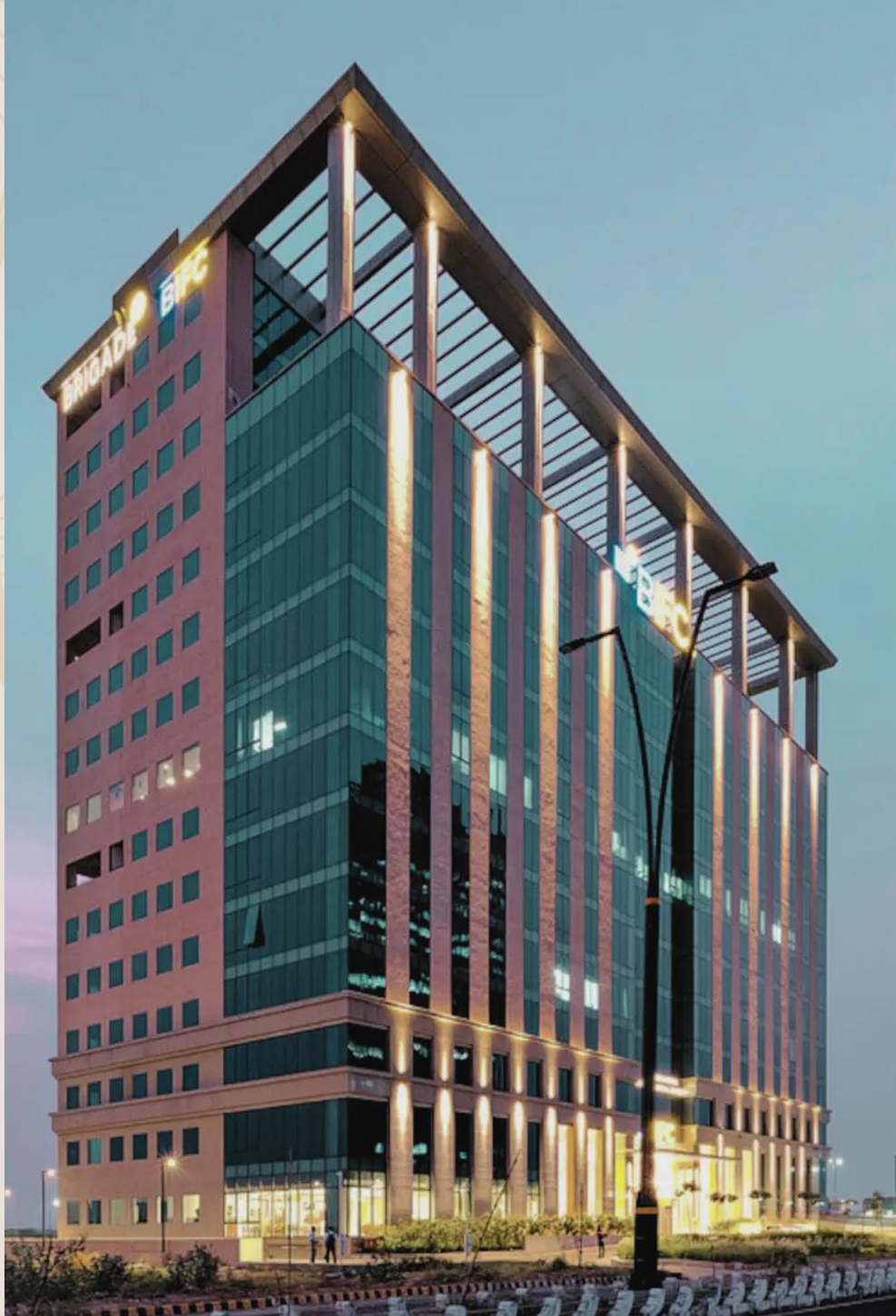
