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About the Firm

Founded in 2008 on immutable principles of professional ethics and excellence, Bharucha & Partners is a full-service law firm, with offices in Mumbai, New Delhi, and Bengaluru in India.

We are a Firm of practitioners, with 13 Partners and over 80 lawyers offering a blend of rich experience, creativity, and the energy of youth. Each of the partners has a proven track record of handling complex commercial transactions or disputes while each associate has graduated at the top of their class and has a passion for the law and a love for learning. Each associate is individually groomed to share the vision and mission of the partners and the Firm. The hallmarks which each of our lawyer's share are Commitment to the Profession, Communication and Transparency, and, Conviction and Integrity in our dealings with each other, our clients, counterparts in the profession and, also, and no less importantly, with ourselves.

The Firm caters to a diverse clientele including Fortune 500 companies, multinational corporations, public sector undertakings, banking and financial institutions, government and state authorities, and various not-for-profits. Our clients consistently praise the 'work ethic' of the Firm, the 'timeliness' of our lawyers, and the 'hard-working' team of lawyers that serve 'the best interests of the clients'.

The Firm has been consistently recognised on various platforms like Chambers and Partners, Euromoney, Legal 500, Who's Who Legal, IFLR1000, asialaw, Benchmark Litigation, and India Business Law Journal, to name a few.

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Mission

To our clients

We are committed to further your interests: by delivering work product of the highest quality; on time, every time; consistent with high ethical standards; at a reasonable cost; always delivering value.

To our professional colleagues

As our learned friends, we offer courteous and straight dealing.

To our counter parties

Respectful of your legitimate rights, we will not make unreasonable demands while working for the best results for our clients. In a hostile situation, may the best man win and we will work to ensure that the best case for our client is put forward.

Vision

In the 21st century, time is at a premium; competence is said to be a commodity; and loyalty is for sale. We accept none of that.

Organisations and systems make time manageable. Excellence is rare, it cannot be equated with competence.

We have seen the legal profession grow and change with growth. We believe that growth cannot be at the cost of excellence. To the contrary, growth must foster excellence. We will not be part of any system where values or quality may be impaired in the rush to get the deal done.

We have come together based on immutable principles of truth, ethics, and excellence.

We will not compromise.

Growth will be driven by these principles. We will select the right people, groom them, invest in them. We will not just invest money. We will invest our time and our commitment. Some will fall by the way, as they must, but a few will make the grade. Those who share our values and our vision will be partners. They will be lawyers who will succeed in any jurisdiction.

Within ourselves, we have the capabilities of a full-service law firm. We will grow our capabilities to better serve our clients.

We are proud of every member of our Firm, be they professionals, fee earners, or support staff. Each is a flag bearer. We are committed to going forward and each constituent of our Firm is proud to belong to the law firm that delivers excellent value to its clients and enriches the profession.

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Practice Areas

Mergers & Acquisitions

Commercial Litigation

International & Domestic Arbitration

Private Equity / Venture Capital

Laws of Crime

Governance, Ethics, & Anti-Corruption

Banking & Finance

Project Finance

Capital Markets & Securities Law

Employment & Human Resources

Regulatory & Compliance

Intellectual Property

Infrastructure

Insolvency Resolution, Restructuring, & Stressed Assets

Technology, Media, & Telecommunications

Competition & Antitrust

Direct Tax

Indirect Tax

Real Estate

Private Client

Social Impact & Policy

General Corporate Advisory



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Advocates & Solicitors



MP Bharucha

Founder, Senior Partner

Practice Areas

Commercial Litigation
International & Domestic Arbitration
Governance, Ethics, & Anti-Corruption
General Corporate & Commercial
Advisory

Admissions

Advocate on Record, Supreme Court
of India
Solicitor, High Court, Mumbai
Solicitor, Supreme Court of England
and Wales
Solicitor, Hong Kong

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa
Bombay Bar Association
Managing Committee, Bombay
Incorporated
Law Society

Education

LL.B, University of Bombay,
Mumbai

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi

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Office

Mumbai, India

Introduction

Often described as the "weapon of choice", Marezban, or MP as he is often called, is the first-choice lawyer for many and is known for his strategic vision and depth of knowledge. With over 45 years of practice, MP's experience ranges from dispute resolution to M&A and commercial advisory. He is lauded by his clients as "one of the leading lawyers in the country," who "has been on the top of his game for a long time."

In his dispute resolution practice, MP often takes the role of arguing counsel and has advised international and domestic clients in a variety of arbitration proceedings including those governed by the rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), London Court of Arbitration (LCIA), and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). His experience ranges from hostile takeovers to corporate restructuring. His multi-disciplinary abilities are particularly helpful in corporate disputes in courts as also in arbitration.

He has been relied on as an Indian law expert in several jurisdictions.

MP is also an experienced arbitrator.

MP began his career at Mulla & Mulla & Craigie Blunt & Caroe where he was elected Partner in 1978 and a member of the management team in 1992. He was one of the founding partners of the erstwhile Amarchand & Mangaldas and Suresh A. Shroff & Co. in 1995. He founded Bharucha & Partners in 2008.

