



Your struggles will be admired only after you become successful.

- Anonymous



Dear Professional Colleagues,

As I sit to pen the message for this month's journal, it is indeed a pleasant coincidence that the day of today aligns with the theme of the edition - GST.

The Goods and Services Tax, launched in the year 2017, has truly been a revolution in the Indian business ecosystem. Not only did it subsume plethora of indirect taxes, but at the same time allowed entrepreneurs to comply with ease. And I believe that is what the definition of a good legislation is.

As I congratulate the Ministry of Finance, their leaders and officials on their tremendous efforts in smoothening the journey, I also congratulate all the members for their equally tremendous participation through effective advisory on the matters pertaining to this dynamic legislation.

If this message of mine is a reminiscence of the days gone by, I will begin with one of the most eventful events of the last month.

ICSI NATIONAL PCS CONFERENCE 2026

"A celebration of knowledge, shared strength and recognition..."

Each of the last 3 months' editions of this journal, carried reminders of registration, calls and invitations for participation and to be a part of this unique celebration. And indeed as I stood before the fraternity and quoted the participation numbers, there was an emotion of great gratitude and pride - one that was lent to me by each and every one of the delegates participating.

Even though I might not be able to share the names of all the Experts who joined us from various parts of the country, I would still take this opportunity to extend my gratefulness towards Prof. (Dr.) Gourav Vallabh, Member (Part-Time), Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister who not only presided over the Inaugural session

as our special guest, but with the sharing of his views and opinions, enthralled us all.

While the PCS Day is a reminder of a recognition accorded years ago, each and every session of the Conference was curated with the intent to empower the members with so much knowledge, experience and expertise that many more recognitions arrive at our doorstep without requesting for them.

And to complement these thought-provoking sessions, the ICSI also took the moment opportune to release publications and sign MoUs for collaborations with various entities. These MoUs, offering software support and more, are aimed at making the lives easier for our members as they pursue compliance and governance in true letter and spirit.

54TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF COMPANY SECRETARIES: GEARING UP FOR EVENTFUL TIMES AHEAD

'Kaizen: Improve continuously'

(Kaizen is a Japanese concept of continuous improvement through small, consistent steps. It emphasizes patience, discipline, and steady progress over sudden change.)

Taking a cue from this single word holding immense wisdom, as we bask in the success of one event, preparations have begun for another. Gladly so, it was at the PCS Conference that we opened the registrations for the 54th edition of the National Convention of Company Secretaries. If the PCS Conference focused on the practising side alone, the Convention intends to bring both sides under one roof and plan the road ahead.

Themed upon **NextGen CS - Catalyst of Growth & Guardian of Governance**, the 54th National Convention of Company Secretaries is being hosted in the Temple City of India - Bhubaneswar, during September 05-07, 2026. And while I'm keeping a daily tab on the number of registrations, I am equally eager to be surprised - when with your eager participation this Convention will become the largest congregation of Company Secretaries till date in the history of ICSI.

So, as we finalise the finer details of the event, I have a task for each one of you at this very moment. Call up your friends, book your tickets, reserve your hotels - but most importantly utilise the Early Bird registration window to the fullest.

Come join us in a thoroughly eventful journey of learning under the blessings of Lingaraj and Jagannath !!!

ICSI ELECTIONS 2026: LEAP INTO THE FUTURE

It is indeed a matter of great responsibility for the person manning the Chair to the highest designation of this Institute - that the Elections to the next Central and Regional Councils as well as for the Chapter Managing Committees are conducted in an orderly manner.

And while that activity is a few months away - so is the guidance for the applicable Code of Conduct.

At this very moment, I am not only honoured and proud but equally humbled by the support of my Council in leaning towards one of the biggest decisions in the history of ICSI. While many of you would have known it from the PCS Conference or gotten a hint from the social media platforms, I am going to share this landmark decision with you through the pages of this journal.

And that is; ICSI has become the first governance institution to be hosting its Elections in a purely digital format. Not only will there be ease of counting and declaration of results, but it will also be our way of saving paper, promoting ESG and sustainability. For as they say, "Practice before you Preach".

ICSI CONVOCATIONS 2026: SHARING MOMENTS WITH GOVERNANCE TORCHBEARERS OF TOMORROW

Amidst other events, something that is most awaited amongst the youngest professionals is the opportunity to dress up in Indian Attires – adorn shades of white, and swear to protect and uphold the governance within corporates across the length and breadth of this nation.

The ICSI Convocations held twice a year, across all regions find us travelling to various cities, distributing Certificates signifying the completion of a long and fulfilling academic journey and the welcoming of fresh torchbearers of the profession.

Formal photography aside, the tons of selfies clicked are what makes way onto our social media profiles and memory journals. While I was not able to attend the one held for Eastern Region at Guwahati, I made sure that I did not miss the one for Northern Region at Amritsar.

And even as I write this message, bags are being packed for the next one of the Western Region at Ahmedabad and for the Southern Region at Thiruvananthapuram...!

ICSI AND POLICY ADVOCACY 2026: PARTNERING WITH LEGISLATORS

The year 2026 has indeed been one of regulatory collaborations. While the year began with ICSI joining hands with all other sister concerns in extending its support towards the Corporate Mitra and PMIS initiative, activities have been initiated on that front in full swing.

At the same time, another news that I am happy to share is that very recently the Board of Trade under the Ministry of Finance was reconstituted and for the first time ICSI has been taken on this Board as a proud nominated member. The 5th Meeting of the Board was held recently in the presence of Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry.

As ICSI gears up to support the Indian journey of growth, investment and sustainable action, I expect each of our members to update and upgrade their existing levels of knowledge, skill and expertise to be fully ready to support this journey.

Even further, the Boards constituted, also share the intent to contribute to the matters of policy formulation and to contribute to the overall agenda of Viksit Bharat@2047.

ICSI OF TODAY AND TOMORROW: BUILDING BRAND ICSI 2026

"A brand is a promise. A good brand is a promise kept."
- Muhtar Kent

Aligning with the national thought, and to bring about cohesiveness in practices across India, the Council accorded approval for placing the Regional/Local Language name of the respective Regional/Chapter Offices of ICSI and Hindi name before the English name of the ICSI in the design of the ICSI Logo-Masthead, to be implemented across signboards, letterheads, stationery etc.

Going forward, the ICSI Logo-Masthead – across all communications will be found in this order and I would request all my Regional Council Colleagues and my Team of representatives at the Chapter levels to ensure that this change is embraced at all levels of activity with utmost diligence to promote uniformity and avoid any lag in compliance.

As we move towards the second half of the year, I am enthusiastic about hosting our varied stakeholders at some of the very uniquely curated events of ICSI. While the ICSI Invest India Summit scheduled for July 31, 2026 at Bengaluru aims to bring together Startups, MSMEs, Institutional Investors and large-scale investing entities under one roof; the ICSI PSU Conference at Ahmedabad during August 08-09, 2026 aims to empower Company Secretaries in the Public Sector Ecosystem through Governance, Strategy & Leadership.

And in between that preparations are in order to raise intellectually stimulating deliberations at a global level in yet another scenically-endowed nation – Mauritius. The ICSI 5th International Conference on the theme 'Strengthening Governance in VUCA World' is a call for all of you to join us during August 03-05, 2026 and deliberate upon global governance.

For whatever goal we may pursue, the vision remains the same,

"To be a global leader in promoting good Corporate Governance."

With warm regards



CS Pawan G. Chandak
President, ICSI