

PREFACE

"We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends."

– Mary McLeod Bethune

Digital technologies have a profound impact on economies and societies and are changing the way we work, communicate and engage in social activities. They also drive innovation in many different spheres of life. The innovative capacity of technology is very much conditioned by the level of digital skills of the professionals.

The ICSI has always demonstrated its resilience to the changing situation and growing demands of the Government and Corporate by continuous upgradation of technology, skill sets, commitment to quality and constant innovation. ICSI members are playing a key role in the development of a robust corporate sector.

Emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Robotic Process Automation (RPA), Internet of Things (IoT) and Big Data Analytics will have a profound impact on the profession of Company Secretaries in the future. It is imperative that members embrace the technological advancements in their working to stay ahead in the competition.

The ICSI is continuously striving to educate its students and members in the field of Digital Transformation. This publication titled "**Key Digital Technologies: A Handbook for Professionals**" is an endeavour of the ICSI to provide overview of the emerging technologies and growing trend towards automation using these technologies. The publication has captured the examples from the Government and Corporate where emerging technologies are being adopted.

I place on record my sincere thanks to CS Kiran M. Chitale, Company Secretary, Pune for providing valuable inputs. I commend the dedicated efforts put in by CS Kanika, Executive (Academics), CS Disha Kant, Deputy Director, Mr. Manoj Kumar, Deputy Director, ably guided by CS Alka Arora, Joint Director, Directorate of Professional Development, ICSI under the overall guidance of CS Asish Mohan, Secretary, ICSI in bringing out this publication.

I am confident the publication will prove to be immensely beneficial to professionals in embracing technology in their professional work. We, at ICSI, will continue to deliver many such initiatives that are meant to add to the capacity and skills of our members with the overall objective of enhancing their efficiency.

However, since there is always scope for further improvement in any publication, I would appreciate the users and readers for offering their constructive suggestions/ comments/ inputs for the improvement of this publication.

Place: Bengaluru

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CS Nagendra D. Rao

President

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India