



**Dhir
& Dhir**
Advocates & Solicitors

25
YEARS

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About Us



Dhir & Dhir Associates is a full-service law firm founded in 1993 to serve as a single-window provider in a dynamic commercial environment. The firm pursues a philosophy of symbiotic relationships with clients and works as an integral part of the client's team. It partners with lawyers across India to provide legal advisory and expertise across diverse practice areas and industry verticals in the country. It maintains offices in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai with a representative office in Japan.

The firm specialises in various practice areas such as Restructuring & Insolvency, Corporate/ Commercial Advisory and M&A, Real Estate & Construction Law, Banking and Finance, Dispute Resolution, Litigation & Arbitration, Capital Markets, Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT), Infrastructure & Energy, Intellectual Property, Aerospace & Defence, Criminal Litigation, IT, E-Commerce and Outsourcing, Environment Laws, Labour & Employment and Consumer Law.

The partners of the firm inculcate integrity and ethics as the guiding principles of their conduct.

A highly qualified, innovative and experienced team of lawyers, chartered accountants, company secretaries and management consultants seek to achieve the highest standards of services possible to the diversified client portfolio.

The firm represents a myriad client base including business houses, multinational corporations, banking and financial institutions, public sector undertakings, NGOs besides Central and State Governments, ministries and departments etc.

The firm and its partners have been recognized as the leaders in 'Restructuring & Insolvency' and 'Dispute Resolution' and have also been highly ranked for 'Banking and Finance', 'Projects, Infrastructure & Energy', 'TMT', 'Project Finance', 'Capital Markets', 'Corporate/M&A', 'Financial Service Regulatory' and 'Private Equity' in leading legal publications including Chambers & Partners, Legal 500, India Business Law Journal (IBLJ), IFLR1000, Benchmark Litigation and Asialaw Profiles.



ALOK DHIR

Founder and Managing Partner Dhir & Dhir Associates

alok.dhir@dhirassociates.com

EDUCATION

- Graduate in Law - LLB, 1987
- Chartered Accountant (Associate Member of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India since November, 1983, and Fellow Member since March, 1989)
- Graduate in Commerce - B.Com., 1980
- Registered as an Insolvency Professional with Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

MEMBERSHIPS

Bar Council of India | ICAI | INSOL India | SIG24 | INSOL International | PHD Chambers of Commerce | ASSOCHAM | CII | FICCI | SILF | IWIRC India

Alok Dhir, a chartered accountant & a renowned lawyer has extensive experience of four decades in corporate commercial and civil law with special focus on Corporate and Financial Restructuring, Insolvency Laws, Takeovers, M&A, Banking Law, Real Estate, PE transactions, turning around of financially stressed entities in the country and issues related to Asset Reconstruction & Securitization.

He started the practice of insolvency laws in the early 80s when distress asset advisory was practically unknown in the Indian context. He was a part of the development of and steered the legislative/regulatory changes in insolvency laws with the promulgation of SICA 1985, RDDB & FI Act 1993, SARFAESI Act 2002 and finally the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC) in 2016. In 1985, when SICA was promulgated, he single-handedly assisted the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in drafting the regulatory framework, and his name became synonymous with BIFR with his law firm, Dhir & Dhir Associates, handling 2/3rd of all cases referred to BIFR.

He is an innovative lawyer having strong legal & commercial acumen. He is a veteran in the industry, providing creative solutions and developing complex structures for achieving resolution for stakeholders in corporate and commercial insolvencies and M&A transactions. He is a leading legal counsel and represents a diverse client base before various courts and tribunals and Supreme Court of India.

He is one of the first few Insolvency Professionals registered under the IBC 2016. He has founded IRR Insolvency Professionals Private Limited which is the first IPE licensed by the IBBI and also promoted one of the first

private sector ARC licensed by RBI which is involved in the acquisition and resolution of toxic assets in India with an exemplary track record.

He is actively involved with regulators and the Govt. in devising mechanisms for Cross Border legislation, Group Insolvency, Personal Insolvency, etc. He is appointed by IBBI as a member of Working Group constituted to strategize the approach for implementing the IBC and drafting rules and regulation for Corporate Guarantors and Individuals with businesses and also serves as a member of the Grievance Redressal Committee with ICSI Insolvency Professionals Agency. He has been a member of the NCLT Rules Formulating Committee and also co-opted as a member on the National Committee on Dispute Resolution by CII and has been appointed by the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) on the Panel of Experts for the subject relating to Corporate Rescue and Asset Reconstruction. He is also a member of the core group on Insolvency Laws of FICCI.

