that they appear for exams well and remain undeterred by the surroundings and circumstances.

The expectations set on youngsters for clearing the exam and get a well-paid job in future not only creates a pressure on child but also many times leads to depression and anxiety. The situation aggravates when the child fails to write the paper well. To mitigate all this, many CA students chose metro cities or towns which has proper infrastructure and facility for them to appear for the exam. These centers are far away for their actual place of residence or village and parents, with the dream of better future allows the child to relocate.

Now there are many challenges when exams in May and elections in May come together.

We all are aware of pre-poll violence and post poll violence that keep happening in the country by the power mongers and their supporters.

There may be challenges in the areas, strict resistance on movements, bus/transport movements restricted and many more issues.

I am sharing few tweets here, which shows that all will not be well, when the dates coincide.

These tweets are self-explanatory about the various challenges that may be faced by CA students during exams.



**CA Anupam Sharma** ✓  
@caanupam7



CA Dheeraj Sir @kdhiraj123 you belong to Maharashtra and the People of your state including CA Students of Solapur, Madha, Sangli, Satara, Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Kolhapur, Raigad, Baramati, Osmanabad, Latur, and Hatkanangle will cast their votes in the third phase on May 7. On May 13, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Raver, Jalna, Aurangabad, Maval, Pune, Shirur, Ahmednagar, Shirdi, and bees will vote in the fourth phase of the polls. On 5 & 11 May, no public road transport was available for CA Students, It is acknowledged by CCMs that public transport will not be available on the 5th and 11th May 2024 yet the exams will not be postponed. What I say about the above situation?? Even after the direction of the Respected President, the exam committee is not bothering. I have not received a single word of reply. What is going on in ICAI? I can't understand now. I only pray to God that the CA students on the above two dates haven't faced any problems.



**Ganesh ji**  
@MemeKingGanesh

sir ye sab excuse hai, 7th ko election or 8th ko exam hai, 200 km travel krke ghar jakr vote krke kal ki exam keise attained kr payenge 8th ko? same in 14th exam. or sir during exam centre k samne rally loud speaker hua toh keise lekh payenge? icaai soch bhi keise sakta exam leneki

1:04 PM · Mar 28, 2024 · 5,402 Views

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**Rajat Jain**  
@CACSCMARajat

EC has taken Rajasthan College and Commerce College for entire 67 days. Though our election dates weren't even clashing. I request all CA Students from Jaipur to be prepared for some other Centers for their CA exams and manage their transport in advance. Rest ICAI will take care.





**CA Nagachandra Somu**

@snagachandra



I didn't take my exams in 2019/2014. I was staying in a hostel & all hostels in Hyderabad were closed 2 days before elections. This will impact those who were preparing for exams & these problems will only be understood by those who stay in hostels

[#icaixams](#) [#caexams](#) [#caexam](#) [#icaixam](#)

10:43 AM · Mar 28, 2024 · 32.1K Views

← **Post**

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**Atul Agarwal**

@ca\_AtulAgarwal



Elections are not normal disruption. It halts everything in small cities like ours.

No transportation, no lodging, even no fooding facilities are available.

How will out station students manage?

Please listen @icai 🙏🙏🙏

[#icaixam](#)

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[#castudents](#)

