

ACUMEN JURIS

Law Office





ABOUT US

Acumen Juris is a full service law firm, founded by seasoned lawyers having years of experience in advising clients from diversified industries. Our team of lawyers possess expertise in delivering comprehensive and time bound solutions to varied legal issues. Our proficiency lies in the principles of integrity, transparency and accountability that ensures utmost comfort and satisfaction to all of our clients. Our responsiveness and client-centric approach has always helped us achieve our ultimate goal of meeting deadlines and offering impeccable services.

At Acumen Juris, our team renders extensive services in multiple disciplines including mergers & acquisitions, joint ventures, due diligence, litigation & alternate dispute resolution, intellectual property, foreign exchange control laws, company law advisory & assurance, capital market & stock exchange services and private equity, employment laws and insolvency resolution services.

We believe in building ever-lasting relationships, which are mutually beneficial and based on a strong foundation of trust, faith and utmost professionalism.



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Our SERVICES



Corporate M&A and Private Equity and Venture Capital

We have a successful track record of representing our clients in corporate structuring and restructuring transactions. We understand that no two transactions are same and require specific skills set and attention to details. Our speciality lies in putting together a team of our most suitable lawyers based on the nature and size of the transaction. Our lawyers go to great lengths to ensure that interests of our clients are protected in every transaction. The rich experience of our team in having acted for both strategic and financial investors, buyers and sellers, and start ups and venture capital firms enables us to understand M&A transactions from different perspectives. Our team of lawyers are fully equipped to guide you through all the legal and regulatory nuances that M&A, Private Equity and Venture Capital transactions entail.

- Mergers & amalgamations;
- Demerger & hive off;
- Business and asset transfers;
- Capital and debt restructuring;
- Cross border investment structuring;
- Public and private debt and equity offerings;
- Acquisition, divestment and takeovers;
- Sale and purchase of distressed assets;
- Succession planning;
- Exit strategy;
- Drafting of transaction documents and other transaction support;



Joint Ventures and Strategic Alliances

We understand that Joint Venture and Strategic Alliance transactions mandate lawyers to understand more than just the legal issues. Our team is sensitive to the cultural differences of all the parties to the transactions and we strive to be respectful to such cultural differences at the time of acting for our clients. Often Joint Venture and Strategic Alliances involve agreement on ancillary issues such as technology transfer/licensing, sale/purchase of goods/services, secondment of employees, confidentiality and non-disclosure that require a diligent and careful approach. We have experience of acting for clients from varied industries and sectors.