He has been bestowed with many awards and has received various accolades for his myriad contribution across the field of insolvency laws. He has been consistently recognized as the leading lawyer for 'Restructuring & Insolvency' in the country by most credited rankings for legal services globally including being featured as an exceptional lawyer in 'The A-List: India's top 100 lawyers' by India Business Law Journal.

He is a prominent authority and often invited as an expert to speak in various conferences, seminars and webinars. He is widely covered in the news of most mainstream media to share his views on ongoing cases and development of the Insolvency laws in the country.





MANEESHA DHIR

Founder and Managing Partner Dhir & Dhir Associates

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EDUCATION

- LLB, 1990, Delhi University
- M.A. (Mathematics), 1986, Delhi University
- B.A. (Hons.) Mathematics, 1984, St. Stephen's college, Delhi

MEMBERSHIPS

- Co-Chair - IWIRC India Network
- Vice President - Women in Law & Litigation (WILL)
- Vice Chairman - Society of Construction Law
- Mediator - Delhi High Court Mediation Centre

Maneesha is a highly reputed litigation lawyer with over three decades of expertise in handling wide range of cases in Commercial litigation, Arbitration (Domestic & International), Insolvency Laws, Telecom, M&A and Corporate consultancy.

She represents a myriad client base including Business Houses, MNCs, Banks/FIs, PSUs besides Central and State Governments, Ministries and Departments before Supreme Court of India, Delhi High Court and various other Courts, Tribunals and Appellate bodies.

She is widely acclaimed for handling Telecom issues in both regulatory sphere and litigation. She was a Senior Counsel for Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Govt. of India, which grants licenses for various telecom services. She represented DoT in a high profile and complex matter of 3G Spectrum. She was also appointed as Special Counsel by the MCA in the matters of Satyam Computer, Maytas Infra Limited, Maytas Properties Limited, Sahara India before the Company Law Board, Delhi High Court and Supreme Court of India and Office of custodian and MCA in the matter of Ketan Parekh & Companies.

She was also appointed as Standing Counsel of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). She advised them on litigation strategies and conducted their matters before TDSAT, Delhi High Court and Supreme Court of India. Apart from this, she advised them on various issues arising out of their interconnection agreements with other telecom operators and regulatory intricacies including impact of various order / direction / regulation by the Licensor / TRAI etc.

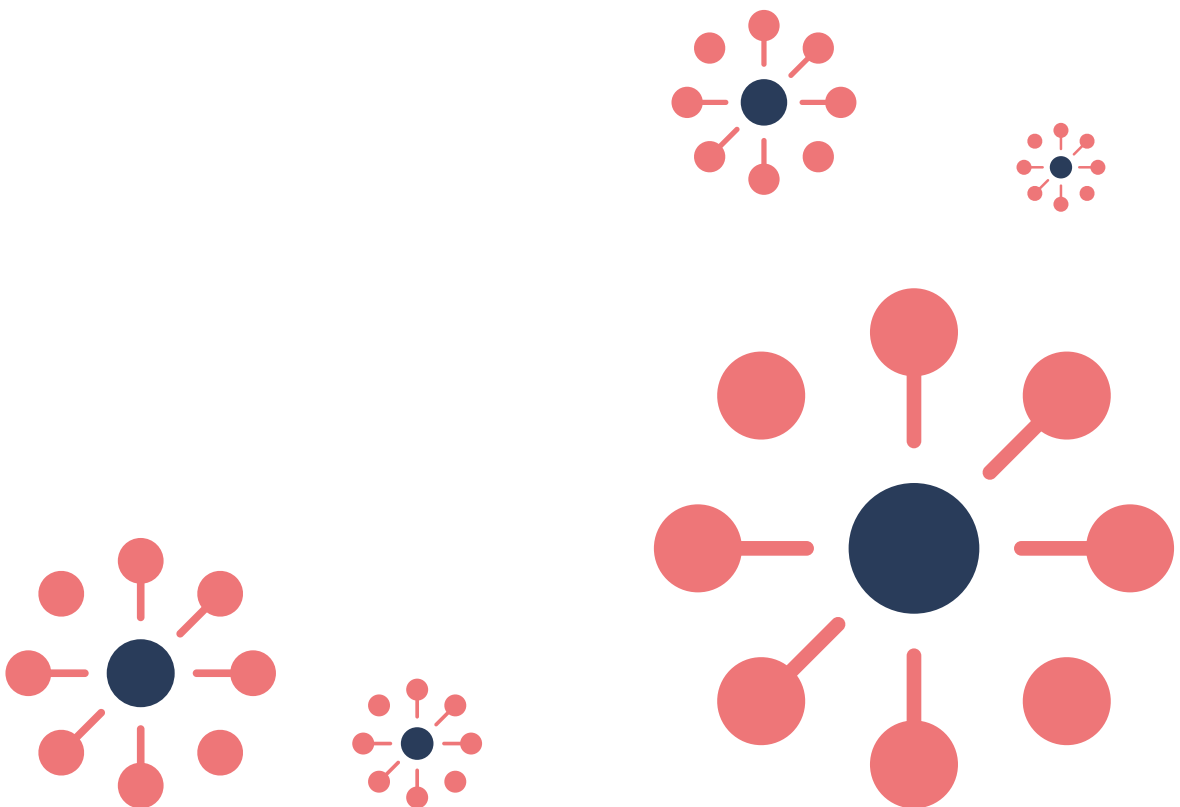
She is a Retainer Counsel with TRAI and has been regularly representing them in matters relating to regulations, licensing and adjudicatory proceedings besides rendering legal opinion on various consultation papers proposed by TRAI.

