



*Fatum Fortes Adiuvat
Fortune Favours the Brave.*



Dear Professional Colleagues,

It seems like yesterday only that we were relishing the new year festivities and planning for the year ahead. Blink of an eye – is how many of us would define these five months. And while much seems accomplished – the activities in the pipeline are pushing each other forward to play their parts and reap effective results.

Amidst the sweltering weather across most parts of the country, the significance of this month is heightened for our professional brigade. And even though the recognition accorded to practicing side is reminisced – the celebration belongs to the entire 80500+ and-counting strong force of Company Secretaries not only in India but all over the World.

While the details of the 27th National Conference of Practising Company Secretaries will follow in the next edition, I feel a tremendous warmth in my heart and adulations for the founding fathers of this profession and with them all my predecessors to the Office of the President to have taken the baton of governance to such heights where the entire nation recognizes our contribution and each Regulatory Authority extends its appreciations.

The words that “*patience and hard work always pay their due*” find their true meaning in the journey of this Institute. The ICSI whose foundations were laid in 1957 and formed as a company in 1968, found its first magnificent recognition on 15th June 1988. Exactly, 11 years later, did we start hosting the National Conference of Practising Company Secretaries.

While there is ample amazement and joy – there is also a never-ending and ever-enhancing sense of responsibility. Indeed, there is freedom - you are your

own boss. But a peep deeper, and the realisation strikes - that this freedom comes with an extreme sense of responsibility. Not only are you responsible for your own certifications and signatures affixed - you are as much responsible for the compliance of the corporates under your tutelage - you are responsible for the trust entrusted by the stakeholders - and most importantly you are responsible for the brand value, image and sanctity of this esteemed profession. And it is this responsibility that we celebrate and honour on this day and through this august conference...

With a strong belief that the days to follow will find us not seeking but being accorded with greater recognitions, I wish each one of my revered members a very Happy PCS Day !!

ICSI VISITS JAPAN : A SURREAL EXPERIENCE OF THE FUTURE

omoeba dekiru

“If you believe you can, you can”

Visiting a country which is ahead of you in time is a unique experience altogether. You step foot on a land - and an entire date is skipped. No wonder the land of rising Sun has its own way of life - one that intrigues you, takes you by surprise, but most importantly inspires you humongously - to strive for more, to become more and to create more and to stay ahead of time.

For almost two decades the Institute of Company Secretaries of India in understanding of its global responsibilities has been pursuing deliberations across nations and leading the way for good governance. And hosting the 19th International Professional Development & Fellowship Programme, in Japan indeed was an enlightening as well as transformative experience.

For years we have been discussing Secretarial Practices, the varied corporate laws and their points of convergence, the growing interest in ESG and how to keep it sustainable and now the upsurge in Artificial Intelligence.

But what really stands at the centre of all these deliberations - the real executor and implementers - are the members of the Boards of corporations.

And when I say this - this statement holds truth in the Indian scenario, in the Japanese scenario - as well as any other corporate - in any part of the world. This truth is what led us to our theme - **Future-Ready Boards: Skills, Strategy & Stewardship.**

If the Boards are the ones to guide the corporates to glory, they must be equipped with the right knowledge, the apt skill, and the perfect strategy - and that is what the week-long Programme was all about.

My heartiest appreciations to our Chief Guest Mr. R. Madhu Sudan, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Japan for joining us and making the event a grand success. As much as I commend the efforts of the Team in putting the event together, I am thankful to each one of the participants for making our Japanese escapade memorable.

To many more in the times ahead !!!

ICSI OUTREACH: JOINING HANDS, BUILDING TIES, FOSTERING GOVERNANCE

While the preparations of the mega event of the PCS Conference have kept us busy, we decided to divide and conquer and utilize the time in between with some more capacity building and outreach initiatives.

Aligning ourselves with the agenda of Government of India of Aspirational East, it was indeed an awe-inspiring trip to the land of Nalanda – Bihar with the Immediate Former President, CS Dhananjay Shukla, to inaugurate the first two Contact Centres in Bihar's Muzzafarpur and Bhagalpur.

Two months ago, the ICSI had signed an MOU with the IAGES (Indian Association for Gold Excellence and Standards). To build capacities and knowledge amongst members to reap benefits from this collaboration, dedicated programmes are being organized jointly by ICSI and IAGES presided over by their Team members. The intent of both the MOU and these Programmes is to create a pool of experts proficient to act as facilitators in implementation of the IAGES accreditation standards and also as authorized external assessment agencies for gold industry partners of IAGES across India.

The initiative indeed looks towards a golden future of the professionals...!

Apart from the members, there is a long list of stakeholders that we consider to be a part of the ICSI Family. In an attempt to strengthen these groups, we attempted organizing Outreach Programmes for NGOs and SME Fund Raising Conclave. While the first one was conducted jointly with NABARD, the second one found us joining hands with SEBI, BSE and AIBI, to bring the nuances and knowledge right at the doorstep of the group concerned. With the recently notified Companies

(Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Amendment Rules, 2026 introducing a new item in Schedule VII of "Subscription to zero coupon zero principal instruments on Social Stock Exchange", these events held find greater impetus - now more than ever. If NGOs are a route for CSR investment and thus building a Viksit Bharat - if SMEs are the key to building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat, the time feels opportune to strengthen these brigades to serve their natural purpose and together build an Aatmanirbhar-Viksit Bharat !!!

MEETINGS AND RENDEZVOUS: BUILDING THE NATION TOGETHER

As we talk of adding brick and mortar to the foundations of economic and social structures of this economy, it is imperative that there is togetherness in action and intent. It was truly an honour to have been accorded the time and opportunity to meet Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry of India. Not only did we get a chance to share details of ongoing ICSI initiatives but also deliberate upon the futuristic lines of action.

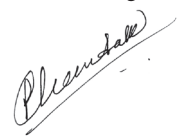
The rendezvous with Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Anupinder Singh Grewal, the newly-appointed President of National Company Law Tribunal was equally gratifying. His empathetic approach to the various issues and challenges facing the representators in the quasi-judicial authorities has been quite heartening. Alongside this, the ICSI Team is continually engaging with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and participating in the deliberations of the Coordination Committee to take forward the agenda of Corporate Mitra.

The times ahead indeed seem brighter than before !!!

With all the Boards working in all their swiftness and with a proactive approach - the functioning behind the ICSI doors seems nothing short of 'Amrit Manthan' - the churning of information, knowledge and expertise - to achieve the nectar of ICSI Vision. All in all the pace for the upcoming months has been set. As I come to the end of this message, the memories of the month gone by and the achievements in terms of work accomplished, fill me with warmth and the intentions for the future fill me with vigour and delight. Nonetheless, the heart is full. And it is with this warmth and vigour, that I intend to continue serving the stakeholders of our magnanimous institution.

And while I pursue the goals here, I, both hope and believe, that you keep you expanding your knowledge as well as professional boundaries endlessly...!!!!

With warm regards



CS Pawan G. Chandak
President, ICSI