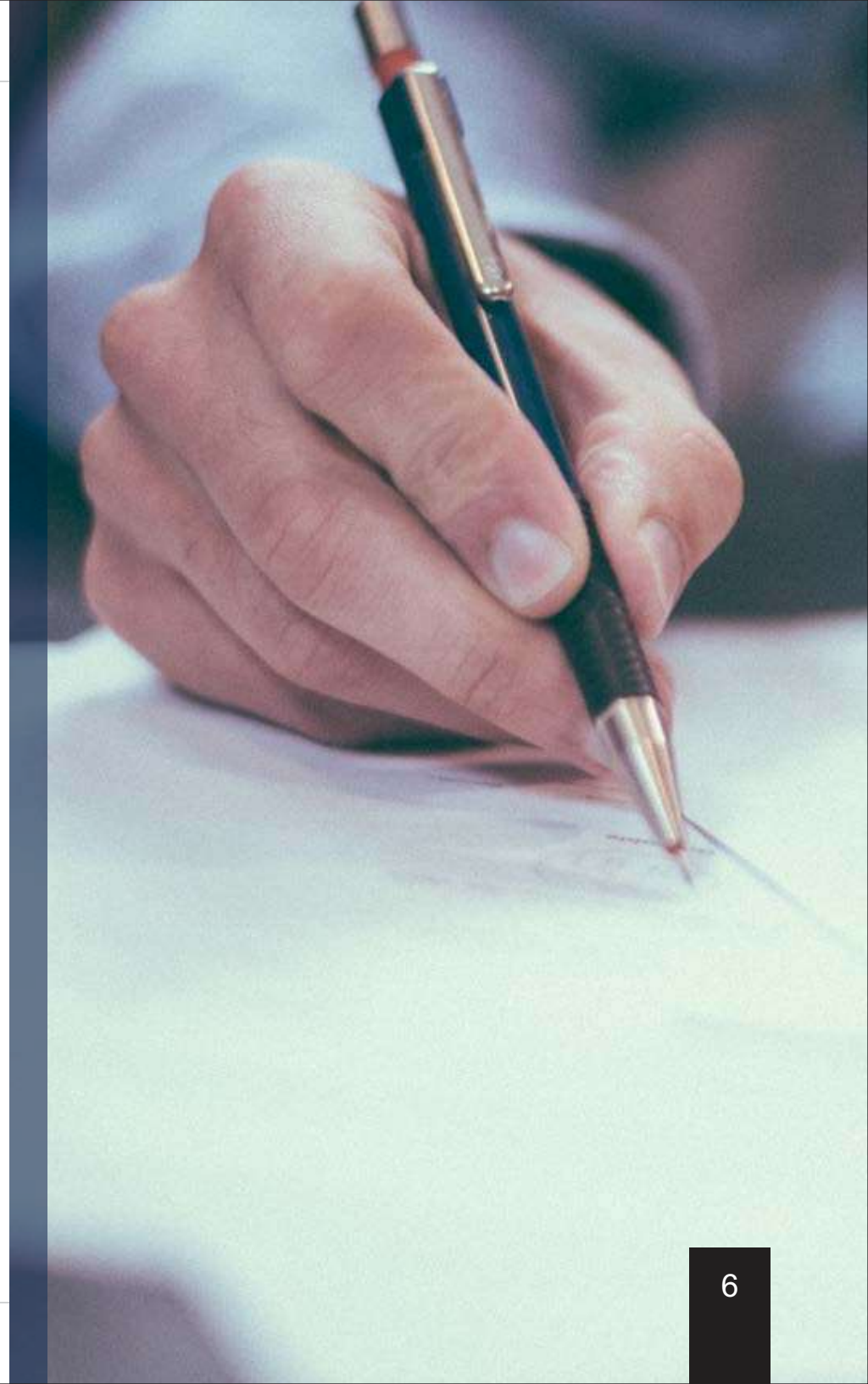
- Share purchase/share subscription/ shareholders' agreements;
- Drafting prospectus, information memorandum, letter of offer etc;
- Technology transfer and technology sharing agreements;
- IPR licensing/ assignment agreements;
- Employment agreements;
- Non-disclosure and confidentiality agreements;
- Non-compete agreements;
- Other service/ business/ commercial agreements.



Corporate and Commercial

This is one of the key areas of expertise of Acumen Juris. We regularly advise our clients on general corporate matters and help them with drafting/reviewing of their commercial agreements. We offer customised industry specific legal compliance system and internal legal audit to keep the management informed about the status of legal compliance within the organisation. We extend our support in the form of day to day legal advice on corporate, regulatory and governance matters.

- Industry specific legal compliance system;
- Obtaining registrations, licenses, approvals, permissions, etc from government and regulator;
- Assistance in secretarial compliance;
- Compounding of offences;
- Legal audits, secretarial audits and due diligence;
- Drafting, negotiation and finalization of various agreements.