Indicative Experience

- Representing Sony Pictures Networks India Private Limited before Bombay High Court in: (i) its challenge against Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's new tariff order on broadcasting; and (ii) defending its claims against the Board of Control for Cricket in India.
- Representing Idea Cellular Limited (now Vodafone Idea Limited) in: (i) regulatory proceedings concerning the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's Interconnection Usage Charge Regulations; and (ii) various penalty proceedings in relation to spectrum usage charges and license conditions.
- Representing ITC Limited before various fora (including Securities and Exchange Board of India and Securities Appellate Tribunal) in the restructuring of Hotel Leelaventure Limited and protecting interest of minority shareholders.
- Representing Besso Limited before Bombay High Court in resisting reinsurance claims by Reliance General Insurance Company Limited in relation to personal accident death insurance policies of State Bank of India.
- Representing and advising Diageo pie and its associate companies: (i) before Directorate of Enforcement in proceedings initiated under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 and Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 against Vijay Mallya; (ii) before Securities and Exchange Board of India and Securities Appellate Tribunal concerning show-cause-notices issued in relation to the acquisition of shares of United Spirits Limited by its subsidiary; and (iii) for disputes in the United Kingdom with Vijay Mallya.
- Representing and advising United Spirits Limited in its disputes with IDBI Bank Limited relating to prepayment of a loan facility and release of securities including its equity shares that were pledged with IDBI Bank Limited.
- Representing and advising Gautam Thapar, Avantha Holdings Limited and other promoter entities of CG Power and Industrial Solutions Limited (CG Power) in regulatory proceedings and in Central Bureau of Investigation inquiries regarding claims by CG Power.
- Advising Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited in regulatory inquiries and issues of corporate governance.
- Representing Prysmian Cavi e Sistemi s.r.l. before Supreme Court regarding enforcement of an international award against Vijay Karia and settling the law on 'public policy' as a ground of challenge.
- Representing Kalpataru Power Transmission Limited before an arbitral tribunal in disputes relating to construction of the Mundra - Bhatinda 550 km oil pipeline.
- Representing Cowtown Infotech Services Private Limited (a Lodha Group company) in claims arising out of the construction of a residential complex.





Alka Bharucha

Senior Partner

Practice Areas

Mergers & Acquisitions
Private Equity / Venture Capital
Banking & Finance
Project Finance
Infrastructure
Capital Markets & Securities Law

Admissions

Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India
Solicitor, High Court, Mumbai
Solicitor, Supreme Court of England and Wales

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa
Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Education

B.A. (Hons.), University of Bombay, Mumbai
LL.B, University of Bombay, Mumbai
LL.M, University of London, London

Languages Known

English, Hindi

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Office

Mumbai, India

Introduction

Described by clients as “very knowledgeable, articulate, composed and balanced in approach,” Alka is respected for her transactional work. In over 30 years of her practice as a transactions lawyer, Alka has advised on mergers and acquisitions, private equity investments, joint ventures, restructuring, banking and structured finance, capital markets, and infrastructure mandates.

Alka has in-depth expertise in the telecom sector, having advised Indian and multinational telecom companies on mergers and acquisitions, financings, refinancings, initial public offerings, and regulatory matters. Alka also has significant experience in the power sector and has represented several developers. She has negotiated and drafted coal supply, transportation, wagon lease, and private siding agreements for developers.

Her general corporate work includes the establishment of mutual funds, providing regulatory advice to foreign portfolio investors, foreign venture capital investors, brokers, merchant bankers, and other financial intermediaries. Alka is actively engaged in representing trans-national corporations for investments in retail, real estate, and the defence sectors, all of which have restrictions on foreign investment. For real estate investments, the engagements include conceptualising and devising alternate structures to establish onshore and offshore funds.

Alka began her career with Mulla & Mulla & Craigie Blunt & Caroe. She joined Amarchand & Mangaldas and Suresh A. Shroff & Co. as a partner in 1992. She co-founded Bharucha & Partners in 2008.

Indicative Experience

- Advising Idea Cellular Limited on the stake sale of its standalone tower subsidiary to American Tower Corporation.
- Advising Idea Cellular Limited on the merger of the Indian entities of Vodafone Group plc with Idea Cellular Limited.
- Advising Twitter, Inc. on its acquisition of ZipDial Mobile Solutions Private Limited.
- Advising HSBC Oman S.A.O.G. on the sale of their banking business in India to Doha Bank.
- Advising ISS A/S, Denmark on the sale of their pest control business (HiCare) and cash and value services business in India to India Value Fund Advisors and SIS Prosegur Holdings Private Limited respectively.
- Advising IJM Corporation Berhad on the sale of its controlling stake in Trichy Tollway Private Limited to Macquarie SBI Infrastructure Fund.
- Advising IJM Corporation Berhad on its acquisition of the equity stake of IDFC Trustee Company Limited in Vijayawada Tollway Private Limited.
- Advising HSBC India on the proposed acquisition of the retail and commercial banking business of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc in India.
- Advising Axis Bank Limited on the acquisition by Schroders plc of strategic interest in Axis Asset Management Company Limited.
- Advising the United Business Media Group (now, Informa plc) on their acquisitions of exhibition and media events in India.
- Advising DCB Bank Limited on its acquisition of a substantial stake of the Indian banking business of Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank P.J.S.C.
- Advising Essel Mining & Industries Limited on their acquisition of Pro Minerals Private Limited pursuant to a corporate insolvency resolution process initiated under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.