She served as a member on committee formed for framing rules / regulations relating to National Company Law Tribunal /National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (Adjudicating Authorities) and drafting of Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code 2016 besides many other committees such as Bankruptcy Law Reforms Committee (BLRC) which was formed to draft the structure of new Insolvency & Bankruptcy code, part of the Achutan Committee, which was formed to advise the Government on the Takeover Code of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers). SEBI is the regulator for the securities market in India, the Bimal Jalan Committee, which was set up by SEBI to examine issues arising from the ownership and governance of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) and member of the committee to amend Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959 and Company Secretaries Act, 1980 to strengthen the disciplinary mechanism for regulation of the members of Institutes.

She has been bestowed with many awards and has received various accolades for her myriad contributions such as 'National Bar Award' by All India Bar Association in recognition of her dedication to the study and practice of Commercial Litigation, 'Woman Lawyer of the Year 2020' Award by Public Diplomacy Forum, ranked amongst India's Top 15 Dispute Resolution lawyers by Asian Legal Business besides being recognized as a leading lawyer by Chambers & Partners, IFLR1000, Legal 500, India Business Law Journal and AsiaLaw Profiles.

Beyond professional commitments, She supports social causes and conducts pro bono matters. She is an Advisory Council member of Karuna Care Foundation, which aims to build and implement social welfare, healthcare and education projects.

The COVID-19 Advisory Desk



The novel coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it several economic and legal challenges in our business world, the need for practical legal advice and guidance for ensuring compliance with the regulatory framework is more important than ever.

Our lawyers are closely monitoring the evolving situations, and we endeavour to provide our clients with the latest regulatory updates and legal perspectives of the various policies, rules, and notifications issued in the wake of COVID-19.

The Updates, Reliefs and Insights sections will be worked upon regularly with the most recent developments across industries and sectors. While the **Updates** will include a repository of various notifications/orders issued by the concerned authorities, the **Reliefs** is a one-stop reference point for all incentives/schemes/revival allowances issued by both the Central and State Governments. Additionally, the Insights will have all forms of featured content developed by the firm ever since the beginning of the COVID-19 scenario.

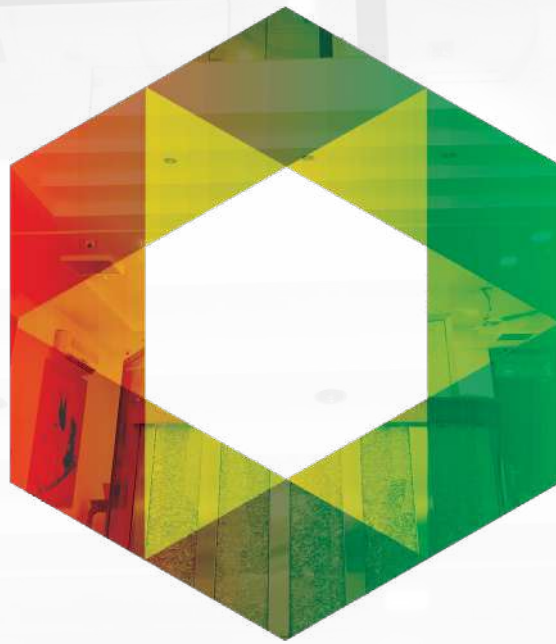
A dedicated Task Force has been identified within the firm to lead and address all queries that clients may have. We are committed to render the following legal services but not limited to;

