

PRESS RELEASE

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Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, Hon'ble MoS for Coal & Mines graces the ICSI National Seminar- Aspirational East



The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) organised **Aspirational East, a National Seminar on Startups, FPO and Agri-Business** in Patna, Bihar, on 12 September 2025.

Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal and Mines, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Shri Upendra Kushwaha, was the Guest of Honour.

Stressing upon the need of promoting agriculture at the National Level, **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey**, appreciated the ICSI for organising this unique programme in the east and highlighted the various schemes introduced by the Government of India for the sector.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey said, "Company Secretaries can play a prominent role in developing start-ups and agri-based businesses, both of which can drive the country towards sustainable economic development. Company Secretaries can serve as strong enablers who can nurture and guide the youth of the country in strengthening this sector."

Shri Upendra Kushwaha asserted that "Agriculture is the backbone of our economy and I commend the ICSI for organising this seminar that will inspire Company Secretaries to guide farmers towards sustainable and profitable practices." He further added that Company Secretaries should support Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) with professional support, oversight and direction.

Engaging discussions spanning the following topics charted a progressive trajectory for Bihar's agribusiness sector and beyond:

- Overview of Agribusiness and FPO Ecosystem and Value Creation by Strengthening Governance in FPOs - Opportunities for CS
- Access to Finance and Policy Support Empowering the FPOs & Role of CS
- Digitalization of Agri-Ecosystem Start-up & Technology Penetration in AgriBusiness

Emphasizing on the important role a Secretary played in governance and polity in the ancient times, CS Dhananjay Shukla, President, the ICSI said, "the company Secretaries today are playing the same role in the field of corporate governance as described in Vedas and Puranas. As a catalyst for sustainable development, Company Secretaries can steer the aspirations of the agri-business into real growth".

**CS Dhananjay Shukla** also briefed about the ICSI's **Fee Waiver** scheme for students registering from the Indian armed forces, Paramilitary forces, Agni veers, Families of Martyrs and Wards of Indian armed forces & paramilitary forces and for students registering from Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and the North Eastern States.

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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., the Company Secretaries Act, 1980, for the regulation and development of the profession of Company Secretaries in India. It functions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The Institute, being a pro-active body, focuses on top-quality education for students of the Company Secretaries Course and sets the best quality standards for CS members. The Institute has over 77,000 members and about 2.5 lakh students on its roll.