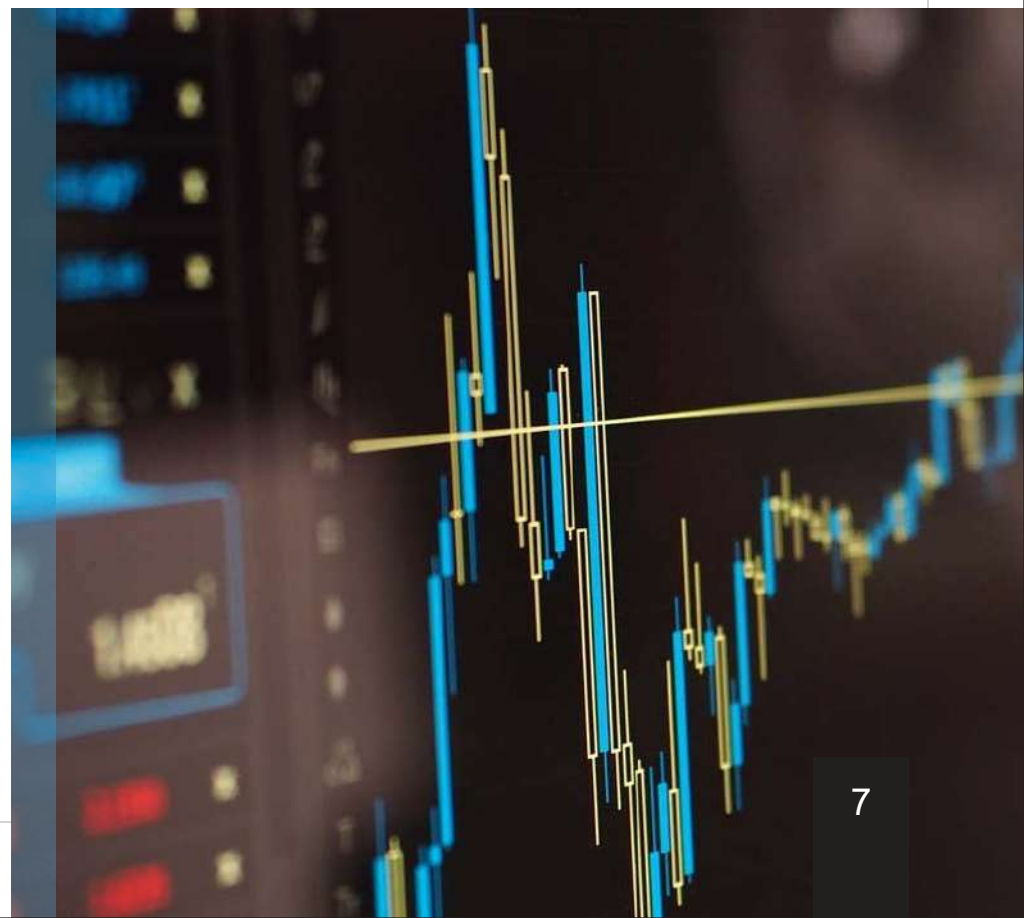
Capital Market & Securities Law

The firm is instrumental in advising its clients and undertaking transactions including restructuring, acquisitions, takeovers, listings on the main board, due diligence, approvals, exemptions etc. The firm also specializes in taking care of SEBI investigation and adjudication matters and represents before SEBI, SAT, High Court and Supreme Court of India.

We advise listed companies and securities market intermediaries on registrations with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and on statutory and regulatory compliances including issues concerning insider trading, price manipulation and front running.

- SME initial public offering (IPO);
- Qualified institutional placement (QIP);
- Foreign currency convertible bonds(FCCB);
- Direct listings;
- Takeovers;
- Rights and preferential issues;
- Buyback of securities;
- Audit & due diligence;
- Assisting in preparation of red herring prospectus and offer documents;
- Revocation of suspended companies;
- Delisting services;

- SEBI approvals & exemptions;
- SEBI inspections, investigations and adjudications;
- Consent applications;
- SAT appeals;
- Compliance and governance management;
- Intermediary registrations;
- Capital market litigations.



Foreign Investment and Exchange Control

Partners of our firm have extensive experience of advising clients on exchange control laws and facilitate foreign investment in seamless manner. From advising and representing our clients in applying for government approval in highly regulated sectors to post-facto compliances, our team plays vital role in ensuring hurdle free India entry services.

