President's Message

Dear Members

Let me begin by wishing all of you and your family a very happy new year – 2014. The year that passed by witnessed several interesting activities in CSI. To cap it all we had the 48th Annual Convention in Visakhapatnam during December 2013. What a wonderful event that was! The organizers deserve a special mention in our CSIC. I am sure you will get a detailed report from them. Shri. AP Chowdhary, CMD, RINL, Shri Madhusudan Rao, Director (Finance), RINL, and Shri. Chand, Director, RINL made wonderful arrangements with their team led by Shri Rajeswara Rao, GM(IT), RINL and Shri. P. Satyanarayana, Convenor, CSI-2013. Mere words cannot describe what they did and the experience that they delivered. Hats off to Vizag team. I was left with awe and admiration by the teamwork. Everyone was saying that CSI 2013 has set “new (higher) standard” for CSI Annual Conventions. The glorious days of CSI are back again. Close to 600 delegates and two award events – IT Excellence and e-Governance – made CSI 2013 a historical event.

The annual Students Conventions set new records as well. Over 2600 students from all over India attended the two-day long events. Several paper presentations, workshops, and interactive sessions marked the success of the events. The Vice-Chancellors of Andhra University and JNTU extended excellent support for the students’ convention. Their support was unparalleled in the history of CSI, to say the least. The sheer logistics of handling 2600 students and 600 delegates can make one go crazy. But “Team Vizag” managed everything with a smile.

The presence of Shri Chowdhary, CMD, RINL as Chief Guest during inauguration made a huge difference. A man of vision, Shri, Chowdhary spoke on the importance of the theme of the convention “ICT and Critical Infrastructure” by quoting several examples from steel industry itself. Shri J Satyanarayana, Secretary, DeITy, MCIT, Gol made an inspiring speech on the theme as the Guest of Honor. Of course, CSI took pride in conferring the “Honorary Fellowship” on Shri J. Satyanarayana for his exemplary contributions to the field. Yours sincerely gave the Keynote Address on the theme.

The competition for CSI – IT Excellence Award was very severe. The jury had a tough time in reaching conclusions, with razor-thin margins in performance! But they did a wonderful job. Every one who was awarded richly deserved it and many were recognized for having reached the final stages with “Certificates of Appreciation”. The CSI – Nihilant e-Governance award this year saw more refined and advanced applications competing with each other. It was a delight to see a qualitative jump in quality of work and presentation. Both the functions were meticulously planned and conducted. Shri J Satyanarayana stayed on as Chief Guest for both. CSI is very thankful to him for the rare gesture.

Prof. Avadhani of Andhra University did a remarkable job of student papers presentation during the annual convention. Five parallel streams of presentation were going on all day. This was in addition to the Invited Talks from experts on various topics. Prof. Avadhani brought out the entire proceedings as book in time for the conference. Tough job indeed; but very well done. Many thanks from CSI to Prof. Avadhani and his team.

I had the opportunity to have an interactive session with students twice during the Students convention. The NextGen is bubbling with enthusiasm for sure. I think CSI should take its commitment to student community much more seriously and engage with them. It was an enriching experience to be with students.

The Convention Dinner was no ordinary matter. From filmy songs to folk songs, from filmy dance to folk dance, and to cap it all a campfire – everything was there. The venue on the top of a hill was an added attraction. Everyone around was enjoying.

On the whole 2013 ended as a year of action for CSI. The Golden Jubilee celebrations were started in 2013. The Students’ Convention and the CSI Annual Convention were a runaway success in 2013. With confidence we step in to 2014. The Delhi team is busy organizing an International Event for the Golden Jubilee as an Indo-French Joint International Workshop on Next generation Networks including Fiber Optics and Wireless Technologies. Shri R K Vyas, Prof Hoda, and Prof SS Agrawal are leading the Delhi Team. I am sure we can look forward to another interesting event soon – perhaps end February or early March 2014.

Prof. S V Raghavan
President
Computer Society of India