



**THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India**

भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान

IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

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Press Release

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Hon'ble Mr. Justice Santosh Hegde, Former Judge of Supreme Court and Lokayukta of Karnataka inaugurates 20th National Conference of Practising Company Secretaries at Bengaluru today



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Santosh Hegde, Former Judge of Supreme Court and Lokayukta of Karnataka inaugurated the 20th National Conference of Practising Company Secretaries on the theme – “Expanding dynamics of Professional Excellence” at Bengaluru today.

Justice Hegde congratulated the professional fraternity of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India for their unflinching efforts in taking forward the torch of good governance with their perseverance.

Focusing on the significance of ingraining values in daily life and conduct, Justice Hegde said, “Values are very important for the society. If Corporates too can inculcate values and ethics and understand their responsibility towards the society at large, not only the corporates but the entire nation as a whole will be benefitted”.

Emphasising upon the overarching role of Company Secretaries, Guest of Honour, **Mr. Udaya Kumar**, Managing Director & CEO, CreditAccess Grameen Limited said, “Company Secretaries have come to play expansive roles in the India Inc. Their holistic knowledge in almost every sphere of corporate activity raises them to the level of playing multifarious roles at once”.

Heading an educational institution himself, **Dr. Gururaj Karajagi**, Chairman, Academy of Creative Teaching, in his Keynote address appreciated the earnest efforts of the ICSI in updating the syllabus for the students to fall in line with the dynamic corporate and economic scenario of the nation. He also congratulated the Institute for organising events like the National Conference of Practising Company Secretaries to hone and upgrade the skill base of its members as well.

In his address, **CS Ranjeet Pandey**, President, ICSI touching upon the theme of the Conference emphasized upon the need for all the professionals especially those in practice to look beyond the confines of their existing job profiles. He urged the CS professionals to expand their work territories into newer arenas offering greater opportunity of self growth and hence contribute to the achievement of the vision of New India 2022.

Focussing on the need for self-governance while handholding the role players in national growth on the path of good governance, ICSI President thanked the regulatory bodies for instilling their faith in the professional brigade of Company Secretaries and expanding their roles in Secretarial Audit to enhance the trust and faith of stakeholders in listed entities.

Sharing his intent behind the selection of theme and sub-themes of the two day event, he informed that the 20th National Conference of PCS will deliberate on the following topics:

- Audit & Certification: Professionals' Accountability
- Start-up India: Professional Opportunities
- Artificial Intelligence vis-a-vis Role of CS
- Special Session on NCLT, etc.

Apart from a dedicated **Souvenir-cum-Backgrounder** containing theme articles, messages from persons of eminence and other interesting features, a revised edition of the publication titled '**Company Secretary in Practice – Ready Reckoner**' was also released at the mega annual event. The publication while being a Revised Edition of the 'Company Secretary in Practice – Ready Reckoner includes not only the latest amendments in the regulatory world pertaining to the activities of Company Secretaries in practice but as the name suggests is a true ready reckoner for the practising members. The idea is to provide the practising members with much needed comfort of being well acquainted and well attuned with the most recent of changes and amendments in the existing legal structure for the corporates.

The Institute also launched new initiatives for Company Secretaries in Practice under the aegis '**Unique Document Identification Number**' (UDIN). Unique Document Identification Number' (UDIN) will be mandatory w.e.f 1st October, 2019. The ICSI UDIN is a system generated alpha numeric number which provide ease of maintaining the Register of Attestation/ Certification services rendered by practicing members while preventing counterfeiting of various attestations/ certifications. The UDIN shall also ensure compliance of the Guidelines issued by the Institute with respect to ceilings on the number of the various certification / attestation services. Practicing members can generate UDIN by logging onto the ICSI UDIN portal. No document is required to be uploaded for registration. Also, stakeholders and regulators can verify the genuinity of documents signed or certified by a Company Secretary in practice by accessing this portal. Also, two dedicated portals, *i.e.*, the **PCS Portal** and the **UDIN Portal** were also launched at the event.

CS Ashish Garg, Vice President, ICSI, CS Manish Gupta, Council Member, ICSI and Chairman, PCS Committee, Nagendra Rao, Council Member, ICSI, Programme Director, CS Mohan Kumar A, Chairman, SIRC of ICSI & programme coordinator and CS Pradeep Kulkarni, Chairman Bengaluru Chapter of ICSI and Programme facilitator also graced the occasion.

CS Ashok Kumar Dixit, Officiating Secretary, ICSI extended his gratitude to the dignitaries present at the event .

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About The Institute of Company Secretaries of India, (ICSI):

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) is a premier professional body set up under an Act of Parliament, *i.e.*, Company Secretaries Act, 1980, for the regulation and development of the profession of Company Secretaries in India. It functions under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The Institute, being a pro-active body, focuses on best and top-quality education to students of Company Secretaries Course and best quality set standards for CS members. The institute has over 58,000 members and about 3.5 lakh students on its roll.