- Entry strategy and transaction advisory & assistance;
- Enforcement Directorate- Investigation and Adjudications;
- Representations and Appeals;
- Global business setup;
- Registration of Company/LLP/ Foreign Branch /Liaison Office;
- Audit and assurance;
- Regulatory approvals- RBI, DIPP, Industry Regulator;
- Compliance and reporting;
- Compounding of offences;

Competition/Antitrust

The firm specializes in all aspects of competition law: cartels, leniency applications, anti-competitive agreements, concession arrangements, abuse of a dominant position, joint ventures, distribution systems, merger control and interface with sector regulators. The team strength in understanding to the financial transactions and economic environment of the industry makes the firm unique and commanding in undertaking transactions pertaining to anti-trust laws.

- Merger control regulations;
- Cartels, bid-rigging and anti-trust investigations;
- Abuse of dominant position;
- Commercial agreements (such as distributor/ agency agreements, joint venture agreements, cooperation agreements, etc);
- Competition law audit and due diligence;
- Competition law litigation.
- Compliance and reporting;
- Compounding of offences;



Employment & Labour Laws

We have experience in advising on employment and labour issues. Whether as part of an M&A transaction or a day to day advise, it is important to understand the impact any employment and labour issues can have on an organisation. We work with our clients in resolving the issues in and optimising their employment and labour structures to provide long-term solutions. We also advise our clients on creation of internal HR and reporting policies, drafting of employment agreements and employment handbooks and creation of internal compliance management systems.

- Employment agreements and employment handbook;
- Non-disclosure agreements, confidentiality agreements, non-compete agreements;
- Advisory and strategy;
- Employee stock options (ESOPs) schemes formations and management;
- Disciplinary proceedings and statutory policies;
- Whistle-blower policy and complaint mechanism
- Labour disputes and litigation;
- Audit & due diligence;
- Compliance management;
- Employee Benefits & Compensation Structuring;
- Employment Termination & Downsizing;
- Expatriate Advisory & Immigration;
- Exits and Separation Agreements;
- Sexual Harassment – Prevention and Enquiries;
- Contract Labour / Alternate Employment Arrangements;



Dispute Resolution and Arbitrations

We represent our clients for effective and timely resolution of their disputes in various courts and tribunals. We have long standing associations with experienced legal professionals across the country and beyond to represent our clients and efficiently handle their disputes not only in different parts of India but also overseas.

We regularly represent our clients in matters pertaining to corporate disputes including litigation and alternative dispute resolution. We have vast experience in representing our clients before the Supreme Court of India, High Courts and autonomous tribunals.

Litigation & Alternate Dispute Resolution

- Shareholders Dispute including oppression & mismanagement;
- Administrative litigations;
- Writ petitions and revisions;
- Arbitration, conciliation & mediation proceedings- domestic and international;
- Representations before statutory authorities and tribunals;
- Mergers, amalgamations and restructuring;
- Intellectual property rights;
- Recovery proceedings;
- Insider trading and market manipulation;
- Money laundering;
- Real estate litigation;
- Anti-trust & competition;
- Corporate insolvency disputes;
- Cross border litigation and investigations;
- Domestic & international arbitrations;
- Economic offences;
- Employment and labour disputes;
- Consumer disputes.



Criminal Matters

- Corporate frauds and market manipulation;
- Misappropriation and siphoning of funds;
- Dishonour of Cheque;
- Quashing of FIRs/ Bails/ Trial;
- White collar crimes;
- Criminal complaints;
- FEMA / COFEPOSA/ SAFEMA/ PMLA;
- Narcotics and Drugs Violation.

Insolvency Resolution Services

The firm practice enjoys strong co-operation with leading management and financial consultants and is providing full spectrum of legal services in the field of restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy in India. The firm's lawyers offer significant experience in representing interest groups from creditors and debtors to directors, shareholders, and other stakeholders in the restructuring and insolvency processes.

