Dear Members

Vizag is getting ready to host the CSI Annual Convention. From the arrangements, I find that we can expect an excellent program this year. Pack your bags and get ready to reach Vizag in time. The city with lots of Critical Infrastructure welcomes you. Judging from the enthusiasm of the organizers, we can expect excellent hospitality as well. Be ready for a delicious Andhra Meal.

We are progressing well in the Launch of a Curtain Raiser for Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of our Society. Hon'ble Minister for Law and Justice, Communications, and Information Technology Shri Kapil Sibal Ji has agreed to be the Chief Guest. Please standby for actual dates and program details. An interesting Panel Discussion on "ICT and India" is expected. We are expecting some of the best talent from India and abroad to join us during the panel. We are also trying to get a Postal Stamp release organized to mark the occasion. The event will be in New Delhi and the RVP of Region-I, Prof. R K Vyas and his team of Chapter office bearers of that region is going to make the event a grand success. Of course, our veteran CSI enthusiast Dr Ratan Dutta, Past President of CSI and Chairman of NC, is guiding them through every step.

It is time for us to use ICT in full measure. Also, each Chapter should organize events that can be shared with other chapter as webinars. I would like each Division Chair and each RVP to organize webinars topic-wise and chapter-wise. We should experiment from August 15, 2013. We must have weekly webinars by Chapters and monthly webinars through Divisions. Our web site should carry the schedule well ahead of time. In order to attract our young student members, we should have apps that can take webinars to Smart Phones as well. Education Directorate can keep track of the webinars and record them as well. The National Student Coordinator can provide necessary publicity in educational institutions. All senior members should volunteer to find out and share visitors and lectures in their work place, after obtaining the necessary permissions locally. Let us set the trend in sharing knowledge. As a baby step, I volunteer to give a talk on "Designing Large Scale Systems" on August 15, 2013 at 2 pm. Divisions related to hardware and software as well as the RVP of region I have to give me the actual instructions to make it happen.

As we launch our Golden Jubilee celebrations, we can contribute towards creating India – NexGen. Perhaps, a few years from now, we will see news item that may read as follows: 

India is most connected country in the world. India has its own Search Engine. India develops world’s fastest router. India creates history by driving 1000 Terabits of data through a pair of Optical Fibers across the country. India unveils world’s largest Supercomputer. Indian software assets take the world by storm. India has the largest number of software design professionals. India moves on to Quantum Computing and Communication after unprecedented success in Silicon based computing. In India, every third person is an electronics designer of sorts. India becomes the largest designer of custom-made products. India successfully integrates 3D Printing technology and personalized product design.

When it happens, Computer Society of India should be perceived as the anchor for such change. It is time that we put all our acts together to make necessary moves today. Everyone in CSI has a significant role to play in such transformation. Let us do our bit.

Another important factor that CSI should focus on is the Academia – Industry interaction. Indian academic system have always excelled and remained comparable to the best in the West. Indian industry today is moving its attention more towards products as opposed to services. Indian industry is looking up to academia for help. CSI being body of professionals from academia and industry is in a unique position to address this need. The work force, the students are also CSI members. One could start with some Brainstorming sessions to sharply define this space. Volunteers? Or should we overload NSC??

CSI Transactions on ICT is doing very well. We are getting a constant flow of articles from our educational system. Our Board of Editors are doing a wonderful job in reviewing. I would like to appeal to those of you who are in teaching and research to encourage the students and professionals near you to submit their work. Wherever necessary, help them reach the exacting standards that our Editorial Board sets. You will be doing a yeomen service to CSI as well as the fellow professionals and more so, our dear student members.

I will catch up with you soon...

With best wishes,

Prof. S V Raghavan
President
Computer Society of India