Justin M Bharucha

Managing Partner

Practice Areas

Mergers & Acquisitions
Banking & Finance
Project Finance
Regulatory & Compliance
Employment & Human Resources

Admissions

Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India
Solicitor, High Court, Mumbai

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa
Bombay Bar Association
Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Education

B.A. LL.B (Hons.), National Law School of India University, Bengaluru
LL.M (Corporate & Financial Laws), London School of Economics, London

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati

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Office

Mumbai, India

Introduction

Justin's practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, finance, infrastructure, and litigious investor exits. His mergers and acquisitions practice includes advising on domestic and offshore acquisitions (ranging from organic joint ventures to venture capital and private equity investments).

His area of expertise includes foreign direct investment in restricted industry sectors such as defence, banking, and retail. Justin also has an extensive structured finance practice.

He is also developing the Firm's Infrastructure Practice, extending from the development of ports and roads to logistics. Justin also advises clients on mandates relating to anti-corruption and ethics.

He chairs the Employment Law Practice at the Firm and oversees the development of the Firm's Impact Policy Group, which includes policy engagement, government relations, impact mandates, and pro bono engagements.

Indicative Experience

- Advising JM Baxi Group on various M&A and financing mandates.
- Advising VisVires Indian Consumers Pte. Limited on its investment in various wineries and helping them acquire a controlling stake in India's second-largest winery by capacity and sales.
- Advising IL&FS Investment Managers Limited on exit strategies and representing them in their disputes with promoters of real estate companies in which IL&FS Investment Managers Limited had previously invested.
- Advising Macquarie Group Limited on various matters, including INR 100 billion facility from Yes Bank Limited for India's first Toll Operate Transfer (TOT) oncession as well as investments made previously.
- Advising General Motors Company on various matters relating to its India business.
- Advising Safeway Concessions (a part of the Macquarie Group and comprising 9 Indian concessionaires) on raising approx. INR 50 billion financing from Yes Bank Limited for funding the concession fee for the 1st Toll Operate Transfer (TOT) concession package in India.
- Advising HSBC France on debt restructuring and resolution plans being framed by a consortium of lenders for each of Reliance Communication Limited, Reliance Infratel Limited, and Reliance Telecom Limited in the context of the facilities extended by the foreign lender to Reliance Telecom Limited.
- Advising India Factoring and Finance Solutions Private Limited on a proposed loan of INR 670 million to Synergies Castings Limited.
- Advising in the capacity of India counsel for the offshore fund being raised by VisVires Indian Wineries 2 Master Fund Pte. Limited.
- Advising MentorCap Management Private Limited on several investments, including erecting the sale and purchase of artworks and setting up a joint venture for purchasing and marketing artworks.
- Advising Capital Small Finance Bank Limited on several rounds of investment from private equity investors.





Vandana Pai

Partner, Head – Investment Funds Practice

Practice Areas

Private Equity / Venture Capital
Mergers & Acquisitions
Employment & Human Resources
General Corporate Advisory

Admissions

Successfully cleared the New York
State Bar Examination

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa

Education

B.A. LL.B (Hons.), National Law
School of India University,
Bengaluru
LL.M, Columbia Law School,
New York | James Kent Scholar
(top 1-3% of the graduating
batch)

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Konkani

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Introduction

Vandana commands a strong reputation from market commentators and clients alike. Clients state that, "she foresees business and legal issues, and is very proactive in addressing potential concerns".

Vandana leads the Firm's Private Equity Practice and advises on complex private equity investments, which include structuring and negotiating the investments and exits across sectors for leading fund houses and financial institutions. She also has extensive experience advising on investments, both in equity and structured products in the real estate sector in India.

Her mergers and acquisitions experience includes structuring and advising on joint ventures, foreign investment by non-resident investors, overseas investment by Indian companies, court-based restructuring, business and asset transfers, takeovers, and preferential allotments by listed companies.

Vandana has garnered some of the most marquee names in her practice area as her clients, like Apollo Global, Ivanhoé Cambridge, General Atlantic, and Macquarie Infrastructure & Real Assets, to name a few.

Indicative Experience

- Advising Macquarie Infrastructure & Real Assets on its successful bid for 9 roads under the 1st Toll Operate Transfer (TOT) model granted by the National Highway Authority of India.
- Advising General Atlantic on its investment and partial exit from Indiaideas.com Limited (that operates the payment gateway BillDesk).
- Advising Apollo Global on multiple investments and exits in real estate and hospitality companies in India.
- Advising Global Innovation Fund on its investment in EM3 Agri Services Private Limited (which provides pay-per-use farm equipment).
- Advising Ivanhoé Cambridge on multiple investments in India.
- Advising General Atlantic on its investment into IIFL Wealth Management Limited (a diversified financial service provider) and reverse listing of the shares of IIFL Wealth Management Limited through a demerger.
- Advising Developing World Markets on sale of their investments in India.
- Advising Omidyar Networks on its investment in Quikr (an online marketplace).
- Advising Reliance Venture Capital Fund on its investment in Billionloans Financial Services Private Limited (a company engaged in the business of marketplace lending).
- Advising affiliates of Bain Capital Partners on their investment in Genpact Limited (an Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) company).
- Advising Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) on their participation as a limited partner in Tara India Fund IV (managed by IL&FS Investment Managers Limited).
- Advising Tata Opportunities Fund on its investment in Tata Sky (a DTH provider).