9:16 PM · Mar 28, 2024 · 19.4K Views



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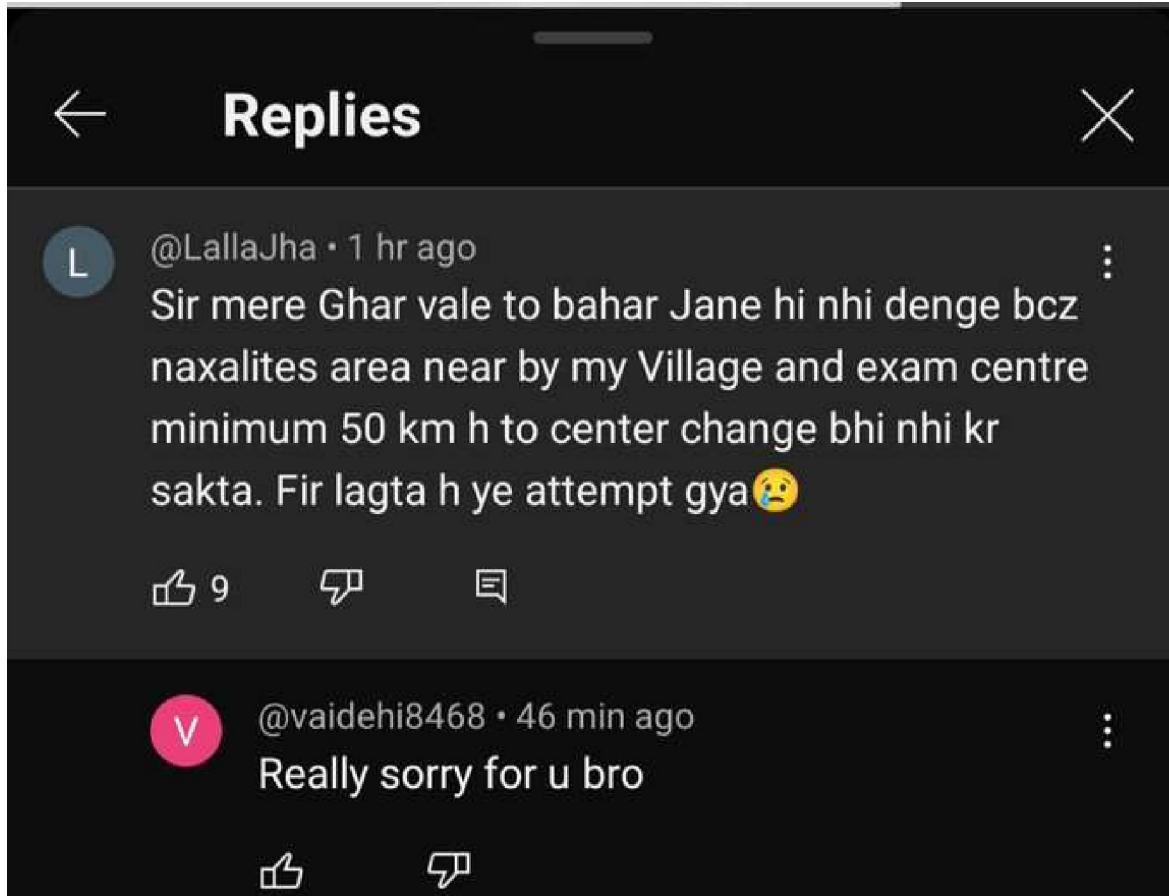


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Sir, in a country like ours, I always wonder, why the few privileged ones always put the unprivileged or under privileged in duress. The youngster with those beautiful dreams in eyes of having great future are made to run pillar and post for postponing the CA exams. Many representations, letters , meetings and request on social media has been made CA members, students and representative associations , but all has fallen on deaf ears of ICAI.



# IndiaWide Parents' Association

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Date 28/03/2024

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To,

The Chief Election Commissioner

Govt of India ,

**Subject-** To hold several Entrance and University level exams after Elections in the interest of students .

**Respected Sir,**

I would like to bring it to your kind notice that several Entrance Exams and State and Central University Exams are scheduled during the upcoming Loksabha 2024 Elections

Several students will be affected and will face lot of problems in terms of transport , accommodation and also will face problems during exam as there could be protest , rallies , road blockages , traffic jam and even riots due to which students may not be able to appear for exam.

I therefore request you to kindly intervene and coordinate with UGC, NTA and all the Universities and examination conducting bodies to hold the exam after elections in the larger interest of students .