- Advising on various issues faced including the enforceability of agreements in view of force majeure/frustration, labour & employment law, formulating policies for rationalization of HR cost including work without pay, reduction/deferment of salaries/wages, retrenchment, SOP for recommencement of operations in offices & factories, disputes relating to leases and revenue sharing arrangement wrt real estate matters.

- Identifying the viability of business & advising on structuring transactions across all sectors
- Advising on various incentives available for specific businesses for relevant states
- Assisting in determining the appropriate jurisdiction for setting up companies /wholly owned subsidiaries/joint ventures /business units and/or facilities
- Advisory related to structuring foreign investments and obtaining approvals/consents/reporting to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and other Central/State authorities.
- Assisting in identifying distressed assets for takeover and facilitating court/NCLT process for completing the Takeover/M&A
- Comprehensive advice and support in setting up new businesses in India
- Setting up Private Equity Funds and Alternative Investment Funds in accordance with the rules and regulations issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India
- Expedited approval process and liaison with the central and local government authorities
- Documentation and statutory fees, including stamp duty payable

If you have any questions in the wake of COVID-19, please write to us at advisory@dhirassociates.com





Our Expertise



Infrastructure & Energy



Dhir & Dhir is known for its marquee energy practice in transactions and financing. Known for its power sector work, it is also doing cutting-edge work in the Renewable Energy space. We have advised and represented a cross section of stakeholders (Indian and foreign), including finance funding agencies, corporate houses, public sector undertakings, and industry bodies. We have advised clients on contract negotiations, and assists clients with regulatory issues and attends documentation, namely concession and development agreements, EPC contracts and power purchase agreements, standard bidding documents and tendering process, among others. The team is also advising on project structuring and financing as well as assisting with the bidding process and in the setting up of joint ventures and infrastructure funds.

Our teams are led by highly knowledgeable, skilled, experienced and dedicated lawyers who are also well versed with the sector and technical knowledge. We provide top notch and innovative legal strategy and transaction structuring which is commercially viable and based upon reliable, expert, cost effective, creative and pragmatic solutions within strict timelines.

The Firm possesses vast and in depth experience of providing legal and advisory services for the development of infrastructure projects in the following sectors:

- Airports
- Mining
- Oil & Gas
- Power
- Ports
- Railways / Rapid Transit Systems
- Roads, Highways & Bridges
- Urban Infrastructure - Water & Solid Waste Management

The team has advised in some of the most prestigious and pioneering deals in the infrastructure space, has assisted government authorities and regulatory bodies, multinational corporations and multilateral

institutions in projects over a wide range of matters, from conceptualization to documentation, bid process management, awarding of contracts and assistance in project management.

The services include:

- Conceptualization
- Drafting and vetting of Bid Documents - BOT, BOOT, BOOM, DBFOT etc.
- Bid Process Management (for the Regulators)
- Assisting Contractors in the Bidding Process
- Conducting Due Diligence and negotiations on various stages of documentation
- Drafting, vetting and advising on Concession Agreements, Off-take Agreements, Pipeline Agreements, Terminal Facility Agreements, Joint Development Agreements, Power Purchase Agreement, EPC Contracts, State Support Agreements, Fuel Supply Agreements, Production Sharing Contracts, Regasification Agreements, Gas Sale and Purchase Agreements, etc.
- Legal assistance in setting up of Joint Ventures and infusion of funds in the Infrastructure sector in India
- Advising on diverse laws governing infrastructure facilities in India including issues related to land acquisition and FDI Policy
- Assistance in obtaining various licenses, approvals and permits required for implementation of infrastructure projects in India from governmental authorities
- Advising on regulatory and legal framework on unbundling and restructuring issues of State Electricity Boards
- Advising on Exploration Blocks in India in CBM and Oil blocks under NELP
- M&A and Private Equity
- Due Diligence
- Entity Formation



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