



ॐ जयन्ती, मङ्गला, काली, भद्रकाली, कपालिनी।
दुर्गा, क्षमा, शिवा, धात्री, स्वाहा, स्वधा नमोऽस्तुते॥

*She Who Conquers Over All, All-Auspicious,
The Remover of Darkness, The Excellent One Beyond Time,
The Bearer of the Skulls of impure thought, The Reliever of difficulties,
Loving, Forgiveness, Supporter of the Universe,
May You accept the oblations of the devotee, the oblations of ancestral praise,
We bow to You.*

- Durga Saptashati Argala Stotram



Dear Professional Colleagues,

The twilight period between the months of September and October were marked by the homecoming of Maa Durga with the onset of Navratri festival and with her of tremendously zealous energy. While the air was filled with reverence towards the mother goddess, the days found us preparing for it and the nights, relishing in the gaiety of Dandiya, Garba and Durga Puja.

Each of the nine days, signified a different form of Devi, and with that a different trait, a different feature, a different characteristic and a different emotion. As we felt her endearing motherly love, each day was a reminder of the victory of good, of truth, of courage and strength, of knowledge and wisdom, and of right over everything else.

The celebration concluded with Vijayadashami or Dusshera, which coincided with the birth anniversaries of two great leaders that the Indian motherland had cherished with all her heart – Mahatma Gandhi – the Father of the nation and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri – the Former Prime Minister of the nation. The beauty of this nation lies in the fact that even after decades having been passed since our leaders left us – we look for guidance in their words and verses and hold them close to our heart, as we take the biggest decisions for the nation.

And just as we revere our former leaders of the nation, the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, fondly remembers, cherishes, adores and admires the untiring

efforts of its Former Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, Employees and most importantly the Founding parents of this Institution on the occasion of its Foundation Day.

57TH FOUNDATION DAY: SCRIPTING GOOD GOVERNANCE: SHAPING VIKSIT BHARAT

अप्राप्यं नाम नेहास्ति धीरस्य व्यवसायिनः।

There is nothing unattainable to the one who has courage and who works hard.

- Kathasaritsagara 12.20.23

Even though I was tempted to share the shloka regarding the significance of keeping on the path no matter what the pace, I chose to switch my course and pick this one instead. The reason being the fact that at the foundational level, both these shlokas communicate the same feeling and fervor.

The Foundation Day of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, indeed, is a celebration of the courage to think the unthinkable and to work hard towards that goal untiringly. The 57th Foundation Day is a grand moment for each one of us, as it marks our entry into a New Year – our beliefs are rekindled, commitment renewed and enthusiasm rejuvenated.

The Day is also a reminder that the ICSI Family is not just its 78000 members, 2.5 lakh students, and employees but all Ministries, Regulators, and their Heads & Officials who are and have been a part of our journey, corporates and business entities who have been the front runners holding our governance batons, and all the stakeholders whose lives we have been able to touch, who has been impacted by our decisions...

And it fills me with a sense of gratitude that we found some new additions to this family in Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi ji, Hon'ble Member, Rajya Sabha & National Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party and Shri Sanjeev Sanyal ji, Member, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Economic Advisory Council as we celebrated the 57th Foundation Day of our alma mater in the heart of the capital city New Delhi on October 04, 2025. If the Institute has aligned itself with the Government of India's agenda to make the nation Viksit Bharat, the theme Scripting good governance : Shaping Viksit Bharat resonated this thought, completely, totally... Our aim of picking this theme was to build a national understanding that the core foundational structures of a Viksit Bharat shall unquestionably be the iron rods, brick and mortar of transparency, accountability and compliance.

It is quite humbling that our Guests for the day not only shared our thought but commended us on a job well done.

I am highly appreciative of the presence of Ms. Sniti Mishra, who with her seasoned voice and kind demeanour lent a unique flavor of serenity as well as warmth to the event. Our good wishes to you for your extremely bright future.

I would also take this opportunity to thank from the bottom of my heart, all those men and women of grandeur who enlivened their own journeys as the Presidents, Vice Presidents and Secretaries of ICSI and took this Institution forward in their own unique ways. Your presence lent far greater weight to the celebration as well as the legacy that we take forward.

As I extend my congratulations to each one of you, and each one of us, I am extremely sure that given the heightening responsibilities with each passing day coupled with our renewed sense of vigour, the nation would be witnessing this Institute rising to the occasion, standing shoulder to shoulder with every Ministry and Regulatory organization and realizing the dream of scripting good governance and SHAPING VIKSIT BHARAT...!

ASPIRATIONAL EAST : ASPIRING, ADMIRING, ACHIEVING

“Aspire to do anything, Start Something and
Stop at Nothing.”

-Kayambila Mpulamasaka

Yes, it was something that the Government of India was pursuing with fervent passion...

But, who said governance could be limited to only one part and not be spread to the entire nation...?

The idea, thought and ideology of having a National Seminar on Startups, FPO and Agri-Business under the aegis of Aspirational East was not only well appreciated by the Council but fully supported as well. And what better way to begin this journey than from the state which is known for being the central root of ancient intellect and wisdom – Bihar.

तेजस की मैं उड़ान हूँ,
गणतंत्र की मैं पहचान हूँ।
कूटनीति का मैं प्रमाण हूँ।
हाँ! मैं बिहार हूँ।

What made the event, even more glittering was the gracious presence of Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal and Mines, as the Chief Guest, and Shri Upendra Kushwaha, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, as the Guest of Honour on September 12, 2025 at Patna.

