



गुरुशब्दस्त्वन्धकारः स्यादुशब्दस्तन्निरोधकः॥

(The one who takes us from darkness to light is rightly called a Guru.)



Dear Professional Colleagues,

If the Indian Independence Day is a celebration that each one of us as a proud citizen looks forward to, there are a host of other days forming part of the Indian culture and heritage, which time again, give us a reason to celebrate.

It is only a few days ago, that each one of us on the occasion of Guru Poornima, tried our level best to find time and extend our reverences, our gratitude and our never-ending love to the noble souls, who shaped our journey, our life, and who led us to light in the moments of darkness. And while days like Teachers' Day are celebrated globally, days like this one come with their own uniqueness. There comes a time in life, where while on the one hand, you are extending wishes to your gurus, and then there are those who come and tell you, how their lives have been touched by your actions and your conduct.

And nothing stands as fulfilling compared to this feeling, which both humbles you and fills you with great pride in the same instant.

My heartfelt gratitude to each one of you...!!!

TAKING THE MAURITIUS ROUTE: DELIBERATING GOVERNANCE IN A VUCA WORLD

If the month of June was witness to our travels in the Northern Hemisphere towards Japan and Amsterdam for the IPDFP and the ICGN Summer Conference; the month of July found us packing our bags to move southwards.

As much as the island country of Mauritius is known for its picturesque beaches and quite ambience - there

is so much more to this nation from an economic and strategic perspective.

Mauritius connects the tripod of Africa – Asia – and – Middle East. And today it is not just known for its scenic beauty but is seen as: a trusted financial centre, a maritime partner, a thriving democracy AND a bridge between continents.

It seemed apt for a choice, that a country such as this one is cherry picked for moving forward on deliberating upon "Strengthening governance in the VUCA world".

While, the vision of ICSI "to be a global leader in promoting good corporate governance" alone is the driving factor, but what we truly believe in is leading with unity and transforming the world.

I feel immensely warmed by the hospitality of the country and extend my heartiest gratitude towards **Dr. The Hon'ble Mrs. Jyoti Jeetun, Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning, Mauritius** and **Mr. Anurag Srivastava, High Commissioner of India, Port Louis, Mauritius** for presiding over as the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour at the Opening Plenary and according greater impetus to our thoughts and actions.

I am also grateful to the Former Presidents as well as the expert speakers who made all the deliberations worthwhile. And last but not the least my profound happiness of the success of the event hails from the support and presence of all the delegates. I believe the event and each and every session during the 3-day Conference would not only strengthen ties between the nations but also re-emphasise the significance of governance in a VUCA world.

A big thanks to all of you...!!!

INDIA-RUSSIA RELATIONS : STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH ENDURING VALUE

"No matter how low the temperature dips below minus during the Russian winter, India-Russia friendship has always remained in 'plus', it is full of warmth."

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi

From an external affairs perspective, India and Russia have always shared a friendship forged through history and strengthened by trust. And this partnership has been rooted in mutual respect, strategic autonomy, and shared interests. From defense to space, the relationship continues to evolve while preserving its historic foundation. But the true enduring strength of this relationship lies in consistency, reliability, and mutual confidence. The past decade or so has demonstrated the fact that their long-standing partnership can adapt to changing global realities.

Given this backdrop, strengthening governance together seems all the more imperative. So when the invite came for the **20th Anniversary International Forum on Corporate Governance** organised by the **National Corporate Secretaries Association (NCSA)**, **Russia at Moscow**, it was a big yes from our end.

Participating during the session on **"Balance Without Borders - International Corporate Governance trends"** as a Panellist not only accorded us with the opportunity to share our ideas and showcase our initiatives on the Russian platform but to gain insights into a perspective different than ours.

The varied approaches to attain the same goal, the futuristic line of thoughts, the transformative chain of ideas were indeed phenomenal.

But what was even more remarkable was the fact that during this visit, we got the opportunity to meet the **Consul General, Consulate General of India, St. Petersburg - Ms. Neelam Rani**.

Sharing insights with her on the activities being undertaken by ICSI in the areas of Climate Change and fostering a culture of responsible investment - was nothing short of endearing.

Not only am I truly gratified by this visit but I am absolutely sure that the days ahead will find us pursuing meaningful collaborations with our Russian counterparts much like our Heads of States...!!!