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Vishnu Dutt U

Partner

Practice Areas

Capital Markets & Securities Law
Mergers & Acquisitions
Intellectual Property
General Corporate Advisory

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa

Education

B.A.B.L (Hons.), National
Academy of Legal Studies and
Research, Hyderabad

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Malayalam,
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Introduction

Vishnu's practice focuses on capital markets and mergers and acquisitions. He has advised on domestic and cross-border acquisitions and several domestic capital market deals, including initial public offerings (IPOs) and qualified institutional placements (QIPs).

Vishnu's experience extends to international equity and debt issues including Global Depository Receipts (GDRs) and medium-term notes. Vishnu's capital markets exposure has led to engagements with foreign institutional investors, mutual funds, and portfolio management services, including the establishment of singular products..

Vishnu also regularly advises clients on intellectual property issues.

Indicative Experience

- Advising Inga Capital Private Limited, Investec Capital Services (India) Private Limited, and SREI Capital Markets Limited, the underwriters on the public issue of equity shares by Bharat Road Network Limited aggregating approximately INR 6 billion.
- Advising State Bank of India on the rights issue of its equity shares aggregating approximately INR 167 billion.
- Advising Spark Capital Advisors (India) Private Limited, the lead manager and Intellect Design Arena Limited, the issuer on the rights issue of equity shares by the issuer aggregating approximately INR 2 billion.
- Advising and acting as Special Counsel to Adlabs Entertainment Limited on its initial public offer of equity shares aggregating approximately INR 4 billion.
- Advising Snowman Logistics Limited on its initial public issue of equity shares aggregating approximately INR 2 billion.
- Advising Suzlon Energy Limited on its rights issue of equity shares aggregating approximately INR 13 billion.
- Advising Neogen Chemicals Limited on its initial public offering of equity shares aggregating approximately INR 1.32 billion.
- Advising Jyoti Structures Limited, the issuer on the rights issue of non-convertible debentures (NCDs) along with warrants of the issuer aggregating approximately INR 1.25 billion and advising Edelweiss Financial Services Limited, the global coordinators and book running lead managers (GCBRLM) on the qualified institutional placement (QIP) by the issuer aggregating INR 1 billion.
- Advising State Bank of India and IDBI Bank on the establishment of their medium-term note programs of USD 5 billion and USD 1.5 billion respectively.
- Advising Gateway Distriparks Limited and IL&FS Investsmart Limited on their Global Depository Receipt (GDR) issues.
- Advising Reliance MediaWorks Limited, the issuer and Axis Capital Limited, the lead manager on the issue of shares on rights basis of the issuer, aggregating approximately INR 6 billion.
- Advising TAQA Jyoti Energy Ventures Private Limited on their acquisition of Himachal Sorang Power Limited.



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Karthik Somasundram

Partner

Practice Areas

Commercial Litigation
International & Domestic Arbitration
Insolvency Resolution, Restructuring,
& Stressed Assets
Intellectual Property

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Andhra Pradesh

Education

B.A.B.L (Hons.), National Academy of
Legal Studies and Research,
Hyderabad

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu

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Office

Mumbai, India

Introduction

Karthik's practice focuses on dispute resolution and insolvency.

In his dispute resolution practice, he advises and represents clients in domestic and international commercial arbitrations including before the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC). Karthik also appears before various high courts and tribunals in the country including the Supreme Court and the Bombay High Court.

In his insolvency practice, Karthik is actively engaged in mandates involving default enforcement and restructuring under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and regularly appears before the National Company Law Tribunal and the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal.

Karthik has extensive experience in advising and representing clients with respect to disputes involving private equity and strategic investments as well as large credit facilities. In addition to investors and lenders, he has also acted for promoters.