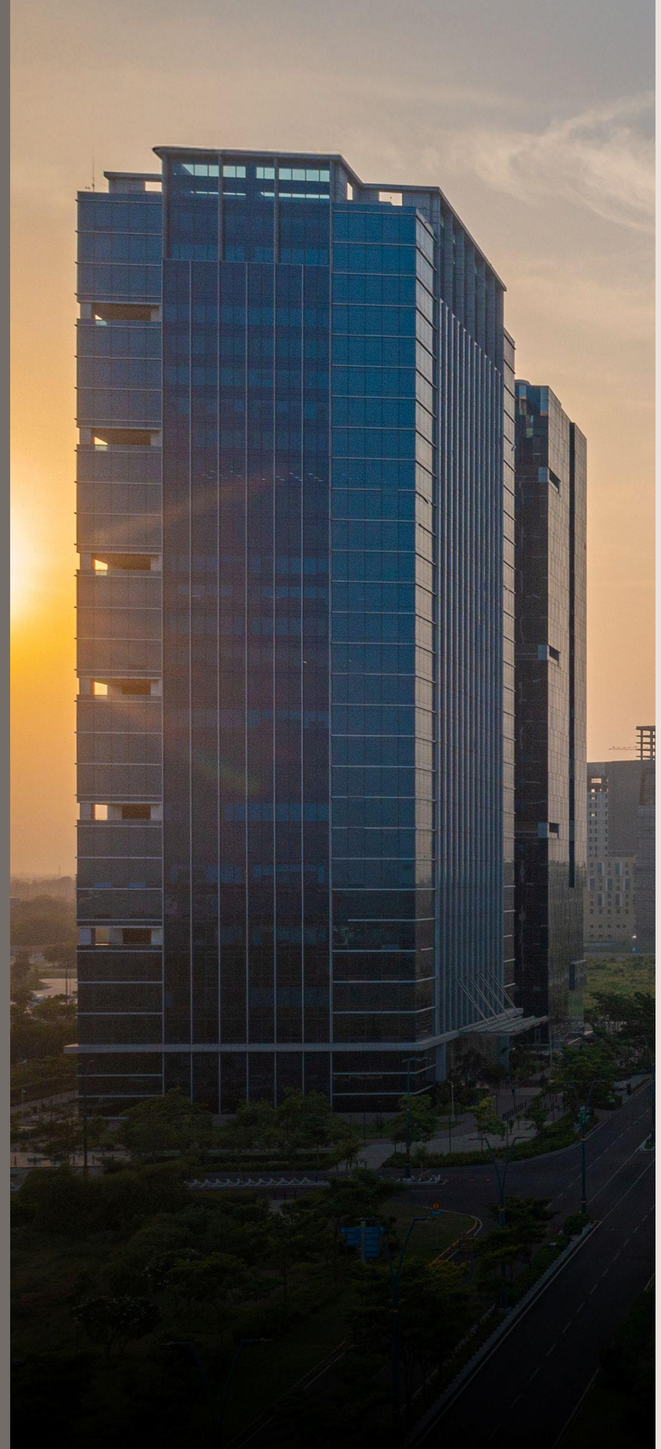
GLOBAL CAPABILITY CENTRES (GCCS):

STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN A GLOBALISED ECONOMY

Building Professional Capability for Global Integration





WHY SHOULD CAs CARE ABOUT GCCS?

- Rapid shift of **global finance** and **compliance functions** to GCCs
- Finance is no longer a support function — **it is a strategic driver**
- **Increasing demand** for globally trained accounting professionals
- Opportunity to **work on cross-border transactions without relocating**



WHAT IS A GCC?

- An **offshore unit owned by a multinational or Indian company** to **deliver centralized high-value services** (IT, finance, analytics, R&D, operations).
- From **back-office cost-center** to **strategic innovation hub**
- GCCs integrate **with parent ecosystems** for IP protection, data security, and scalability

GCC = Global finance office operating from India

GCC VS TRADITIONAL OUTSOURCING

WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY VS. THIRD-PARTY OUTSOURCING (BPO)

GCC

- Owned by the parent company
- Handles strategic and confidential functions
- Long-term capability building
- High professional trust

BPO/KPO

- Third-party service provider
- Transaction-driven tasks
- Cost-focused
- Limited strategic role

Implication for CAs: Greater responsibility, visibility, and influence.

EVOLUTION OF GCCS – WHY THIS MATTERS TO CAs?

THEN

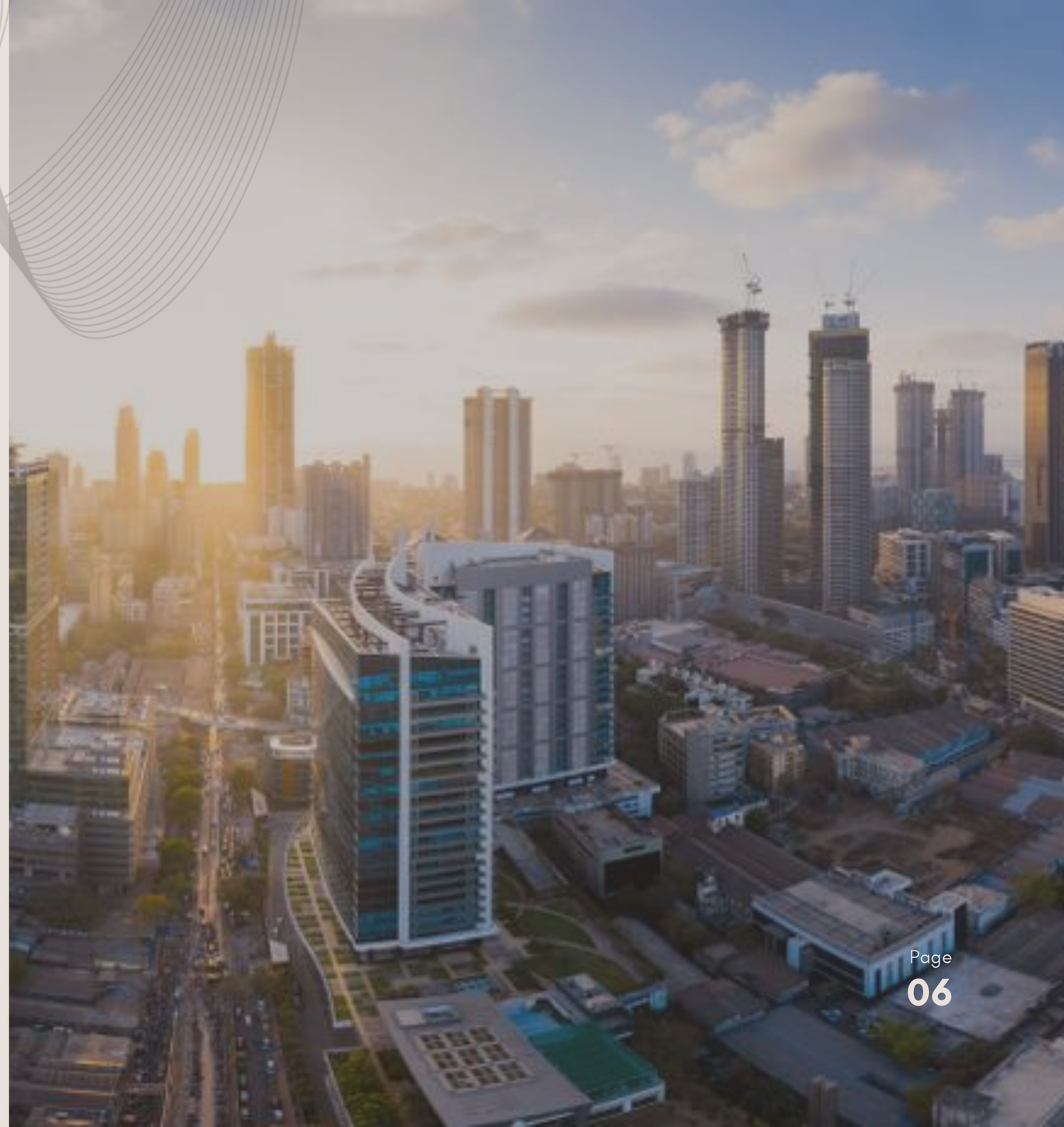
- Accounting support, Accounts Payable/Accounts Recievables, Reconciliations

NOW

- Financial controllership
- Treasury operations
- Transfer pricing
- Internal audit
- Risk management
- M&A support
- ESG reporting

WHY INDIA IS THE PREFERRED GCC DESTINATION?

- Deep pool of **finance and accounting talent**
- **Strong regulatory** and **governance** ecosystem
- **Cost-to-value advantage**
- **English-speaking professional** workforce
- **Mature outsourcing and consulting** environment

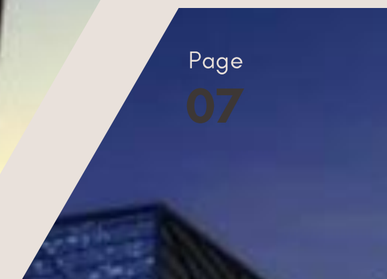


GIFT IFSC – AN ADDITIONAL STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE

- EMERGING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL HUB WITHIN INDIA
- GLOBAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK
- FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS
- INCREASING PRESENCE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS