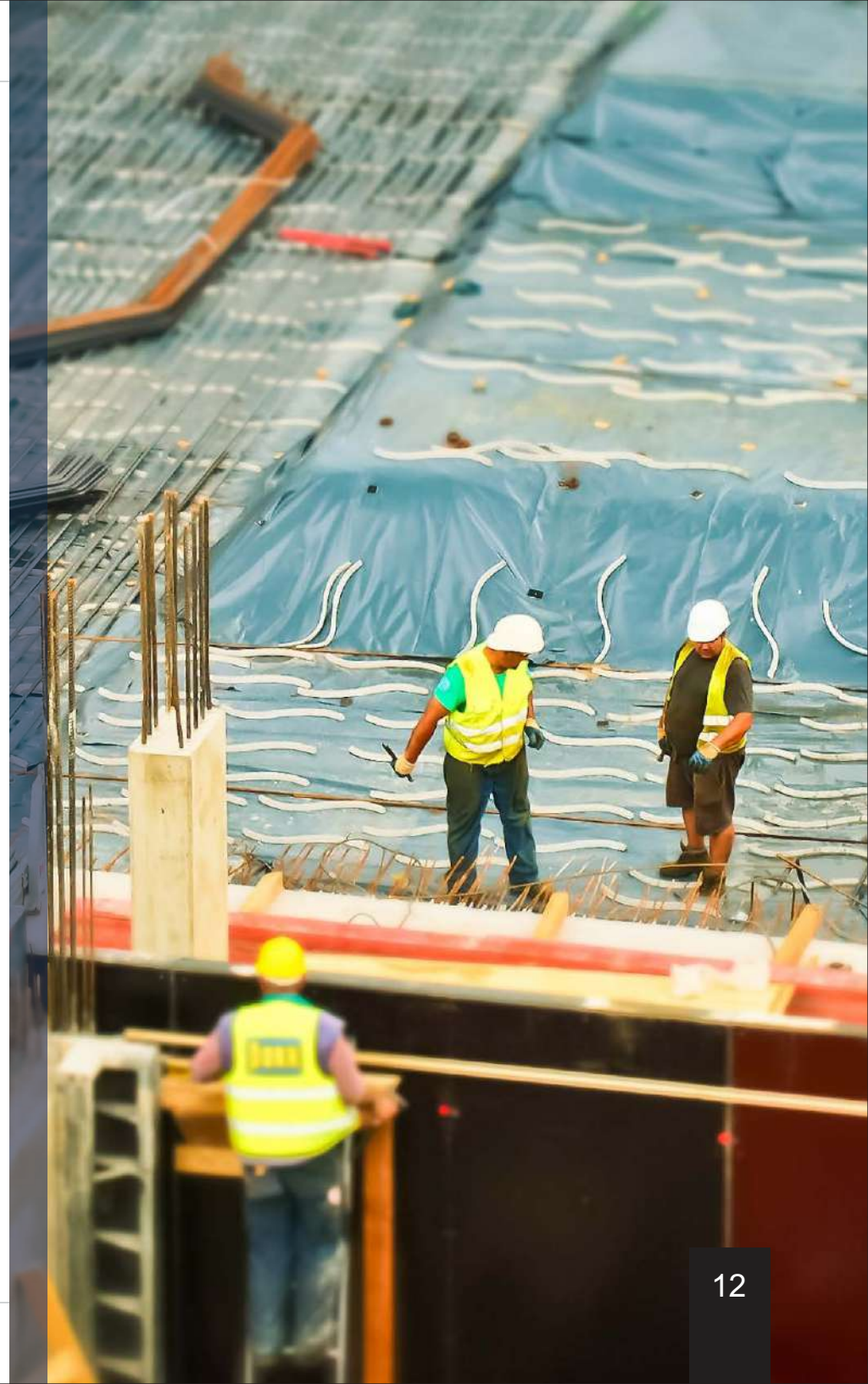
- Resolution professional services;
- Claims verification, conducting COC meetings and representations;
- Appearance before NCLT Benches, NCLAT & Supreme Court;
- Filing claims during the CIRP;
- Assistance in managing liquidation process;
- Voluntary liquidation.



