BALAJI K

CA Finalist

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Professional Summary

A detail-oriented and analytical CA Finalist with extensive articleship experience in statutory audit, business valuation, and statutory compliance for high-turnover PSUs and NBFCs. Proven ability to identify control weaknesses, ensure Ind AS compliance, and deliver actionable recommendations to senior management. Passionate about leveraging technology to drive efficiency, with demonstrated success in developing custom automation tools using Power Query, Power Automate, and Excel to streamline financial processes. Seeking a challenging role in a finance or consulting environment where I can apply my analytical and technical skills to solve complex business problems.

Articleship Experience

- **ARTICLED ASSISTANT | RVK SAND & ASSOCIATES**
  (Aug 2022 – Sep 2025)

  Ind AS Audit & Financial Controls (NBFC – PSU)
  - Spearheaded the first-time Ind AS statutory audit, independently developing comprehensive checklists and working papers from the ground up.
  - Identified and reported qualifications related to incorrect interest accrual methodologies as per Ind AS, ensuring accurate financial reporting.
  - Uncovered significant internal control deficiencies and recommended strengthened controls for GST compliance, interest accrual, CRAR ratio maintenance, and other RBI-mandated regulations.

  Internal Control & Process Improvement (PSU)
  - Identified critical weaknesses in inventory management due to reliance on manual records during the audit of a state-wide public distribution entity.
  - Recommended the implementation of a robust IT system and modern control procedures to senior management (including IAS officers) to mitigate risk and enhance verification accuracy.

  Business Valuation & Corporate Finance
  - Conducted complex valuations for transactions including slump sales and goodwill impairment testing as per Ind AS.
  - Applied the Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) method, rigorously validating key management assumptions for projections and determining variables such as risk-free rate, beta, and market returns.

  Taxation & Compliance
  - Represented clients in hearings before Income Tax and GST authorities.
  - Identified and advised on tax planning opportunities, particularly concerning capital gains from slump sales for corporate clients and individuals.

Projects & Automation

ITR Filing Automation Tool

Developed an open-source Excel tool using Power Query to automate Form 26AS text file conversion, streamlining data comparison for ITR filing.

Payroll Process Automation

Engineered a custom Excel tool to automate formatting and bulk upload of payroll data into Tally, eliminating manual entry.

Automated Regulatory Updates

Designed a Power Automate workflow to aggregate and deliver real-time regulatory updates (GST, Income Tax, MCA) to Microsoft Teams.

Sales Dashboard Development

Created a daily sales dashboard using Power BI to monitor and analyze region-wise sales performance for a listed company.

Technical Skills

Data Analysis & Visualization

Advanced Excel Power Query Power Pivot
Microsoft Power BI

Automation

Microsoft Power Automate

Accounting & ERP

Tally Zoho Books
Customized Accounting Software

Accounting Standards

Ind AS Proficient

Education & Qualifications

- **CA Finalist**
  The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)

- **B.Com (General) | 77%**
  Alagappa University | 2020-2023

- **CA Intermediate | First Attempt, 6 Exemptions**
  ICAI | 2022 | Group I (69%), Group II (55%)

- **CA Foundation | 82%, Pass with Distinction**
  ICAI | 2020 | First Attempt

Activities & Achievements

- Secured School First in SSLC (98%) and HSC (96%).
- Served as School Pupil Leader.
- Competed in Tennis at the District Level and attained Yellow Belt in Karate.

My Professional Portfolio

Balaji K - CA Finalist

Objective

This portfolio provides a detailed look into my key projects, technical capabilities, and problem-solving approach developed during my CA articleship. The case studies presented here are based on real-world engagements (with all client information anonymized) and demonstrate my hands-on experience in audit, valuation, and process automation.

Case Studies

Business Valuation for a Corporate Restructuring

Demonstrating analytical rigor in complex financial modeling.

Client Background: A mid-sized company in the manufacturing sector.

The Challenge: To determine the fair value of a business division for a slump sale and to conduct annual goodwill impairment testing as required by Ind AS 103.

My Approach & Actions:

- **Methodology Selection:** Chose the Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) method as the primary valuation tool due to its ability to capture future earning potential. Cross-verified the results using Net Asset Value (NAV) and Comparable Companies methods for a robust conclusion.
- **Data Collection & Analysis:** Rigorously validated management's financial projections by performing sensitivity analysis and comparing them against industry benchmarks. My process for calculating WACC involved determining beta for the non-listed entity and selecting an appropriate risk-free rate.
- **Reporting:** Consolidated all findings, assumptions, and methodologies into a comprehensive valuation report suitable for both client decision-making and statutory audit purposes.

`Financial Modeling` `Business Valuation` `Ind AS 103` `Critical Analysis` `Assumption Validation`

Ind AS Audit for an NBFC

Highlighting adaptability and technical accounting knowledge.

Client Background: A Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) in the Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) sector, specializing in power infrastructure financing.

The Challenge: The engagement required establishing audit procedures from scratch without prior precedent in the firm.

My Approach & Actions:

- **Preparation:** Took the initiative to develop a complete set of audit checklists and working paper templates tailored for an NBFC under Ind AS, focusing on financial instruments and loan portfolios.
- **Execution:** Identified that the client's interest accrual method was not fully compliant with Ind AS. I meticulously documented the deviation and calculated the financial impact.
- **Reporting & Recommendations:** Drafted the formal audit qualification related to the non-compliant interest accrual. Further, I prepared a detailed management report recommending stronger internal controls over GST, CRAR ratio calculations, and other key RBI regulations.

Results & Impact: My work ensured a rigorous audit and transparent financial statements. The management report provided a clear roadmap for improving financial controls and ensuring future compliance.

`Ind AS (Financial Instruments)` `Statutory Audit` `Process Development` `Regulatory Compliance (RBI)` `Report Writing`

Enhancing Internal Controls for a PSU

Showcasing risk assessment and strategic communication skills.

Client Background: A large PSU managing the state-wide public distribution of essential commodities with a turnover of ~₹25,000 Crores.

The Challenge: The audit was severely hampered by a complete reliance on manual inventory records, creating a high risk of misstatement or fraud and making verification difficult.

My Approach & Actions:

- **Problem Identification:** Through audit procedures, I identified and documented the significant financial and operational risks associated with the manual inventory system.
- **Recommendation & Justification:** I prepared and presented a formal recommendation to senior management. My proposal detailed how a modern, integrated IT system would not only improve auditability but also enhance operational efficiency, reduce the risk of theft, and provide real-time data for decision-making.

`Risk Assessment` `Internal Controls` `Process Improvement` `Communication`

Projects & Automation Showcase

26AS Conversion Tool

Problem: Manually comparing Form 26AS text files is tedious.
Solution: Built an Excel tool with Power Query to instantly ingest and structure the text file for analysis.

View on GitHub →

Payroll Automation for Tally

Problem: A client manually re-formatted payroll data for Tally import.
Solution: Created a macro-enabled Excel sheet to auto-convert raw data into Tally's required import format.

Automated Regulatory Feed

Problem: Keeping the team updated on regulatory changes.
Solution: Built a Power Automate flow to monitor official websites (GST, MCA) and post updates to a Microsoft Teams channel.