GCC, GIC, GRCTC IN IFSCA GIFT CITY



GCC

(Global Capability Centre)

Umbrella term covering high-end professional services



GIC

(Global In-House Centre)

Captive units for global financial services (e.g., reinsurance, leasing, fund management)



GRCTC

(Global/Regional Corporate Treasury Centre)

Centralized treasury, risk, funding in IFSC

TAMIL NADU GCC POLICY – A PROACTIVE STATE-LEVEL PUSH

- Tamil Nadu: Positioning Itself as a Premier GCC Destination
- **Payroll Subsidy** for High-Paying Jobs
- Must generate at least **200 direct jobs**
- Employees must be **domiciled in Tamil Nadu**
- Operative from **April 2024 – March 2027**
- Target to support **50 GCCs**



WHERE DO CAs FIT INTO THE GCC STRUCTURE?

- **Financial reporting** (IFRS / US GAAP)
- Internal audit & internal controls
- **Direct & international taxation**
- **Transfer pricing**
- **Treasury** & cash management
- **Regulatory compliance**
- **Business finance** / FP&A

STRATEGIC ROLES EMERGING FOR CAs

- Finance business partnering
- Data-driven decision support
- Global risk advisory
- Transaction support
- Forensic and investigative audits
- Automation oversight
- Governance frameworks



WHAT DO GCCs EXPECT FROM CAs?

- Strong technical foundation
- Ability to interpret global accounting frameworks
- Business acumen beyond numbers
- Technology comfort (automation, analytics)
- Professional skepticism and ethical judgment
- Stakeholder communication skills



UPSKILLING IMPERATIVES FOR CAs



TECHNICAL EXPANSION

- IFRS / US GAAP expertise
- International taxation
- Financial modeling
- Valuation



DIGITAL READINESS

- Data analytics
- AI-enabled finance
- ERP systems (SAP, Oracle)
- Automation tools



PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Strategic thinking
- Presentation skills
- Global collaboration

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRACTICING CAs OR SMPs

- Advisory to GCC entities
- Transfer pricing certification
- Cross-border structuring
- Outsourced controllership
- Risk and compliance consulting
- Process transformation
- ESG assurance

CAREER ADVANTAGE FOR CAs IN GCCs



CHALLENGES CAs MUST PREPARE FOR

- High performance expectations
- Global timelines and accountability
- Complex regulatory environments
- Continuous technology disruption





GCCs and the Future of CA Profession

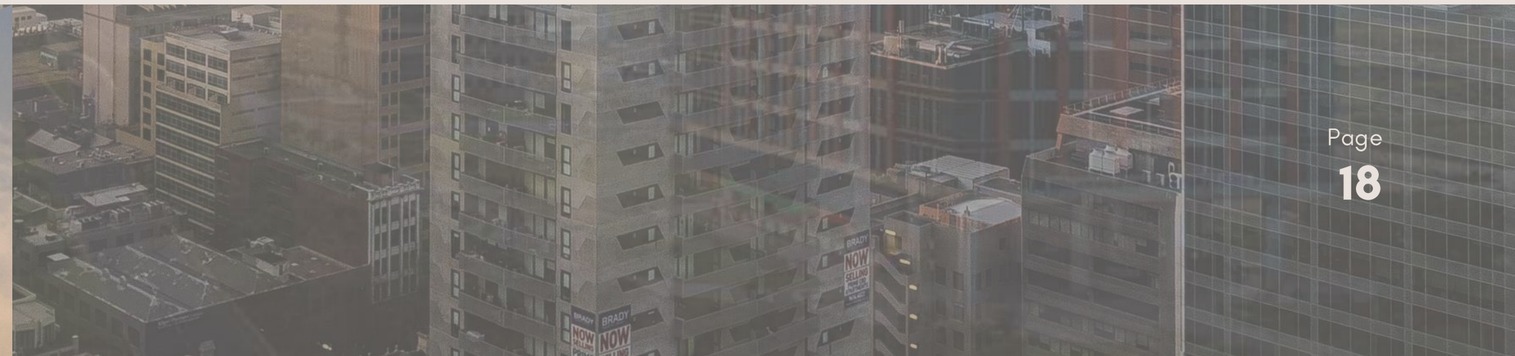
- Finance is becoming predictive, not historical
- Advisory will dominate compliance
- Specialization will outperform general practice



CLOSING THOUGHT

"The CA of the future will not just prepare financial statements — but shape global financial strategy."







THANK YOU