President’s Message

Dear Members

Let me, on behalf of CSI family, execom and my own self congratulate Dr. Vijay P Bhaktar for being awarded Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian award. CSI along with the entire Scientific Community is proud of his contributions in high performance computing (including the development of Paramahamsa, the Indian supercomputer), Indian language computing, education to home and integrative education and building institutions like CDAC, ER&DCL and I2IT. CSI also congratulates Prof. Bimal K. Roy, Director of the Indian Statistical Institute and a well-known Statistician and Cryptologist who has been a supporter of CSI in many events for being awarded Padma Shri award.

The Annual Students Convention (ASC) on the theme “Campus to Corporate and Beyond” was hosted by the Guru Nanak Institutions (GNI) at their campus on 3rd and 4th Jan 2015 was well attended with about 1000 student members of which over 450 came from outside Hyderabad. Shri E.S.L. Narasimhan, Governor of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana inaugurated the ASC and in his address highlighted the need for innovation, creativity and the changes in the current educational system to nurture the talents and use for the nation building. Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Past President of CSI and Dr. S.S. Mantha, Former Chairman of AICTE delivered motivational talks. The ASC came up with panel discussions on topics such as “Campus to Corporate and Beyond”, “Career Opportunities”, “Entrepreneurship”, “Employment Opportunities in Public Sector” and “Technology Enablement in Education” with panelists drawn from CSI family, industry and academia had several other technical events/competitions including paper presentations which benefited the participants and all in general. Fully during the two days of the convention. On behalf of CSI, I congratulate and thank Dr. H.S. Saini, Managing Director of GNI, Fellow of CSI and the Convention Chair ably supported by the dedicated contributions of Dr. D.D. Sarma, Fellow of CSI, Mr. Raju, RVP-S, Mr. Gautam Mohapatra, Chair of CSI Hyderabad and Mr. Chandrasekhar, RSC, the entire staff of GNI and a team of CSI Hyderabad for the successful conduct of the ASC even though it had to be postponed and run in a short lead time after the CSI-2014. Our sincere thanks to the management of GNI for their direct involvement and extending full hearted support and hosting the convention in style providing all facilities including accommodation to outstation participants. It was heartening to note that a group of about 50 student members along with their staff came all the way from Kanyakumari, the tip of India to attend the ASC.

I had the honour and privilege of inaugurating a new CSI Chapter at Mylavaram, an interior town near Vijayawanda in Andhra Pradesh, Prof. P. Thirumurthy, CSI Fellow was instrumental in promoting this chapter. The efficient follow-up of Mr. Y. Kathiresan, Senior Manager (Promotions) at CSI ED and the initiative of Dr. E.V. Prasad, Prasad, of CSE and Director at Lakreddy Bali Reddy College of Engineering and the support of the college management facilitated the chapter formation in a record time. Mr. Raju, RVP-S Mr. A.V. Praveen Krishna, SB Counselor of CSI KL, Univ. SB and Y. Kathiresan from CSI ED joined me at the inauguration of the Chapter and highlighted about the CSI activities and how it can help professional, academic and student community. The first Management Committee of the Mylavaram chapter was formed with Dr. Prasad as its first and founding chairman who in his address highlighting the need for innovation, creativity and the changes in the current educational system to nurture the talents and use for the nation building. As informed in my earlier message that in the Think Tank Meeting held during the CSI-2014, our Fellows deliberated on the Past, Present and future during the announcement of results. These are being addressed.

I would like to take this opportunity in renewing my request for your contributions for the CSI HISTORY compilation. I am sorry to inform that the response to our request sent by email in multiple times during the last year and few inserts in CSI Communications has not been significant. May I once again request you to provide us whatever material you could share with us to compile the CSI HISTORY to present the same at least at the CSI-2015 to be held at Delhi in Oct 2015. Capturing information spread over about 50 years is a difficult task and without your help it is near impossible. I earnestly request all of you to do the needful and help us in documenting the CSI HISTORY. While physical items can be sent to CSI ED, material in electronic form may be sent to us by email at csi.history@gmail.com

Our activity year is nearing end and we have just two more months to go. While a number of CSI Chapters have celebrated and are planning to celebrate CSI@50 - the Golden Jubilee celebrations at their chapters involving people who had contributed to the growth of CSI. I urge other chapters to take initiative to conduct CSI@50 event at their chapters and also utilize the financial support being extended from CSI HQ. While doing so, I request all the divisions, chapters, student branches to update their other events and activities carried out during the year in the google form at http://goo.gl/nL1akS One can see the partially updated list at http://goo.gl/IBqAkJ It may please be noted that the activities included in this list will be taken as a record for CSI awards to chapters and SBs and also for compiling our annual report.

In an endeavor to build a reference library at CSI ED, we have been requesting the various Organizational Units of CSI, organizing the conferences to provide a copy of the proceedings to CSI ED. While some have complied with our request, we note that we are not receiving all the proceedings. It will be great if we can build this reference library which will be very useful to our student members and members at large. In this context, I also request our members to donate books and other reference materials for adding in the library at CSI ED. Their contributions will be suitably acknowledged. A partial list of additions in the CSI ED may be seen at http://goo.gl/5aNCld

An update from the CSI ED. Conducted a two days BOSS MOOL Workshop with the support of CDAC & IIT Madras at KPR College of Engineering, Coimbatore; Organised the first Research Symposium which provided the platform for the young researchers to present and deliberate their findings with the peer group and increase their confidence level; Participated in the MSME exhibition at Chennai and promoted the CSI activities among the small scale industries; Organising the first Research Conclave with the patronage of DevY at CUSAT in Feb 2015 to propagate the Visvesvaraya Ph.D. Assistance Scheme of the Government of India and help the academicians and the aspiring researchers to identify research areas and explore possibilities of support under the Scheme.

Consistent with realizing the enhanced and ambitious vision of “IT for Masses”, CSI has launched an initiative that extends its services to schools through Institutional Membership (IM) to schools. The IM scheme is aimed at helping schools in computer education and use. As can be seen from the brochure at http://goo.gl/oAY1d25 the IM provides significant, long lasting benefits of value to the school - its management, teachers and students. The website at http://goo.gl/2fQcnd provides the details on how a school can become an Institutional Member. We request our members to promote the IM in CSI among the schools.

I am sure that members would have noted the extension of the 15% Golden Jubilee discount to enroll as Life Members in CSI till March 2015. Please encourage your colleagues and contacts to avail this limited time offer and become members and strengthen CSI.

Due to space constraints, let me close my message now and include few more interesting items in the next month.

With best regards

H.R. Mohan
President
Computer Society of India