Dear Affectionate Members of CSI Family,

During April 2010, I had requested the Office Bearers (OBs) to share their vision for the year and to help in energizing hidden passion among CSI colleagues, setting new directions and in strengthening the HQ offices at Mumbai & Chennai. Some of the accomplished include the following:

Governance at CSI HQ Mumbai & CSI Education HQ Chennai and membership services:
- To support services to members on education and research activities, three working level executives were selected from Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai. They would help to augment membership services and starting new initiatives at both Chennai and Mumbai.
- Suitable measures were applied for handling immediate problems on membership services.

Courses on Emerging areas and Value addition Programs:
- Several members have desired to have syllabus content of emerging areas that could be considered to offer by Academic institutions as per the requirement of Industry. Education directorate was advised to meet required by involving Industry & Academia. Interested Institution colleagues, setting new directions and in strengthening the HQ offices at Mumbai & Chennai.
- Some of the accomplished include the following:
  - SIG-E Governance has recommended one semester course during April 2010-TI.
  - SIG-E, Governance has recommended one semester course of ICT Academicians and Software Professionals,
  - so that Faculty members get opportunities to know IT Industry and pass this knowledge to students and help to improve quality of education.

Connect with Chapters & team building:
- OBs met Managing Committees (MCs) of Kolkata and Chennai, got apprised and shared new initiatives that may go long way to help the chapters.
- MCs of both Delhi and Hyderabad chapters had responded to my call with short notice to meet me on my visit to both the chapters.
- As a result of these meetings MC members and other senior members including Fellows of CSI had shown new interest in strengthening CSI activities. Gen. Balasubramanayam, the founder secretary of CSI (when formed in 1965), came and blessed all OBs and MC members at Chennai and participated in discussions. A Salute to these founders of CSI for their vision in pooling the passionate people on the name of CSI and making the Volunteer strength, a bondage of connectivity to help the society. I am grateful for each person who attended our meetings at Calcutta, Chennai, Delhi and Hyderabad during April 2010, to interact and to plan the activities to promote and help the CSI members at large.
- On appreciating the services of some our CSI members in different chapters, it was decided that ExecCom would offer new roles at National / State level, as and when opportunity arises. Some of the contemplations:
  - Mr. Phulghani Mukharjee of Kolkata as regional student Co-ordinator for Eastern Region,
  - Mr. Ranga Raj Gopal, from Coimbatore as National convener for CSI-ICT Quiz,
  - Prof. K. Rajasekhar Rao from Koneru Chapter as State level Coordinator for Andhra Pradesh,
  - Dr. Paresh Virpamia of Vallabh Vidyanaagar as State level Student Coordinator of Gujarat,
  - Mr. Srikant R Karode, Fellow of CSI as Hon. Coordinator of Industry-Academic Interactions.
  - Mr. Venkatesh Parasuram of Hyderabad Chapter as CSI E-initiatives Lead of K M Portals.
  - Mr. HR Mohan & Mr. Pavan Kota as editors of the CSI E-News Letter.

Mr. M D Agrawal, Vice President could visit Indore Chapter and help in pooling the members to renew the activities. Mr. S Kundu, Fellow of CSI could volunteer to initiate activities in Kanpur Chapter. Prof. H R Viswakarma could spend time in contacting ExecCom members and others in forming the statutory committees and Various committees by involving as many volunteers as possible to assist our members at different places in the country. He welcomes new Volunteers.

CSI Journal: A review has been made and the Chief Editor of the CSI Journal has been requested for his help in bringing up the pending publication. An action plan is being worked out to improve CSI publications.

New Initiative:
- Considering CSI’s long term objectives for strengthening IT knowledge, an idea of starting a ICT academic -Industry connect forum is actively considered. In each Region/ state, a committee of academicians and Industry experts would identify few activities (including Guest lectures, Industry visits, interactions with Software/IT project teams, organizing joint programs of ICT Academicians and Software Professionals), so that Faculty members get good opportunities to know IT Industry and pass this knowledge to students and help to improve quality of education.
- SIG-E Governance has recommended one semester course as part of MBA. Education Directorate is having the details. Thanks to Prof. Ashok Agrawal, SIG-E-Gov Chair and his team for their contributions to the society.

A good calendar of events could be worked out by the members of ExecCom and members can make use of these programs.

I have requested Vice-President Shri M.D. Agrawal to write about some of the new initiatives and invite nominations at large from our CSI members to participate in helping our members and student members. They include the following:
1. ICT Academic-Industry connect forum
2. SIG review and invite new SIGs in association with Divisions
3. IFIP activities Review and involve the corresponding Divisions to prepare calendar of events

Event(s):
- CSI Student branch at Dronacharya College of Engineering, Farrukh Nagar, Gurgaon has been inaugurated on 24 April 2010, Mr. M.P. Goyal along with the new MC members of Delhi Chapter lead by the chapter Chairman Mr. K S Dhill attended the inauguration. In that college, teachers performance is evaluated by the management on getting the students’ feedback. I am impressed by the magnanimity of the Chairman Dr. Satish Yadav who honors the successful teachers every year with attractive cash/prizes. (A good practice that is usually followed in Industry), is implemented in academics.

Appeal:
- Chapter chairpersons are requested to approach hq@csi-india.org and get the log in pass word details so that they can access the list of distinguished speakers and help the chapter members and Institution members.
- I shall get back to you on some of the Research initiatives soon.

Prof. P. Thirimurthy
President, Computer Society of India