Indicative Experience

- Advising and representing IL&FS India Realty Funds (IIRF) and IL&FS Financial Services' subsidiary IFIN Realty Trust on a batch of international commercial arbitration proceedings against infrastructure companies promoted by Hubtown Limited.
- Representing overseas private equity funds such as Saffron India Real Estate Fund (SIREF), Diamont Dream Investments Limited, and others in disputes over their investments in various infrastructure companies in India.
- Representing HSBC France in the debt restructuring and resolution plans being drawn up by a consortium of lenders for each of Reliance Communication Limited, Reliance Infratel Limited, and Reliance Telecom Limited in the context of the facilities extended by the foreign lender to Reliance Telecom Limited.
- Representing four core lenders of the consortium of lenders of Essar Steel Limited in disputes arising during the corporate insolvency resolution process under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- Advising and representing ICICI Bank Limited with respect to initiating the corporate insolvency resolution process under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 against Unimark Remedies Limited.
- Representing Fermenta Biotech Limited (formerly, DIL Limited) with respect to the corporate insolvency resolution process of Noble Explochem Limited under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- Representing SARA Research & Development Centre Private Limited and SARA Chemicals & Consultants in arbitrations arising out of disputes over pharmaceutical and chemical formulation projects with various pharmaceutical and chemical processing companies.
- Representing ATC Telecom Infrastructure Private Limited in arbitration proceedings arising out of disputes over operation and maintenance of mobile telecom towers in India.
- Representing Balaji Motion Pictures Limited in multiple arbitration proceedings in connection with disputes arising out of co-production arrangements.
- Advising and representing Tata Group, Larsen & Toubro Limited, Network 18 Limited, Grasim Industries Limited, and their subsidiaries on multiple mandates concerning corporate restructuring before courts and National Company Law Tribunals.
- Advising National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) on several mandates involving breach of NCDEX regulations and bye-laws in disciplinary proceedings against intermediaries.
- Representing Royal Orchid Hotels Limited in its dispute with Kamat Hotels Limited regarding the trademark 'Orchid' and 'Royal Orchid'.





Rohit D Sharma

Partner

Practice Areas

Banking & Finance
Capital Markets & Securities Law
Insolvency Resolution, Restructuring,
& Stressed Assets
Project Finance
Private Equity / Venture Capital

Admissions

Solicitor, Supreme Court of England
and Wales

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Delhi

Education

LL.B (Hons.), Amity Law School,
Guru Gobind Singh
Indraprastha University, New
Delhi
LL.M (Banking & Finance Laws),
University College of London,
University of London, London

Languages Known

English, Hindi

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Office

Mumbai, India

Introduction

Rohit's practice focuses on banking and finance. He has handled several complex domestic and cross-border finance transactions ranging from asset-backed finance (including both aviation and maritime finance), external commercial borrowings, corporate finance, project finance, debenture issuances, and derivatives to securitisation. He regularly advises both borrowers and lenders in restructuring matters, including on matters under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

In addition to banking and finance matters, he also advises on private equity investments in infrastructure, information and technology, and financial services sectors.

Indicative Experience

- Advising a non-banking financial company (NBFC) on its investment in Capital Tier II Bonds to be issued by a small finance bank.
- Advising a bank on the issuance of listed Capital Tier II Bond.
- Advising NIIF Infrastructure Finance Limited (formerly known as IDFC Infrastructure Finance Limited) on refinancing of a 32 MW/46.4 MW solar project of Clean Max Photovoltaic Private Limited.
- Advising State Bank of India on providing an INR 40 billion loan facility to an electricity distribution company.
- Advising a company on the issuance of non-principal, protected, unlisted, unrated, secured, redeemable, non-convertible debentures.
- Advising various non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) on their securitisation transactions.
- Advising Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited on the restructuring of its loans.
- Advising various lenders, including investment funds on the financing of resolution plans.
- Advising Maersk Trade Finance on the various financing products offered to their clients in India.
- Advising IDFC Limited on availing foreign currency facility for on-lending from Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) (U.S. government's development finance institution).





Kaushik Moitra

Partner

Practice Areas

Technology, Media, &
Telecommunications
Intellectual Property
Mergers & Acquisitions
Private Equity / Venture Capital
Regulatory & Compliance

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Delhi
Supreme Court Bar Association
Delhi High Court Bar Association

Education

B.A. LL.B (Hons.), University
School of Law and Legal
Studies, Guru Gobind Singh
Indraprastha University, New
Delhi

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Bengali

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Office

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Introduction

With his rich experience in technology, media and telecommunications, intellectual property, and private equity, Kaushik brings to the table domain knowledge and acute legal acumen.

Kaushik advises international and domestic clients on mandates ranging across policy advisory, compliance and regulations, and media and technology-related documentation including licensing, distribution, and revenue sharing agreements. He is closely engaged with the Entrepreneurship and Start-up Practice of the Firm.

His rich experience across business sectors coupled with commercial and risk-averse pragmatism enables him to deliver comprehensive legal strategies to actualise clients' business objectives from early-stage proof-of-concept to late-stage equity and debt raising.

Indicative Experience

- Advising Relevant e-solutions Private Limited on the acquisition of its app 'ROPOSO' by Glance InMobi Pte. Limited.
- Advising and representing Adani Group (Adani Enterprises Limited, Adani Global Pte. Limited, and Adani Global FZE) on coal trading, mining, and bunkering disputes before arbitral tribunals and various other fora against multiple parties, including Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Company, Haryana Power Generation Company Limited, Karnataka Power Corporation Limited, and Ind-Barath Power Gencom Limited and Ind-Barath Thermal Power Limited.
- Advising and representing Alt Digital Media Entertainment Limited before Delhi High Court in its disputes with Times Internet Limited.
- Advising and representing Balaji Motion Pictures Limited before various arbitral tribunals in disputes arising out of the co-production agreements.
- Advising Alt Digital Media Entertainment Limited and Shemaroo Entertainment Limited with their end-user license agreement (EULA), privacy policy, and terms of use and disclaimers for their over-the-top (OTT) platforms 'ALT' and 'SHEMAROO' respectively.
- Advising SVF Entertainment Private Limited and Digivive Services Private Limited on commercial disputes, content regulation, and acquisition and licensing for their over-the-top (OTT) platform 'HoiChoi' and 'NexGtv' respectively.
- Advising Swara Bhaskar on defamation matters and artiste agreements.
- Advising Happily Unmarried Marketing Private Limited on its Series G investment round from IIFL Seed Ventures Fund.
- Advising Minnow Films Limited (a UK based production company) on content regulation, production policy, privacy, defamation laws in India, and providing on-ground legal support to its production team in India.
- Advising Kahaaniwaaley Media and Entertainment Ventures Private Limited on various agreements related to film production.