Yours Sincerely,

Adv.Anubha Shrivastava Sahai

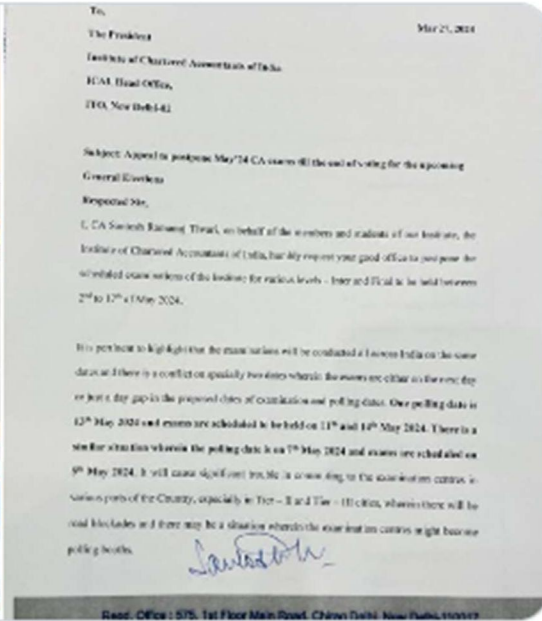
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CA Santosh Ramanuj Tiwari 🇮🇳  
@FCA\_Santosh

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Have met with Nanda Sir, VP of ICAI & had a long discussion about postponement of #caexams, submitted representations too, they hv to take Inter exam in Sept, postponement will impact other plannings, so it will not be feasible, Kindly get back to study 🙏🙏 #icaixams #castudents



8:21 PM · Mar 27, 2024 · 223.4K Views

The people at the examination committee at ICAI, have not even provided a simple grievance redressal system to students. The calls go unanswered, the branches and regional offices staff are clueless and respond in denial and sometimes rude enough.

Many CA Firms have not granted exam leave on time to students with calculation that exams will be postponed like earlier years.

Even if a student forgets all and concentrates on study, he may end up missing the exams, if the elections crowd or gathering creates a traffic jam in city restricting /limiting the movement of transport, or loudspeakers or campaigning nearby exam center is so loud, that the students may not be able to concentrate on writing exams.

