The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) along with the Corporate Secretaries International Association Limited (CSIA) organised a conference on the theme "Re-defining Global Governance-Dawn of a New Era" at New Delhi today. CSIA is an international federation of professional bodies based at Hong Kong, representing fourteen Corporate Secretaries Institutions from Australia; Bangladesh; Brazil; Canada; Hong Kong; India; Kenya; London; Malaysia; Nigeria; Singapore; Southern Africa; USA; Zimbabwe and represents membership span of around 1,00,000 Corporate Secretaries.

The Conference was attended by the Council members of CSIA, ICSI and the members and students of the ICSI.

While extending his warm welcome to the Council members of CSIA, ICSI and the participants, **CS Ranjeet Pandey, President, ICSI** emphasized upon the need to look into the ancient Indian Scriptures to find pearls of wisdom which shall pave the path for good governance. Quoting the words from Upanishads, he added that “the Indian culture believes in the thought of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam which means the world is our family and any and every discussion deliberation upon the governance culture across the globe should be taken forth in the same tone and fervour”.

Emphasising upon the need to raise questions rather than accepting the norm, **Mr. Tom Omariba, President, CSIA**, urged that, “As Company Secretaries and as professional bodies, it is necessary that we question the how’s and why’s of any new law or decision in the regulatory arena. The same should hold true even for the recognitions accorded and restrained as well”.
During the inauguration ceremony, Ms. Karyn Southgate, Vice President, CSIA shared her belief that “Governance should be a part of the culture of corporates not just in a single nation or those nations who are members of the CSIA but in each and every single nation and the same must be ensured by the Company Secretaries of the nations”.

Delving further into the topic, CS Ashish Garg, Vice President, ICSI focused upon the need to align the governance initiatives with the agenda of the government so as to achieve greater transparency and accountability.

The discussions at the conference were bifurcated into three technical sessions on the following topics:
- Global Governance Standards – Need of the Hour
- Responsible Business Culture – Global Reporting Standards
- Cross Border Transactions

Speakers at the Conference: Mr. Anil Gupta, Govt. Nominee to the Council of ICSI; CS MEV Selavamm, Company Secretary, ONGC Ltd.; CS Narayan Shankar, Vice President & Company Secretary, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.; CS B Murli, Director-Legal & Company Secretary, Nestle India Ltd.; FCS Waweru G. Mathenge, Chairman, Institute of Certified Secretaries, Kenya; CS Nesar Ahmad, Past President, ICSI; Mr. Rahul Chowdhary, Partner at Deloitte; Dr. Madhu Vij, Govt. Nominee to the Council of ICSI; Mr. David N Panna, Partner-Valuation & Modelling, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP; Mr. Nitin Potdar, Partner, J Sagar Associates and CS Chander Sawhney, Director, Corporate Professionals Capital Private Ltd.

CS Hitendra Mehta, Central Council Member gave the theme introduction.

CS Ashok Kumar Dixit, Officiating Secretary, The ICSI extended the vote of thanks.

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About 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 59,000 members and about 3.5 lakh students on its roll.