Sonam Gupta

Partner

Practice Areas

Laws of Crime
Governance, Ethics, & Anti-Corruption
International & Domestic Arbitration
Real Estate
Commercial Litigation

Admissions

Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India

Professional Affiliations

Delhi High Court Bar Association
Supreme Court Bar Association
Supreme Court Advocates-on Record Association

Education

B.A. LL.B (Hons.), University School of Law and Legal Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi
LL.M. (Intellectual Property Rights), University School of Law and Legal Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi
PG Diploma, Forensic Science and Forensic Medicine, IFS Academy, Pune

Languages Known

English, Hindi

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Office

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Introduction

Sonam plays an important role in leading the Governance, Ethics, and Anti-Corruption Practice at the Firm and is also engaged with its Impact Policy Group.

She has played a key role in significant white-collar cases in the country, including: (i) successfully defending Unitech Wireless (Tamil Nadu) Private Limited (Uninor) in the 2G matter before the CBI Special Court; (ii) representing high net worth individuals (HNIs) and corporates in the highly publicised prosecution initiated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) with respect to coal block allocations; and (iii) advising and representing various corporates, promoters, directors, and other Key Managerial Persons (KMPs) in investigations and prosecutions initiated by investigating agencies like Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Directorate General of GST Intelligence, etc. Besides, she has also represented and advised various high-ranking public officials.

Sonam also has considerable experience in real estate aggregation and development and is building and structuring the Firm's Real Estate Practice. She also regularly represents and advises clients on insolvency and bankruptcy law, employment law, and arbitrations.

Her practice is multi-faceted and Sonam acts in both commercial and criminal litigation before the Supreme Court of India and High Courts across the country.

Indicative Experience

- Representing Unitech Wireless (Tamil Nadu) Private Limited (Uninor) before Delhi High Court and CBI Special Court in the 2G spectrum case.
- Representing a high net-worth individual and Jaypee Group in the proceedings initiated by Central Bureau of Investigation and Directorate of Enforcement in coal block allocations scam estimated to have caused a wrongful loss of USD 26 billion to the government.
- Representing and advising two private equity funds before various fora, including, Supreme Court, in investigations under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 and Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 in alleged siphoning-off of homebuyers' money by Amrapali Group.
- Advising and representing Wadhawan Group and its promoters in ongoing investigations by different agencies under different statutes including Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, Companies Act, 2013, and Indian Penal Code, 1860.
- Representing Vivek Doval in a criminal defamation complaint against Caravan magazine and a sitting Member of Parliament.
- Representing Shivinder Mohan Singh in cases filed by Religare Finvest Limited for alleged misappropriation of funds amounting to approximately INR 24 billion before Economic Offences Wing, Delhi under Indian Penal Code, 1860
- Representing Kotak Mahindra Bank in an appeal under Insolvency and Bankruptcy, 2016 before Supreme Court of India regarding its claims under corporate guarantees.
- Advising and representing private equity funds before National Company Law Tribunal, Delhi in proceedings under Insolvency and Bankruptcy, 2016 and in petitions of oppression and mismanagement under the Companies Act, 2013.
- Representing a high net worth individual in a prosecution initiated by Department of Revenue Intelligence for exports in violation of Special Chemicals, Organism, Materials, Equipment and Technologies regulations purporting to have facilitated the weapon of mass destruction program of Iraq.
- Advising and representing Adani Group in coal trading, mining, and bunkering disputes before arbitral tribunals and various other fora against multiple parties, including Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Company, Haryana Power Generation Company Limited, Karnataka Power Corporation Limited, and Ind-Barath Power Gencom Limited and Ind-Barath Thermal Power Limited.
- Advising several high net-worth individuals who are key accused in high-profile prosecutions under the Indian Penal Code, 1860 regarding allegations including murder, offences against property, and related matters before trial and appeal courts.





Sneha Jaisingh

Partner

Practice Areas

Commercial Litigation
International & Domestic Arbitration
Governance, Ethics, & Anti-Corruption
Regulatory & Compliance

Admissions

Solicitor, High Court, Mumbai

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa
Bombay Bar Association
Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Education

B.A. LL.B, Government Law
College, Mumbai

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati,
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Introduction

Sneha is a multi-faceted litigator and has been engaged in a number of cases before various fora, including before different High Courts and the Supreme Court of India.

She specialises in commercial disputes, but her practice extends to environmental liabilities, insurance claims, and employment law. Sneha has also handled significant regulatory cases particularly in the telecommunications sector and in the securities market before the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT).

She has also been engaged in numerous complex arbitrations ranging from constructions of refineries to laying of gas and oil pipelines.

