



Dear Professional Colleagues

The world at large recognizes the fact that the Institute of Company Secretaries of India has treaded flawlessly on the path of progress, undeterred by impediments and hindrances that came in its way. Since 1980, every year, ICSI has taken up various initiatives that have cast an everlasting impact towards enhancing the reputation of the profession.

The recent regulatory prescriptions have recognized the pivotal role that company secretaries can play in ensuring the compliance of the law in true letter and spirit. There is a plethora of opportunities for the profession of Company Secretaries and we need to develop our capacities by garnering knowledge and latest information from multifarious sources. This responsibility is exclusively on us, at the ICSI.

In this direction, the Institute strongly felt the need to take up Financial Services as focused area this year. A step in that direction is:

ICSI FinanCS - Financial OpportunitiesThe ICSians Way

Opportunity

Company Secretaries in Practice are authorised to certify various documents pertaining to import and export by individuals and partnership firms as well as companies under the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20.

Current Status

Statutory Recognition under the Foreign Trade Policy

Engagement Perspective

The Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) of India is guided by the EXIM Policy of the Government of India and is regulated by the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is the primary governing body in matters related to Exim Policy. India's Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) has, predictably, been formulated for five years at a time and reviewed annually. The focus of the FTP has been on providing a framework of rules and procedures for exports and imports and a set of incentives for promoting exports.

Foreign Trade and Development Act, 1992 read with Foreign Trade Policy and Procedure 2015-2020 authorises the Company Secretary in Practice to certify various documents relating to import and export. In order to move further towards paperless processing of reward schemes, the DGFT decided to develop an online procedure to upload digitally signed documents by Company Secretary.

ICSI Initiatives

ICSI always endeavours to promote the cause of the profession to excel in service delivery to various stakeholders. With a view to tap newer avenues available in the areas of financial services, the Institute regularly makes representations to Government and regulatory authorities such as SEBI, RBI, IRDA & IBA and apprise them about the potential value addition by a company secretary in the areas of financial services. Further for capacity building of the members, ICSI organises Seminars, Conferences and Training Programmes on contemporary topics inter alia related to financial services.

In our quest to bring newer opportunities for our Profession, we humbly remain

Sincerely yours,

CS Mahavir Lunawat
Chairman, Financial Services Committee
& Central Council Member, The ICSI

CS (Dr.) Shyam Agrawal
President, The ICSI