The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) has recently introduced ‘ICSI Signature Award Scheme’ under which, a gold medal by the name of “ICSI Signature Award” will be awarded to the topper in the B.Com. Examinations in Commerce conducted by the Central, State Universities and Topper of PGDM of IIM/Special paper of IITs in India.

As a result the MOU was signed between the ICSI and Panjab University, on 18.06.2016. Representatives of the both bodies, Col. GS Chadha (Retd.), Registrar, Panjab University and Mr. Ankur Yadav (Joint Secretary, SG) ICSI has signed the MOU in the august presence of, Dr. Karamjeet Singh Prof. UBS, Panjab University & Dean Faculty of Business Management and Commerce Panjab University and CS GS Sarin, Chairman Chandigarh Chapterand other Officials of Panjab University and ICSI.

Panjab University one of the oldest Universities in India, established in 1882 as University of Punjab at Lahore (now in Pakistan) and following are the credentials of the Panjab university :-
- 1<sup>st</sup> among Universities of India and 38<sup>th</sup> in Asia, Times Higher Education Asian University rankings 2015.
- Ranked number one University in India and in the bracket 276-300 internationally in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, 2014-2015 powered by Thomson Reuters.
- Ranked 39th by the Times Higher Education among BRICS & Emerging Economies.
- University has 188 affiliated colleges spread over Punjab and having one rural Regional Centre at Kauni, and 3 Regional Centres at Muktsar, Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur.
- University has 4 Constituent Colleges located at Sikhwala (Sri Muktsar Sahib), Balachaur (SBS Nagar), Nihal singh Wala (Moga) and Guru Harsahai (Ferozepur)

**CS Mamta Binani, President, The ICSI** in her special message stated that the MOU will help the cause of Young empowerment and it is a proud moment that ICSI has signed an MOU with the esteemed University like Panjab University for the ICSI Signature Award as it will empower and encourage young professionals to play important role in the decision making process at the highest level.

**CS GS Sarin, Chairman Chandigarh Chapter** in his message stated that the MOU with pioneer university like Panjab University is life time achievement for the Chandigarh Chapter. Which will not only take Chandigarh Chapter to new heights but also to ICSI as whole.

**Message from Col. G.S. Chadha (Retd.), Registrar, Panjab University**:-

The ultimate objective of higher education is to meet the societal aspirations, it is necessary to ensure that the knowledge imparted in educational institutions is converted to employment. Establishment of the Signature Award is an excellent step towards this direction. It provides a platform to imbibe professionalism among the practitioners of Company Secretary and to recognise the talented students in the field of commerce and company secretary. I am sure, with this Signature Award, Panjab University, Chandigarh and The Institute of Company Secretaries of India would evolve a better and significant synergy in boosting academic and professional education in this field in times to come. I wish this magnificent endeavour a grand success.

**Dr. Karamjeet Singh Prof. UBS, Panjab University & Dean Faculty of Business Management and Commerce Panjab University** in his message stated that it is a historic pact between two high value educational institutions.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Preeti Kaushik Banerjee
Director
Corporate Communication
011-45341013.