Real Estate

The firm has experience in real estate and has represented several builders and developers in complex legal issues concerning property. The firm understands the need and provides services with regard to property due diligence (entailing title verification, encumbrance search, contiguity of lands, land ceiling, permissive land use, construction development, review from the perspective of property), formulation and drafting of consortium loans and security documents, provide advisory services on various aspects of real estate sector including land acquisition, leasing, stamping and registration of documentations land ceiling, lands affected by negative covenants, regulatory and approval issues in the multi-state scenario in India.

- Due diligence of property documentation, change in ownership documents and conducting title searches for real estate projects, townships, industries and acquisitions.
- Drafting and review of the following agreements:
 - Lease deed, sub-lease agreement, leave and license deed, maintenance agreement, commercial leases of property, service agreements, family settlement, sale deeds, agreement to sell etc.
 - Escrow agreement, builder agreement, construction contracts, bank guarantee, master purchase agreements, memorandum of understanding (MOU), mortgage deed, transfer deed, gift, change of use of the property, indemnity bonds, franchise agreement;
 - EPC contracts, management and operational agreements for hotels, resorts and shopping complexes. Land development agreement, sale and purchase agreement, letter of intent, purchase orders, concessionaire agreements, performance related bonds, agreements with architects, construction contract, work and purchase orders, conducting agreements, and tri-partite agreements.



A man in a dark blue suit and red tie is seated at a light-colored wooden desk. His hands are clasped in front of him. On the desk, there is a laptop on the left, a clear glass of water in the center, and several documents with charts and graphs on the right. A blue folder is partially visible in the foreground. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Our PARTNERS



Govind Rishi

Mr. Govind Rishi is one of the partners of the firm. He is alumnus of prestigious Campus law Centre, University of Delhi. He has been enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi. He has an experience of more than 10 years in litigation, arbitration and corporate consultancy including proceedings under civil laws, labour laws, company laws, intellectual property laws, business laws, arbitration, corporate laws, criminal laws and others and has served diverse industries but not limited to including manufacturing, IT service provider, real estate, infrastructure, banking, telecom, advertisement / promotional, aviation, energy, waste management, and retail.

Mr. Govind Rishi is panel advocate for Punjab National Bank and NBCC India Limited. He also heads the insolvency practice of the firm.



Abhishek Bansal

Mr. Abhishek Bansal is a law graduate from Faculty of Law, University of Delhi and a member of the ICSI. He has 10+ years of experience to his credit and is enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi. Mr Bansal's area of practice includes advising on cross border investment transactions, foreign collaboration and joint ventures. He also has significant experience in conducting legal due diligences, drafting business and commercial agreements, advising on corporate laws, capital market and security laws, competition law, India entry and global business set up services, and resolving complex corporate structuring issues.

Mr Bansal works with clients from varied industries including retail, logistics, hospitality, auto-ancillary, service, real estate, NBFC, IT, gems and jewellery, medicines, art fairs, defence, media, manufacturing, PSU etc.

Mr. Bansal has co-authored 5 editions of bestselling book on Companies Act 2013 published by Wolters and Kluwer. He has also authored many articles on Corporate Laws including foreign exchange control laws, company law, stamp act, contract laws, competition laws and constitution of India published on leading legal portals and legal journals in India. He also acted as speaker at various forums like IICA, ICSI, ASSOCHAM, CKF, etc.



