



**Dhir
& Dhir**
Advocates & Solicitors

25
YEARS

Firm Profile



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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

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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.

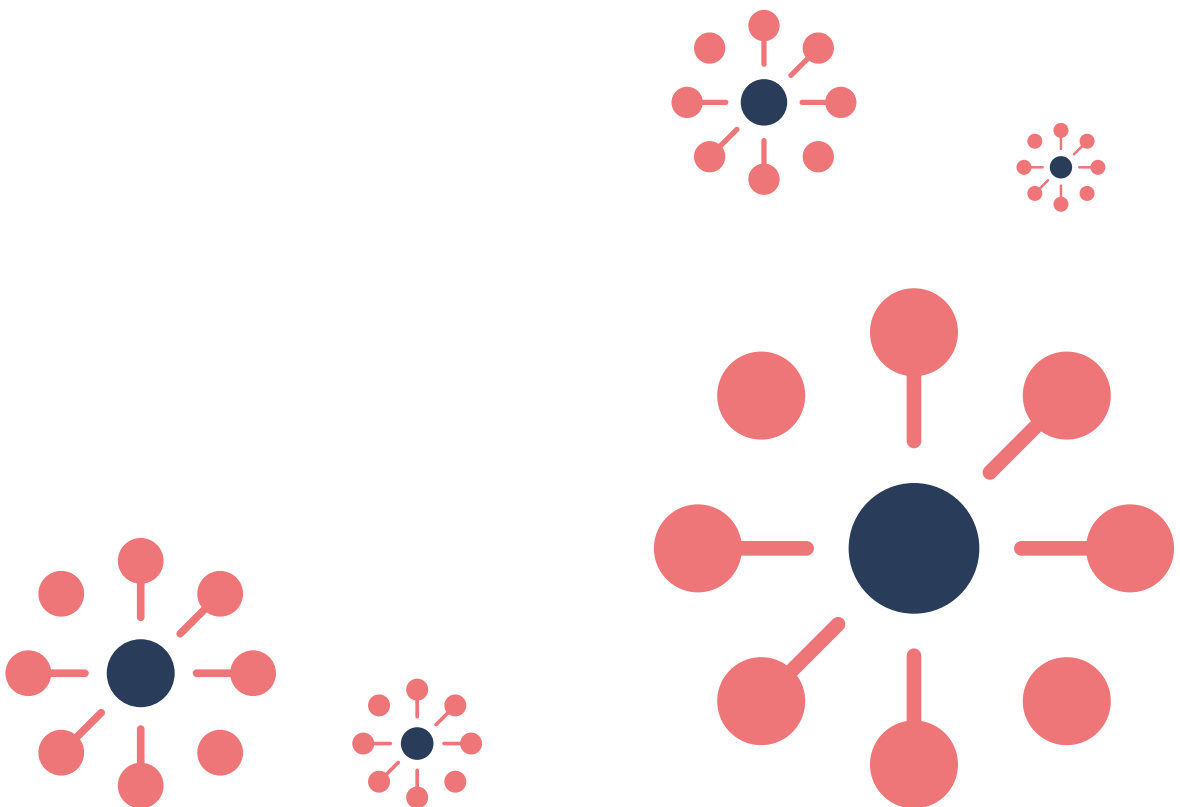
She is a Retainer Counsel with TRAI and has been regularly representing them in matters relating to regulations, licensing and adjudicatory proceedings besides rendering legal opinion on various consultation papers proposed by TRAI.

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.

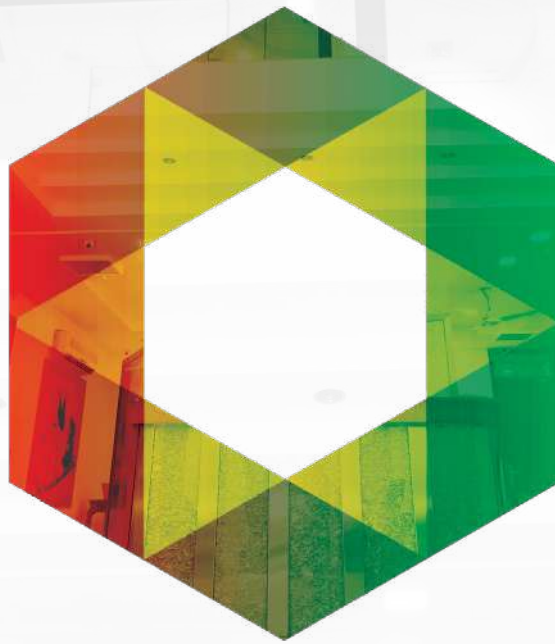
A dedicated Task Force has been identified within the firm to lead and address all queries that clients may have. We are committed to render the following legal services but not limited to;

- 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





Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT)

Technology

Dhir & Dhir Associates' Technology practice is at par with global standards in offering legal services to leading-edge transactions in the technology realm. The team's experience, industry knowledge and expertise have enabled seamless legal solutions to complex commercial matters. With a client base of leading players in the technology sector and ITeS/BPO sector, the firm's services include legal advisory, regulatory compliances, drafting, reviewing agreements & contracts, e-commerce, ITeS, transactional support etc. Protecting their rights in the competitive market, the firm also assists clients in IPR matters and strategizing commercial goals.

The team advises clients on various provisions of the Information Technology Act and rules including offences/ violations committed thereunder. The team has advised and assisted several companies in structuring, commencement of business operations in online gaming/ gambling sector and has assisted them in drafting, negotiating and finalizing related commercial and licensing contracts.

Media

The team has experience in advising companies operating in entertainment, print, digital media and broadcasting sectors. The team also advises clients on issues relating to gaming & sports law. The team advises on the issue relating to creation, production and dissemination of advertising across all media, particularly interactive technology and consumer-generated content.

The team has experience to represent studios, sports associations, television and film production houses, independent players, new media companies, music companies and television networks. At the practice's core, is the representation of clients in transactions involving issues pertaining to the production and distribution of motion pictures and television programming.

The team advises on whole range of legal and regulatory issues including advertising, media & broadcasting laws, IPR, guidelines, rules & regulations, registrations, licenses & compliances under the relevant regulations, public policy issues & initiatives, distribution, broadcast, syndication rights and deals, television format rights, script options and purchases, agreements, multi-media, digital and new technology services, privacy and data protection.

Telecommunications

The firm has a robust telecommunication practice both in the regulatory sphere and litigation. It has vast experience in handling telecommunication issues involving in-depth understanding of technical know-how, telecommunication laws and regulatory regimes/ rules which inter alia include drafting, negotiating, finalization and closing of the joint venture agreement; obtaining foreign investment approvals and relevant telecom licenses from the licensor/ concerned Government bodies, routing of calls in and outside India, installation of servers/ nodes, lawful intercept and monitoring requirements, reselling of bandwidth and telecom resources, tariff, license fee/ adjusted gross revenue etc.

The Firm represents its clients in regulatory proceedings, consultations with regulatory authorities on various matters (such as relating tariff determination, licensing and adjudicatory proceedings) and also before the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and the Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT), arbitral tribunals, the High Courts and the Supreme Court of India. The firm has extensive experience in advising and assisting the Government of India, Department of Telecommunications (licensor) and companies (licensees) operating in telecommunications sector including international carriers, mobile and landline telecom operators, internet service providers, submarine cable operators/ owners, cable landing station operators etc. on complex legal and regulatory issues.



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