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Nationality/ Date of Birth	Indian / 09 September 1971		

# **Educational/Professional Memberships**

- Gaurav read law at the University of Jammu (LL.B., 1996) and at Corpus Christi College, University of Oxford (B.C.L., 1997), where he was elected a Felix Scholar.
- Gaurav is a member of the Arbitration Committee of the Jammu and Kashmir International Arbitration Centre (JKIAC), constituted by the Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He is also a member of the Governing Council of Nani Palkhivala Arbitration Centre (NPAC).
- He is a life member of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), the Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA), the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR) and the Bar Association of India.
- He is also a member of the Supreme Court (of India) Bar Association (SCBA), the International Bar Association (IBA), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), the Commonwealth Lawyers' Association, London (CLA), the J&K High Court Bar Association (Jammu) and the Delhi High Court Bar Association (DHCBA).

#### **Current Position**

- Senior Advocate (India), based in New Delhi, whose practice before the Supreme Court of India and other courts and tribunals is focused mainly on commercial and corporate litigation, including domestic and international arbitrations.
- Barrister (England), at Fountain Court Chambers, London, where his practice includes a wide range
  of commercial litigation, arbitration and advisory work; with a significant
  multi-jurisdictional component.
- Registered Foreign Lawyer at the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC).

# **Professional Experience**

Gaurav began his career as an Advocate in the erstwhile north Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir, in the year 1997. In January 2002, Gaurav was appointed the Additional Advocate General for the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, Gaurav resigned his position with the State of Jammu and Kashmir and relocated to New Delhi to join P&A Law Offices (then an affiliate of the international law firm, Jones Day, in India), where he worked for about four (4) years. In August 2006, he joined the chambers of Mr. Arun Jaitley, Senior Advocate, and resumed his independent counsel practice.

In January 2010, Gaurav was appointed the Senior Additional Advocate General for the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, at New Delhi for representing the State before the Supreme Court of India, a position he held until December 2014. He was also engaged in private practice during this period.

He was designated as Senior Advocate in November 2011.

In November 2015, Gaurav was appointed as the Senior Advocate for the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, for cases before the Supreme Court of India, where the High Court is a party in its administrative capacity.

He was also appointed as *amicus curiae* by the Supreme Court of India in a case of continuing mandamus relating to the implementation and monitoring of various measures to be taken by the administration regarding conservation of the ecology of Lakshadweep Islands and nearby coastal areas in accordance with statutory requirements.

Gaurav is an *Honorary Adjunct Professor of Law and Distinguished Professor of Legal Practice* at Jindal Global Law School of O.P. Jindal Global University, India, where he teaches "Law and Practice of Commercial Litigation and Arbitration in India".

# **Arbitration Experience**

#### As arbitrator:

- Sitting as an arbitrator, as part of an international arbitral tribunal consisting of three arbitrators, seated in Singapore, for an ICC arbitration regarding disputes between an East Asian consortium of energy companies and a government-owned energy company, relating to procurement of a power plant.
- Sitting as an arbitrator, as part of an international arbitral tribunal consisting of three arbitrators, seated in London, for an ICC arbitration regarding disputes between a European entity and an Indian conglomerate, relating to a large infrastructure project.
- Sitting as Sole Arbitrator in a domestic arbitration seated in New Delhi, India, upon being appointed
  by the Delhi High Court to adjudicate a commercial dispute, based on an application made by one
  of the parties seeking a default appointment.

## As lead counsel:

- Representation of a group of companies specializing in payment solutions in India and Singapore, in an international commercial arbitration seated in Singapore under the rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), before a former President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, in disputes related to breach of a non-compete provision in a Shareholders Agreement.
- Representation of a *leading Indian conglomerate*, in an ad-hoc international commercial arbitration seated in London under the rules of London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), London, before a three-member panel comprising barristers and former judges of the British Court of Appeal and High Court of Justice, involving a mobile services operator in disputes arising out of a Shareholders Agreement.
- Representation of a consortium of offshore engineering companies, including a Malaysian company, in an ad-hoc international commercial arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India, against a public sector undertaking, arising out of a contract relating to offshore engineering, procurement,

construction, installation and commission of an offshore "Well cum Process Platform", including a "Gas Sweetening Unit".

- Representation of a company engaged in energy management systems, incorporated in Singapore, which is a part of a European conglomerate, and its Indian subsidiary, in an ad-hoc international commercial arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising a former Chief Justice of India and two former judges of the Supreme Court of India, relating to claims of fraud, misrepresentation and breach of non-compete provisions in a Shareholders Agreement.
- Representation of a leading *Indian information technology company*, in two very high-value and high-profile technology related ad-hoc arbitrations seated in New Delhi, India, before two three-member panels comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India and a former Chief Justice of a High Court. The dispute related to claims arising out of wrongful extension of the term of contract and wrongful deduction of liquidated damages.
- Representation of a *leading Indian conglomerate*, in an ad-hoc international commercial arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising a former Chief Justice of India and two former judges of the Supreme Court of India, in shareholder disputes relating to a mobile services operator, in defending a claim of over USD 1 billion.
- Representation of an *Indian cement manufacturing company*, which is a part of a multi-national
  group of companies based in Switzerland, in an ad-hoc arbitration seated in Mumbai, India, before
  a three-member panel comprising a former Chief Justice of India and two former judges of High
  Courts. The dispute related to the breach of contract for the construction of a major cement grinding
  unit in India and long-term supply of cement.
- Representation of an *Indian power generation company*, in a domestic arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India, against a public sector undertaking, in a dispute relating to stoppage of supply of fuel to a coal-fired power project.
- Representation of a public sector undertaking engaged in transport infrastructure, in two
  domestic arbitrations seated in India, before two three-member panels comprising technical
  members, against an infrastructure company. The dispute relates to refusal to grant extension of
  time for construction of a tunnel in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and resulting
  imposition of liquidated damages.
- Representation of an *industrial infrastructure company*, having expertise in the oil and gas sector, in an arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India and a former judge of a High Court, against a public sector undertaking. The dispute relates to claims arising out of a contract for construction of an oil and gas processing facility and laying of oil and gas pipelines in India.
- Representation of a *real estate company*, in an ad-hoc international commercial arbitration seated in New Delhi, India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India and High Courts, relating to development of a commercial parcel of land of approximately 150 acres, situated at a prime location in Gurugram.
- Representation of a *Dutch company engaged in the business of apparel manufacturing and design*, in an ad-hoc international commercial arbitration seated in India, before a former judge of the Supreme Court of India in a dispute relating to breach of contract for providing certain services for a well-known global lifestyle brand.