Indicative Experience

- Representing Sony Pictures Networks India Private Limited before Bombay High Court in defending its claims against the Board of Control for Cricket in India.
- Representing Idea Cellular Limited (now, Vodafone Idea Limited) before various fora in regulatory proceedings concerning Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's Interconnection Usage Charge Regulations and various penalty proceedings regarding spectrum usage charges and license conditions.
- Representing ITC Limited before various fora (including Securities and Exchange Board of India and Securities Appellate Tribunal) concerning restructuring of Hotel Leelaventure Limited to protect the interests of minority shareholders.
- Representing Besso Limited before Bombay High Court in resisting reinsurance claims by Reliance General Insurance Company Limited concerning personal accident death insurance policies of State Bank of India.
- Representing and advising Diageo plc and its associate companies: (i) before Directorate of Enforcement in proceedings initiated under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 and the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 against Vijay Mallya; (ii) before Securities and Exchange Board of India and Securities Appellate Tribunal with respect to show-cause-notices issued concerning acquisition of shares of United Spirits Limited by its subsidiary; and (iii) in disputes in the United Kingdom (UK) with Vijay Mallya.
- Representing and advising Gautam Thapar, Avantha Holdings Limited and other promoter entities of CG Power and Industrial Solutions Limited (CG Power) in regulatory proceedings and in Central Bureau of Investigation inquiries regarding claims by CG Power.
- Representing Edelweiss Comtrade Limited in resisting the show-cause-notices issued by Securities and Exchange Board of India concerning the National Spot Exchange Limited payment default matter.



Shreya Sircar

Partner

Practice Areas

Commercial Litigation
International & Domestic Arbitration
Corporate Insolvency Resolution &
Bankruptcy
Competition & Antitrust
Real Estate

Professional Affiliations

Delhi Bar Council
Delhi High Court Bar Association

Education

B.A. Political Science (Hons.), Lady
Shri Ram College, University of
Delhi, New Delhi
LL.B, University of Delhi, New Delhi
LL.M, New York University School of
Law, New York
PG Diploma, Intellectual Property
Rights Law, National Law School of
India University, Bengaluru

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Bengali

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Introduction

Shreya is a multi-disciplinary dispute resolution practitioner. She has advised and represented leading transnational and Indian corporates on a host of corporate litigation matters and ad-hoc and international commercial arbitrations, including those governed by the rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

Her sectoral expertise and prior experience extend to infrastructure, manufacturing, oil & natural gas, rolling stock industry, engineering equipment, and hydropower projects.

Shreya specialises in commercial disputes and represents clients before various courts and tribunals including, quasi-judicial authorities and commissions, including the Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi, and specialised tribunals such as Telecom Dispute Settlement & Appellate Tribunal, National Company Law Tribunal, and National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission.

Shreya has extensively worked on high-value, complex shareholder disputes, contractual claims, corporate insolvency resolution proceedings as well as disputes pertaining to the telecom and real estate sectors.

Indicative Experience

- Represented world's leading steel and mining company in simultaneous litigation (in suit proceedings pending before the Calcutta High Court) an ICC arbitration, in disputes arising out of shareholder agreements.
- Advised and represented leading rolling stock and railroad equipment manufacturing company, in mediation and ICC arbitration arising out of procurement, supply, manufacturing, and maintenance agreements.
- Acted as solicitor and counsel for multiple Maharatna and Navratna public sector undertakings, in ICC arbitrations in London, arising out of disputes related to turnkey contracts for construction of power plant in Iraq and exploration plants in Libya.
- Advised and represented a Navratna public sector undertaking before the Delhi High Court in proceedings challenging an arbitral award arising out of ad hoc arbitration in their dispute with the Ministry of Energy & Mining, Government of Sudan arising out of a pipeline contract agreement, for financing and construction of multi-product pipeline system.
- Represented a special purpose vehicle formed between Indian public sector undertakings and the Government of Mozambique in ICC arbitral proceedings, with Mozambican law as the governing law of arbitration.
- Represented resolution professionals in high-stake matters before the Supreme Court, pertaining to one time spectrum charges / Adjusted Gross Revenue imposed by Department of Telecommunications.
- Represented leading car manufacturers in proceedings before the Supreme Court challenging the administrative order passed by the Director General, Competition Commission of India in its suo moto investigation along with the constitutional challenge to the vires of the Competition Act, 2002.
- Advised and represented global FMCG companies in Special Leave Petitions before the Supreme Court, writ petitions before the Bombay High Court and Calcutta High Court, as well as class actions before National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission.
- Represented transnational corporations and Indian companies in matters pertaining to oppression / mismanagement & shareholder / directorial disputes including Joint Venture Agreements before the National Company Law Tribunal as well as the Appellate Tribunal.



Swathi Girimaji

Partner

Practice Areas

Mergers & Acquisitions
Investment Funds
HR & Employment Law
Competition & Antitrust
General Corporate Advisory

Professional Affiliations

Karnataka State Bar Council
International Bar Association

Education

B.A. LL.B, University Law College,
Bangalore University, Bengaluru
LL.M (Corporate and Commercial
Laws), London School of Economics
and Political Science, London

Languages Known

English, Hindi, Kannada

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Office

Bengaluru, India

Introduction

Swathi is a transactions lawyer with core competence in mergers and acquisitions and venture capital investments. She advises clients across sectors including telecom, cosmetics, ed-tech, and financial services.