Pankaj Singla

Mr. Pankaj Singla is a law graduate from Faculty of Law, University of Delhi and has done his masters in law from Kyushu University, Japan. He has experience of 10+ years to his credit and specializes in multijurisdictional transactional work across various sectors, including luxury retail, medical devices and equipment, cosmetics, chemicals, defence, logistics, IT and hospitality. He has regularly advised clients on their India entry strategy, expansion and structuring, and has dealt regularly with various regulators in the country including Reserve Bank of India, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Competition Commission of India and the erstwhile Foreign Investment Promotion Board to successfully obtain various approvals and has been instrumental in ensuring compliance with the regulatory framework in India.

Apart from having strong work experience in India, Pankaj has also worked in Japan and have been part of the team advising clients on their multi-jurisdictional transactional work and day-to-day corporate legal work.

He has also to his credit the publications on “Regulation of Gifts under Indian Anti-Corruption Laws” at the Inter-Pacific Bar Association’s 2014 Annual Conference in Vancouver; Reforming India’s Retail and Aviation Sectors and the Opportunities for Overseas Indians” OIFC Newsletter, October, 2012; Indo Japan Trade and Investment Bulletin” Monthly Newsletter Published by Corporate Professionals (Contributed in a total of 27 monthly issues between 2012-2014) to his credit. He also held workshops on “Mergers & Acquisitions in India” in Tokyo in 2015 and 2016.

Associate Partners



Abhishek Chaurasia

Mr. Abhishek Chaurasia is an associate member of ICSI having more than 9 years of experience. He is a research oriented professional and possesses rich and varied experience in M&A, transaction advisory and investment banking. He specializes in mergers & acquisitions – planning and implementations, domestic and cross border joint ventures – deal structuring & negotiations, financial reengineering, business modeling and has hands on experience of conceptualizing and managing more than 100 M&A transactions involving listed and unlisted companies in various sectors and industries. He also possesses a rich experience of fund raising through capital market including IPOs, SME IPOs, etc. and has advised and managed pre-IPO events followed by IPOs. Abhishek has also worked in various others SEBI related matters, such as takeover open offers, delisting of shares, SEBI's takeover exemptions, advisory note on restructurings, prohibition of insider trading, direct listing, preferential allotments and others.

He is an alumnus of Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) and a SEBI Registered (Cat -1) Merchant Banker.



Manish Dubey

Mr. Manish Dubey is a fellow member of ICAI having a rich experience in providing end-to-end solutions in direct & indirect taxation, developing and implementing financial systems, devising strategies, processes and controls, and establishing accounting functions and systems. He specializes in devising tax efficient structures, handling tax investigations and providing GST advisory. He also holds extensive record of making successful representations before various tax authorities and tribunals.

He is deeply passionate towards growing start-up sphere and has been credited with accelerating the growth of various start-ups through arranged venture capital funding and providing comprehensive taxation and financial solutions. He is also associated with various start-ups as their mentor. He has been a vocal advocate of GST laws and has been presenting his unique insights to the industry and professionals alike at numerous seminars and conferences.



Sandeep Kaushik

Mr. Sandeep Kaushik is alumnus of prestigious Campus law Centre, University of Delhi. He has been enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi. He is an advocate practicing for over 5 years and had been seasoned corporate criminal lawyer, having vast and valuable experience of tackling white collar crimes and corporate fraud detection litigation upto the Supreme Court of India, different High Courts and other autonomous judicial tribunals. He is actively involved in IP enforcement work through civil and criminal litigation. He is an expert in managing complex corporate fraud and detection of the same.



Kirti Dureja

Kirti is an associate member of ICSI having more than 4 years of experience. She is a research oriented professional and possesses rich and varied experience in corporate advisory in company law; foreign exchange control laws and SEBI laws, undertaking secretarial compliances, legal due diligences, secretarial audits of prominent listed companies, and representations before regulators. She possesses knowledge of formulating and implementing the company law, SEBI laws and other statutory enactments with the ability to relate theory with practice. She is also practicing in handling audit functions, defining compliance dashboards, acting as scrutinizer to shareholders meetings, and related advisory.

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