



Message from Editor

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Dear readers,

At the outset, let me wish all our readers a Happy New Year 2018. We are presenting the first quarter issue of India Council Newsletter (ICNL) for the year 2018. This current issue of ICNL in 82 pages features a record number of ten articles, few items unique to the 1st issue of the year such as Execom-2018 details of India Council, Secretary's Report for the year 2017, Reference to the Section Reports for the year 2017 that are submitted to R10 and a Report on annual flagship event INDICON-2017 and AG of IC along with various events, such as international conferences, symposiums, workshops, hub & student congresses, distinguished lectures, activities of Societies and Affinity Groups held in the Bangalore, Kerala, Kolkata, Madras and Pune Sections and IEEE CSS & IEE PES chapters. We thank the chairs of these Sections and the conveners of the events for sending the reports as per guidelines and IC Chair Dr. Sivaji and IC Secretary Dr Preeti for their coordination. While all the Sections must have sent their Annual Reports for 2017 to R10, only five Sections – Bombay, Delhi, Kerala, Madras and Pune seem to have shared it with ICNL. These reports are quite comprehensive, elaborate and run to several pages and have been archived and the link is shared for reader's ref. As and when we receive the reports from other Sections, they will get included in the archive. For the forthcoming issues, we expect the activity reports from all the Sections to be sent to the newsletter email id directly at ieee.icnl@gmail.com as per the guidelines published in the newsletter and also available at <https://goo.gl/DcVPmx>

Dr. Sivaji Chakravorti, Chair, IC in his message has given the highlights of the face-to-face IC execom meetings held at Rajkot and during the R10 meeting at Langkawi, Malaysia. Malaysia including the nomination of Sri Deepak Mathur, immediate past IC Chair as one of the three candidates for the R10 Director Elect elections. It is nice to note that IEEE IC that MV Chouhan Student Paper Contest (MVCSPC) will become a part of INDICON from 2018. Great to note about the venues of INDICON-2019 (Gujarat), AISYWC- 2018 (Bangalore), AISYWC-2019 (Hyderabad), miniPOCO-2018 (Visakhapatnam).

ICNL congratulates Ms. Jayati Vijaywargiya & Ms. Soma Biswas -- the winners of "Late Shri Pralhad P Chhabria Award" instituted by Hope Foundation and Research Centre in association with IEEE IC and WiE, IEEE Pune Section and Prof Anurag Kumar for the prestigious IEI IEEE Award for Engineering Excellence 2017.

ICNL thanks the authors of the following informative and interesting articles published in this issue.

- Enabling Blind and Visually Impaired through Users-Developed Dactylology by Mr. Gourav Modanwal and Mr. Kishor Sarawadekar
- A Unique Pedagogical Experiment: The 5-Week Induction Programme (5WIP) at IIT Mandi by Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves & Dr. Devika Sethi
- Collaborative Contract Research / R&D Outsourcing in India The Gap and the Solution by Dr. K. Subramanian
- Corporate Responsibility and the Challenges of Sustainability by Dr Mukund Rajan
- IoT Demystified - Its role in precision agriculture to meet food security by Mr. Amit Saha
- IoT-Cloud Applications for Societal Benefits – An Entrepreneurial Solution by Dr. Shajulin Benedict
- Future of Testing in the Digital World by Ms. Renu Rajani
- Future of Jobs – 2018 by Aspiring Minds
- ASIC Cloud Trends by Mr. V. P. Sampath
- Understanding Waste Management – Part 2 by Mr. Alok Kumar

IT in Jan-Mar 2018 by Prof. S. Sadagopan, Director, IIIT Bangalore is a part of our regular column in ICNL and provides a broad overview on various important happenings in the IT and Telecom sectors in India. We are sure that readers will find the information and the related links provided in the column "Information Resources" compiled by the editor Mr. H.R. Mohan will be of interest to ICNL readers. We have also included brief reviews of three books -- The Business Plan Write-up Simplified; The Manual for Indian Start-ups; and IoT Technical Challenges and Solutions

We wish to reiterate that our wish to make ICNL a quality source of information can be realized only with the active support from one and all. In this context, we look forward to inputs from IEEE OUs, articles on current interest topics from academic and professional community. Happy reading of ICNL-18q1.