CSBF: STRENGTHENING THE SAFETY NET

The nation, the guests, the gathering at the International Conference in Mauritius accorded us the perfect opportunity to share another new development with our members. The Company Secretaries Benevolent Fund or CSBF serves as a safety net for Company Secretaries who are the members of the fund and their family members in times of distress. To further solidify the foundations of this initiative, it has been decided that, with effect from October 04, 2026, the ICSI Foundation Day of ICSI, Financial Assistance will be enhanced to Rs. 15 Lakh from Rs. 10 Lakh in the case of death of a member below the age of 60 years. At the same time, the subscription for Life Membership of CSBF will be revised to Rs. 15,000 from Rs. 10,000.

Apart from the regular subscription amount, to support the fraternity and to strengthen the Fund, we would also urge you to donate a minimum of Rs. 1,000 to the CSBF. The Top 10 donors to the CSBF will be facilitated at the Foundation Day of ICSI.

The year 2026 marks the Golden Jubilee of CSBF – and what better way to celebrate the same than by showing greater support to our fellow members of the ICSI Family.

I would urge all the members who have not subscribed until yet, to utilise this opportunity and build a safety net around you and your loved ones.

CAPITAL MARKETS & SECURITIES REGULATION: POSITING INDIA AS THE STRONGEST FINANCIAL HUB ON THE GLOBE

Initiated as an innovative endeavour, it was thought fit that alignment may be brought about amidst - One, the theme of Chartered Secretary Journal and Two, the theme of Pan India Events hosted by the Regional Offices and Chapters of ICSI.

This month as we bring to you focussed articles on the distinct aspects of Capital Markets and Securities Regulation; equally focussed deliberations have been initiated across India under the overarching umbrella of Capital Markets Week - an event which for each one of us, as Company Secretaries, has been nothing short of a legacy.

With partners hailing from Regulators to Stock Exchanges; it would be a delight to chalk out the Action Plan to restructure governance in the Indian

Capital Markets - which on the one hand, are dealing with global tribulations on a constant basis; and with the impacts of digital transformation and AI, on the other.

Akin to every ICSI initiative, the success of this one too, hinges upon your participation.

So come one, come all... let's reshape the future ourselves...!

SME FUND RAISING CONCLAVES: A SEBI INITIATIVE

Amidst preparing for the Capital Markets Week, another event that we proudly partnered in hosting was the SME Fund Raising Conclaves. An initiative of SEBI and jointly hosted by ICSI, Stock Exchanges and AIBI, the events, hosted at ICSI Noida and ICSI-CCGRT Manesar, were presided over by Shri Rajesh Kumar Dangeti, Chief General Manager SEBI, who not only clarified doubts and developed a deeper understanding of the prevailing Regulatory environment; but also fostered greater trust and a sense of familial relations amongst all the participants.

Our heartiest appreciations towards SEBI for the endeavour and towards all the representatives for their wholehearted participation. It goes without saying that we look forward to many more such fantastic collaborations.

7TH ICSI BOARD MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME : PURSUING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

Entering into its 7th edition - the intent, the motive, the goal and objective for the coveted ICSI Board Mentorship Programme, have been set. Reminiscing memories of the past editions, Port Blair indeed came across as a worthy choice.

While we invite all of you for all our events - national or regional - it is for this particular Programme that we expect you to not come alone but bring your entire Board along.

And to add to the list of invitees, it would be delightful if the senior management of your corporate joins in. For as far as the journey of governance is concerned - the destination cannot be arrived at alone...

Block your diaries from October 7th to 10th, for the islands of Andaman and Nicobar await you...!!!

54TH NATIONAL CONVENTION: FINDING GOVERNANCE IN THE LAND OF LORD JAGANNATH

Yes... The stage is being set. The panellists finalised. The food menu picked well. And the articles for the Souvenir too. What is left is your decision. And if you were being any sceptic as to the registration fee, the dates of Early Bird registrations too, have been extended.

So before the last day arrives... call on your besties, your professional buddies, remind your senior colleagues, buzz in your junior ones - and make this 3-day event a very-very memorable one...!

ICSI CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AWARDS: REGISTRATIONS OPEN

The National PCS Conference has been successfully accomplished; the National Convention has been set in motion as well, and just as we will be wrapping up the Convention - the tables will be laid to evaluate the companies on the various parameters of governance.

But for us to be able to do that, what we require from you is to fill in the applications and send them to us, complete in all respects, accompanied by all attachments.

While there may be many of you who might be sure shot about your company's win; there will be those who might not be so sure of it. To the ones falling in the second category - I would extend a word of advice -

"The art of not being ready and doing it anyways will take you far."

You might not be completely right in your answers. But you will surely be right in your intent. And intent is what we are looking forward to - when striving for excellence in corporate governance.

So good luck to all of you...!!!

With warm regards



CS Pawan G. Chandak
President, ICSI