The theme, the deliberations, the guidance of the eminent guests, the thoughts and opinions shared by the experts have truly set the narrative for the future course of events in this arena. If Startups, FPOs and Agri-Businesses are defining the very nature of the Indian Economy, it is imperative for us that we take it upon us to build and strengthen the governance frameworks within these entities.

ICSI 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE : EMBRACING INNOVATION, ENHANCING GOOD GOVERNANCE

अयं निजः परो वेति गणना लघुचेतसाम्।
उदारचरितानां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

This is mine, that is another's—such is the calculation of the narrow-minded. For those of magnanimous heart, however, the entire world is but one family.

- Maha Upanishad

The Institute, keeping in sight, its vision “to be a global leader in promoting good corporate governance”, has firmly believed and imbibed the thought and ideology of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”. We not only believe that the whole world is our family – but we treat it as such – and express it in our actions. The six Overseas Centres of ICSI in different countries and continents are a portrayal of our global commitment.

The annual deliberations held in various cities, countries and continents is our way of strengthening governance – one destination at a time. But what truly brought us to Sydney, Australia for the 4th International Conference during September 03-05, 2025 is the ever growing economic, social and educational ties.

The Australia-India trade, investment and economic relationship is growing faster than ever. The economies of these countries are highly complementary. Australia has that India needs, while India's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) graduates offer a source of talent and innovation for Australian companies.

Both nations are collaborating – be it for raw commodities and resources, or for the skills and technologies, the advancement of renewable energy technologies, or creation of new economic opportunities, or reduction of global emissions. And it is this synergy that rendered Australia the perfect choice for the 4th edition of the ICSI International Conference.

Our heartfelt gratitude towards Dr. S. Janakiraman, Consul General of India in Sydney, Australia for gracing the inaugural session as the Chief Guest and towards all the Governance Professionals hailing from Australia as well as the members who joined in from India as well. As much as we commend the efforts of the entire Team of ICSI Overseas Centre Australia Inc. under the chairmanship of CS Joginder Sharma, we equally appreciate the support extended by our Knowledge Partners – the Australia India Chamber of Commerce and Services Export Promotion Council.

The event was rendered successful by the thoughtful presence, and the explorations, ponderances and the pearls of practical solutions offered by the expert speakers on some of the most pressing topics of our time.

Hoping to Embracing Innovation and Enhancing Good Governance together in the times ahead !!!

ICSI BOARD MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME : SCALING THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS

सह वीर्यं कर्वावहे ।
तेजस्विनावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहे ॥

May we work together with vigor, May our study be illuminating.
May we be free from discord.

If the International Conferences are meant to create global synergies, there are synergies required to be formed and established at all levels. When it comes to corporate governance, the task of strengthening governance frameworks in corporate entities of all forms, structures and sizes cannot be accomplished by the Company Secretary alone – but hinges on the support of various other key role players. The Board of Directors, including the Independent Directors, the Women Directors, the CEOs, the CFOs, the senior management and so on...

The ICSI Board Mentorship Programme conducted by the Institute of Governance Professionals was initiated with the intent of imbibing the thought of compliance, transparency and accountability amongst this brigade – the ones holding leadership roles.

The 4th edition of the ICSI Board Mentorship Programme held in the eastern panel of the nation, at Kalimpong was not just a retreat into the lap of nature but an opportunity for the corporate and industry leaders from across the nation to share their real-life challenges and find solutions through interaction – both amongst themselves and with the experts as well.

As an Institute focusing on governance with a 360-degree approach, our intent is to change the very manner in which the tale of governance is told.

If the role of Company Secretaries involves coaxing the Boards on the matters of compliance, CSR, ESG and sustainable action, we would very much want the future Boards to themselves ask the Company Secretaries as to whether they are doing the things right. Indeed, it would be a massive development and success for us, if the Boards were to question the CS beforehand as to the compliance implications, the governance adherence, and the long-term impacts of their decisions, so as to undertake actions sustainably.

The presence of 30 leaders from various parts of the country representing the varied industries made us realize the true goal of the 3-day programme – interactive mentoring for a sustainable tomorrow.

Going forward, I am delighted to share that the next edition of this Programme is being scheduled at the Golden city of Jaisalmer (Rajasthan).

Looking forward to a humungous participation !!!

WHAT LIES AHEAD : THE JOURNEY OF SUSTAINABLE ACTION : 53RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

If the month of October has begun on a high note, it must end on a higher one... And what better way than to host the biggest congregation of Company Secretaries in one of the most scenically blessed cities. Even though I have been repeating the invite and many of you would have heeded as well, yet there are still many of you who would still be contemplating as to whether you should register or not...

My suggestion, register not just for yourself – but for your dearest friends as well. Trust me when I say this, that it is these ICSI events that all of us, not only learn the nuances on the contemporary topics – but find the time to share laughter, giggles, inside jokes, and relive old memories...

Yes, the theme of the 53rd National Convention of Company Secretaries is “Progressive, Inclusive and Sustainable Bharat” but the underlying thought is also to create a “Progressive, Inclusive and Sustainable Profession”. And both these aims and goals cannot be achieved without your wholehearted presence...

The city of Kochi awaits you !!!

Yours Sincerely



CS Dhananjay Shukla
President, ICSI