



**THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India**
भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान
IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE
Statutory body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

ADVISORY

11th June, 2020

Dear Members/Students,

As you are aware that after due consideration of the prevalent situation and subsequent lockdown, due to outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic, the Institute of the Company Secretaries of India (Institute) has postponed its Examinations (June - 2020 Session) of Foundation, Executive and Professional Programme and Post Membership Qualification (PMQ) originally scheduled to be held from 1st June, 2020 to 10th June, 2020 to now commence from 6th July, 2020 onwards.

It is noticed by the Institute that few members and students of the Institute are posting and circulating videos and messages on social media platforms (YouTube; WhatsApp; Facebook; Instagram; Twitter etc.) asking thereby for cancellation / postponement of aforesaid Examinations scheduled to held from 6th July, 2020. The contents, comments and remarks in these videos and messages are with an intention to demotivate the sincere students, divert their attention from studies and to further instigate and provoke the members, students, teachers and the parents of the students against the Institute and seems as an attempt to malign the image of the Institute. It is also observed that the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India; Prime Minister Office, India; Ministry of Corporate Affairs; and Ministry of Corporate Affairs are also tagged in these messages.

At this situation, the Institute is keeping a close vigil on all the guidelines issued by the Government of India and is fully committed to take various initiatives required to safeguard the interest of the Institute and its stakeholders. In this testing time, the Institute and its office bearers have taken various measures and have left no stone unturned to help its' members in providing all required support through webinars etc. for their professional development. The Institute is also regularly conducting online classes and has taken various other initiatives to equip the students to be well prepared for the ensuing examinations.

These kind of messages and videos are in violation of the following clauses of the ICSI Guidelines on use of Social Media-

- i. Remarks undermining public confidence and Institute's ability to deliver proper services to the stakeholders;
- ii. Posting content amounting to criticism sufficiently strong or persistent to give the impression to undermine the authority of Institute's Senior Management;
- iii. Harassment or bullying of Institute's employees, members of the Council, Office bearers of ICSI Offices or issue adverse remarks against them.

Posting and circulating these kind of messages and videos amounts to professional misconduct and the members and students doing so are subject to disciplinary action.

Accordingly, members and students are advised not to indulge in posting and circulating these kind of messages and videos.

(CS Asish Mohan)
Secretary