

## CIB Mumbai Chapter Meeting A Report

It was William James who once said, "It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect its successful outcome." S. Venkatesh, Head – Risk & Internal Control, Siemens Ltd., Mumbai displayed a similar attitude when he was requested by Anil Chopra if he would be willing to succeed him as the Convenor of the CIB Mumbai Chapter. Anil, who has relocated from Mumbai and had successfully steered the Mumbai Chapter in the past three years found a willing, ready and enthusiastic response from Mr. Venkatesh.

No sooner had Venkatesh accepted this role—in addition to his already existing responsibilities at Siemens—than he quickly made vigorous attempts to familiar himself with all the things he needed to know as Convenor. While Venkatesh had participated in past CIB Round Table deliberations and Chapter meetings, it was as a participant. This time around things were different.



Come August 6, 2016 and Caux Initiatives for Business was happy to see S. Venkatesh make his debut as Chair at the monthly meeting of the CIB Mumbai Chapter. The venue was as usual the IofC flat at Kumaram on Worli Sea-face and the meetings were still on the first Saturday of every month at

15:30 hours. Though Anil Chopra was unable to make it from his new city of work, Venkatesh was happy with the support he received from CIB Chairman, Sarosh Ghandy (Bengaluru) and Luis Gomes (Goa) who attended the meeting. Two CIB Pune Chapter members, Lt. Col. Allan Burby (Retd.) and Sanjiv Mehta, though they expressed their regret at being unable to stay for the discussions, offered complete support. They invited Venkatesh to one of their upcoming RTs so that he too could observe some the things they were doing in their Chapter.

In addition, there were eight others who participated at the meeting to not only strengthen the Chapter under Venkatesh, but also to lend their shoulder to the

activities that the team would take up. Among these were Amit Dave, Retd. Dy. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM); Prof. Virendra Shukla; Mrs. Rekha Shahani-Jagasia; Trustee, Kamala High School; Mrs. Promila Thukral, former Executive, Sumeet Industries; Mrs. Nisha Kapoor, Retd. Senior School teacher who represented her husband, S K Kapoor, former Senior Executive from a dairy industry; Dr. R K Anand, Paediatrician and Mrs. Asha Anand.

Amit Dave first shared his various experiences on ethical dilemmas with his work at the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai. Mrs. Shahani-Jagasia added to this with her own experiences. Those present were inspired to learn of how they succeeded in spite of the challenges faced.

Venkatesh then reviewed the status of various actions that were proposed and listed when Anil Chopra steered the Mumbai Chapter. The list that was drawn up in their meeting on February 6, 2016 contained about 15 to-do's or possible projects. One such activity focused on conducting one meeting a month with officers from corporates, including businesses in the small and medium scale sector; building and construction; and business management institutions. Another aspect on the list that was reviewed was the possibility of conducting Round Table deliberations at the City Chapter level, much like the Pune Chapter's successful quarterly events at various companies. A third focus on the list dealt with reaching out to the few Chambers of Commerce bodies in Mumbai to allow opportunity to share details of initiatives by the CIB Mumbai Chapter with their members and suggest an occasion for sharing inspiring experiences with the group's manager level officers.

Following this review, a number of action points were short-listed so to take them up in the immediate weeks ahead. Some of these were:

- Since some of the key members are unable to attend Chapter meetings on a regular basis, Venkatesh is to approach them to identify a proxy who could represent them in their absence, so that continuity on actions is maintained. He also hoped to pursue with some of these members how to take proposed activities forward.
- Venkatesh offered to reconnect with the people who were present at the previous two Round Tables at Siemens to see what next can be done in their respective organizations.
- Prof. Virendra Shukla suggested that it would be useful to review the visioning exercise that had been conducted by the Mumbai Chapter team two years ago on August 2, 2014.
- Mr. Venkatesh hoped to connect with Transasia Bio-Medicals Ltd. and Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. in an attempt to get them host the next proposed Chapter Round Table meetings.

- Prof. Shukla said that he would reach out to some of the management institutes to hold workshops with their students and teachers in the new scholastic year. He also hoped to, along with Dr. Anand, connect with Rotary Club to see how their collaboration could make more business organizations familiar with CIB.
- Venkatesh is also to get in touch with Chief Ethics Officers of RM Next (a forum for sharing best practices in Enterprise Risk Management) and solicit their active participation in CIB.

Thanking all for making the time, Venkatesh and Dr. R K Anand then requested all to stay on for the regular monthly IofC meeting that was to follow immediately.