- Representation of an agricultural-sciences company, in a domestic arbitration administered by the Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA), before a three-member panel comprising two former judges of the Supreme Court of India and a former Chief Justice of a High Court, in claims arising out of wrongful termination of a Business Transfer Agreement for acquisition of a pharmaceutical division of a major sciences company and resulting loss of profits
- Representation of an *engineering construction company*, in a domestic arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India in proceedings seeking removal of arbitrator on grounds of lack of independence and impartiality.
- Representation of a public sector undertaking engaged in infrastructure and industrial development, in an arbitration seated in New Delhi, India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India and a former Chief Justice of a High Court, in claims arising out of illegal termination of the Concessionaire Agreement relating to the construction and maintenance of a major National Highway.
- Representation of a construction company, one of the largest civil contractors in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir in India, in an arbitration seated in India, before a former judge of the Supreme Court of India, against an engineering and construction company, relating to wrongful termination of a contract for the construction of a major National Highway in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir in India.
- Representation of a construction company, one of the largest civil contractors in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir in India, in an arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel including a former Chief Justice of a High Court, against a government company owned by the Ministry of Railways, Government of India. The dispute related to recovery of outstanding dues under a contract for the construction of railway road over bridges and road under bridges in a major rail line project.
- Representation of a *leading player in the hospitality business* having several luxury resorts in the State of Uttarakhand, in an arbitration before a former judge of the Supreme Court of India, against a Government of India department, in connection with wrongful termination of an agreement for collaboration in eco-tourism in Nainital.
- Representation of a *joint venture between an Indian and a British ropeway company*, in an arbitration before a three-member panel comprising a former Chief Justice of a High Court and two former judges of High Courts, against the local municipal corporation relating to claims arising out of wrongful termination of a contract for construction and running of a major ropeway in the State of Uttarakhand.
- Representation of a *spun pipe manufacturing company*, in an arbitration seated in India, before a
  former judge of the Supreme Court of India, against a real estate company, in disputes arising out
  of a contract for purchase of prime real estate in Chandigarh.
- Representation of an *aluminum manufacturing company*, in an arbitration before a
  three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India and a High Court, in
  defending claims arising out of the disallowance of depreciation to an Indian automotive
  manufacturing company by the income tax authorities, under certain lease financing agreements,
  pursuant to which it had acquired certain machinery and equipment.
- Representation of an *Indian public authority*, in an arbitration before a three-member panel
  comprising a former Chief Justice of India and two former judges of the Supreme Court of India, in
  connection with claims made by an Indian company engaged to construct a major flyway in India
  on "Build Own Operate Transfer" basis.

- Representation of an *information technology and services company*, in an arbitration seated in India, before a former judge of a High Court, against an autonomous telecommunication research and development body of the Government of India relating to rights regarding the ownership of intellectual property.
- Representation of a consortium of an Italian infrastructure company and an Indian infrastructure company, in an international commercial arbitration seated in India, before a three-member panel comprising former judges of the Supreme Court of India, against an autonomous agency of the Government of India. The disputes arose under a construction contract for the augmentation of a major National Highway on "Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer" basis.
- Representation of a *real estate company*, in an arbitration seated in India, before a former Chief
  Justice of India, in disputes against a real estate developer regarding wrongful forfeiture of earnest
  money and for breach of contract, for development of a major commercial real estate in Ludhiana,
  Punjab.
- Representation of a *chemical manufacturing company*, in an arbitration seated in India, before a
  three-member panel comprising a former Chief Justice of India and former judges of High Courts,
  regarding claims for breach of warranties and misrepresentation, relating to
  non-compliance of Indian environmental laws, in a Share Purchase Agreement for the acquisition
  of a textile manufacturing facility.

### As expert witness on Indian law:

- Giving expert evidence on complex issues of Indian commercial law before an international arbitral
  tribunal seated in Singapore, constituted under UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, in a dispute between
  a Korean construction company, specializing in large-scale construction projects, and an Indian
  public corporation.
- Giving expert evidence on complex issues of Indian commercial law before an international arbitral tribunal seated in Singapore, constituted under SIAC Rules, in a shareholders dispute between a Singapore company and the former shareholders of its Indian subsidiary.

#### **Publications**

- Effect of Limitation of Liability and Exclusion of Liability Clauses in the Event of Fundamental Breach of Contract; (2020) 5 SCC (J) 1, 2020.
- Principles Governing Frustration of Contract Under Indian Law; (2019) 7 SCC (J) 1, 2019.
- Interpretation of Contracts; (2019) 3 SCC (J) 33, 2019.
- Arbitrability of Copyright Disputes under Indian Law; (2018) 8 SCC (J) 1, 2018.
- General Principles related to Liquidated Damages in Arbitration, Repositioning India for Arbitration Perspectives for Arbitration Law and Practice, OakBridge, 2018.

## Languages

English

•	Hindi				

• Urdu