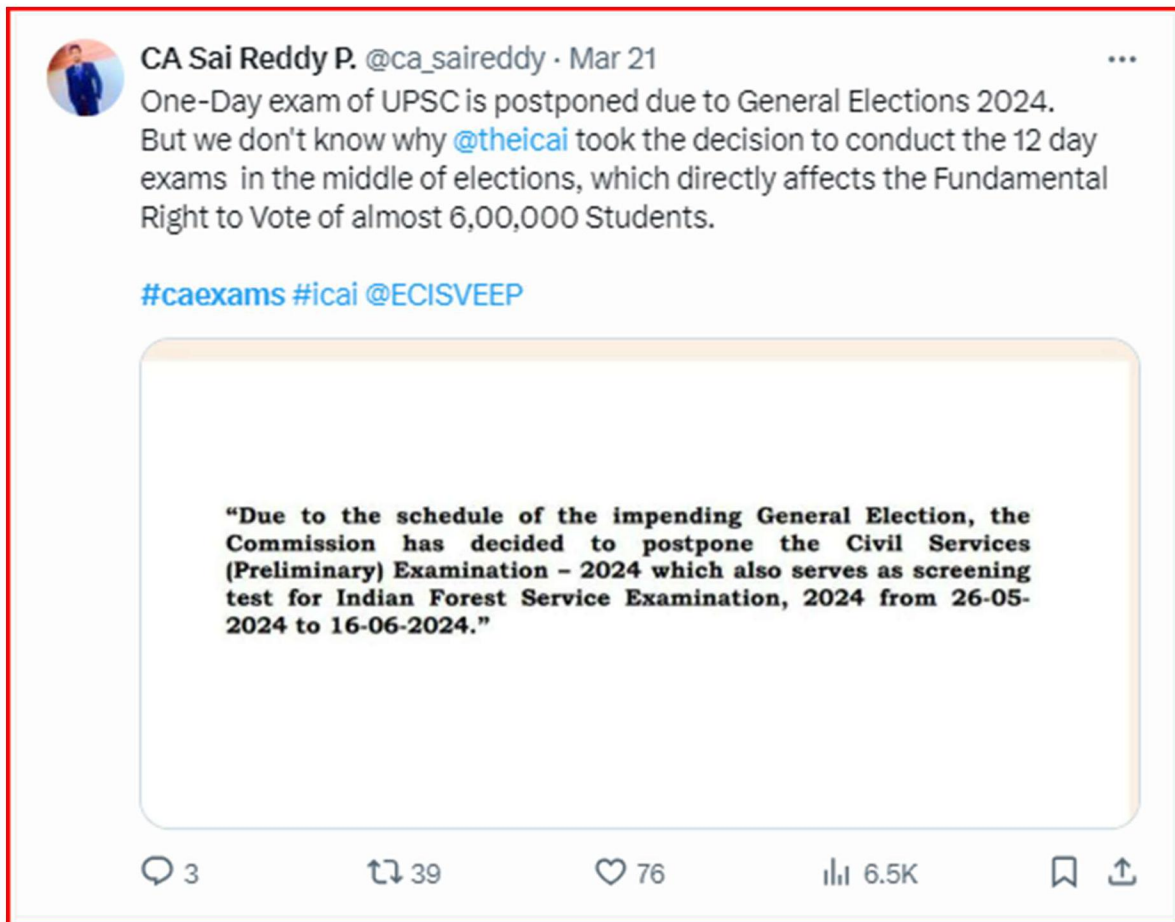


With one of the toughest courses and with limited passing results, pushing the students to such terrific situation is totally unjustified and uncalled for.

Sir, I sincerely draw your attention to the fact, that ICAI is an autonomous body and has full rights to make policy for the CA members and students, however if some policy and rules are not in interest of the CA Members and students, its imperative that such polices needs to be amended or taken back.

The President of ICAI is member of Examination board of ICAI, however, he has also left the students in grief with no response on helping to postpone the exams.

Many institutions have already postponed their exams to end of May 2024 or in June 2024.



Why is that every time, Abhimanyu needs to be thrown into the chakravuyh to fight his battle sole handed and with no proper tools.? Why can't we give a proper platform to students and help them reach their full potential and get to the top most positions in international business domain. Why this learning and education is always treated as penance and make students to walk on fire.?

Along with this, I also like to highlight that, these students will not be in position to vote and exercise their fundamental rights of choosing their best candidate as the booth where votes will be casted and the center for exam will at two different locations resulting into hours of travel. So, a student will always be under challenge whether to exercise his voting right or to appear for exams

Yesterday


I was planned and sincerely prepared for my exams sir. I don't use social media frequently. Everyone said that dates will extend to June. So I planned accordingly for my both groups preparation. But from 19th March onwards it was disturbing and disappointing situation sir. ICAI is completely ignoring the request of students sir.

In my state election will be over by April 19th. But I don't have any exam centres in my city. I need to travel to another city for 6 exams. Distance from my city to another city: 60kms approx  
For up and down 120 km I need to travel daily

8:33 AM

← Post

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 CA Chirag Chauhan ✓  
@CAChirag

2 million students will not be able to Vote in #Election2024 have different exams in April & May across India

The #ElectionCommission @ECISVEEP should come out with policies or guidelines for exams during elections. More than 1 million are first-time voters!

8:38 AM · Mar 28, 2024 · 66.7K Views

32 364 1.1K 12

I as a professional, do not align to such idea of doing daily penance at such early age.

The time is running short and every moment is precious. Any delay in decision to postpone the exams may result students losing faith in the Institution.

Sir, you are very well aware of the challenges faced by youngsters. Nothing is hidden from you. No one understands India more than you and therefore am writing this to you with folded hands to kindly instruct ICAI to postpone the CA exams and schedule them in June 2024.

Once again with full gratitude, I thank you for being there and helping Bharat to reach its fullest potential.

Sincerely yours,

Thanking you,

CA Aarchana Yadav