Swathi is recognised for her ability to guide start-ups from the initial rounds of funding until late-stage investments and exits.

She also renders general corporate advisory and employment law advisory services to clients, and she has represented a leading telecom company in an antitrust dispute against the competition commission of India before the High Court and Supreme Court of India.

Swathi started her career with Bharucha & Partners and has been with the Firm for nearly a decade. She now leads the Firm's practice in Bangalore.

Indicative Experience

- Advising Vedantu Innovations Private Limited on its Series C and Series D investments from Tiger, Accel, Omidyar, TAL Education Group, Westbridge, Legend Capital, GGV, KG Global, Coatue Asia and others.
- Advising Vedantu Innovations Private Limited on its acquisitions of WeColab Edusystem Private Limited, owner of Pedagogy, and Adinio Services Private Limited, owner of Instasolv.
- Advising Vodafone Idea Limited on the sale of its stake in Indus Towers Limited to Bharti Infratel Limited and sale of its standalone tower subsidiary to ATC
- Advising Girnarsoft Education Services Private Limited, owner of Collegedekho.com on the acquisition of Unipro Education Private Limited and Scholarship Facilitation Services Private Limited.
- Advising Grasim Industries Limited on entering into an agreement with Lubrizol Advanced Materials for manufacture of chlorinated polyvinyl chloride resin.
- Advising Shopsense Retail Technologies Private Limited (Fynd) on the investment from Google International and on the acquisition by Reliance Industries.
- Advising Girnar Software Private Limited (Cardekho), and its promoters on the Series A, Series B, Series C and Series D investments by Sequoia Capital, Hillhouse Capital, RNT Associates, HDFC Bank Limited, Times Internet Limited, Google Capital, Dentsu Inc., Axis Bank, Ping An Global Voyager Fund, ICICI Bank and others and on raising venture debt by Trifecta.
- Advising ISS SDB Security Services Private Limited on employment laws as well as on the sale of its cash and valuable services business to SIS Prosegur Holdings Private Limited.





bharucha & partners
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Sudeshna Guha Roy

Partner

Practice Areas

Commercial Litigation
Insolvency Resolution &
Bankruptcy

Professional Affiliations

Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa

Education

BLS LL.B, Symbiosis Law School
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Languages Known

English, Hindi, Bengali

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Introduction

Sudeshna is an experienced litigator and has advised and represented clients in a range of commercial causes. She has appeared in fora ranging from the Supreme Court of India, High Courts, and subordinate courts, to tribunals such as NCLT, NCLAT, and RERA. She also represents clients in domestic and international arbitration including institutional arbitration.

Sudeshna has significant experience in addressing litigious mandates relating to land laws, development and redevelopment projects, real estate regulations, and immovable property generally. She is recognised for her experience in mandates requiring expertise with development control regulations and slum rehabilitation in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

Sudeshna regularly advises and represents resolution professionals, borrowers, banks, financial & operational creditors, asset reconstruction companies in restructuring and insolvency proceedings.

Her clients include institutional investors and multi-national corporations who seek her advice on non-contentious mandates. She advises them on mitigating risk arising from investment agreements shareholders' arrangements and also helps structure transactions which allow for robust insolvency resolution.

Indicative Experience

- Representing and advising several real estate developers in litigation across different fora including the Supreme Court of India, High Courts, and in arbitrations in relation to disputes arising out of their development agreements, joint venture agreements, and disputes with tenants.
- Representing and advising several financial and operational creditors enforce their claims in (debtor) insolvency proceedings before the NCLT and NCLAT.
- Advising (debtor and creditor) clients in relation to Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code laws and helping them strategise and implement business reorganisations in context of insolvency proceedings.
- Representing and advising a client holding secured debt of nearly INR 2000 crores, in a complex multi-party dispute arising out of liquidation proceedings before the Bombay High Court.
- Representing and advising nearly 200 private high net worth individuals in litigating and then settling their disputes with a developer in relation to their investments in a marquee real estate project in Mumbai. Enforcing the settlement including ensuring distribution of the receivables to financial creditors and ensuring that the project was completed.
- Representing a large real estate developer in litigation arising out of a joint venture with the Government of Maharashtra undertakings across fora, ranging from the Charity Commissioner up to the Supreme Court of India.
- Advising several clients in relation to Schemes under Regulation 33(5), 33(7), 33(9) and 33(10) of the Development Control Regulations for Mumbai, and SRA schemes, and cluster redevelopment in Mumbai, including structuring and executing documentation for the purpose.
- Advising a large real estate company in taking over the operation of an unfinished shopping mall; negotiating and executing various agreements with retailers including license agreements, revenue sharing agreements, business conducting agreements, and lease agreements, and helping the project achieve commercial operation.
- Representing and advising a real estate developer progress and settled litigation in relation to the construction of a hospitality project, including originating and enforcing settlement documents.



Awards & Recognitions



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M P Bharucha



Alka Bharucha



D.P Singh



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