

## **Welcome Speech by Smt. Sonali Singh, Jt. CGA**

Respected Controller General of Accounts, retired CGAs and Addl. CGAs, distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen.

Allow me to extend a very warm welcome to all the participants on the 4<sup>th</sup> Civil Accounts Day. Since March 2008, Civil Accounts Day is being celebrated every year to commemorate the departmentalization of Civil Accounts. The date 1<sup>st</sup> March holds special significance for our Department for it was on this day that the “Departmentalization of Union Accounts (Transfer of Personnel) Act, 1976 came into force. Over the years, this day has evolved as a platform to celebrate our achievements and our contributions to the public financial management system of the country. It also affords us a unique opportunity to honestly introspect and examine where we are, what role we play and how together we can take our Organization to greater heights of excellence.

Today, as a part of this celebration, we would see a short film which captures the history and achievements of our Organization. The trials and tribulations of over three decades instill in us a steely resolve to not only cement our space in the edifice of governance of the country but also to carve a niche in a manner that our contributions are acknowledged and appreciated.

It gives me pleasure to share with you that quite a few such initiatives are being taken by a number of our Pay and Accounts Offices. This year the excellent work done by top 25 PAOs has been recognized by awarding them the Best Performing PAO award. A separate category of awards called the “CGA Best Practices Award” has also been instituted this year. The purpose is to recognize and encourage the innovative, client-centric initiatives started by the PAOs, which are replicable and sustainable. We were happy to receive a very encouraging response for this category when we called for nominations from the Pr CCAs/CCAs and CAs. Today we will be honouring the three best initiatives which would perhaps inspire and propel others also to take similar initiatives in future.

Technology has assumed significant role in the governance of today and it is all the more relevant for organizations like ours. We are quite aware of this and therefore several initiatives have been taken in this field. The programs and systems created have been very dynamic and they have been evolving over a period of time. It would continue to be so in the

future as well. Today's Presentation on the Evolution of IT systems in the Civil Accounts Organisation will showcase this very exciting journey of which we all are a part.

It has taken us decades of dedicated hard work to reach where we are today. We acknowledge those who have contributed to our growth and who have touched our lives through their work. Some of them are with us here today to celebrate. A special and warm welcome for them as I once again welcome you all to this event.

Thank You

Thank you, all!