

## Khaitan & Co expands its domestic footprint – sets up an office in Chennai

The Firm's domestic expansion in a new metro reflects its strong commitment to serve the long standing and diverse set of clients across South India.

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Khaitan & Co has today announced the opening of its office in Chennai.

In keeping with its philosophy of offering its clients best possible legal advisory services and support at their doorsteps, Khaitan & Co will be formally opening its Chennai office in the latter part of this year. The focus of this office will be on advising clients on M&A, private equity and venture capital, general corporate, solvent and insolvent restructuring, private and public investments, real estate and dispute resolution matters including mediation, domestic and international arbitrations.

Vivek Sriram (Partner, Corporate and M&A) and Arva Merchant who has joined the Firm today as Partner in the Dispute Resolution practice, will serve as the Firm's resident partners and representatives in Chennai.

Vivek's expertise lies in advising international and domestic clients on structuring transactions, investment strategies, domestic and cross-border M&A, strategic alliances, joint ventures, private equity, venture capital investments, strategic buyouts and exits and general corporate matters. He also has experience in appearing before the Madras High Court and other courts and tribunals in Chennai on matters relating to election law, corporate, commercial, and debt recovery laws.

Arva focusses on litigation, mediation and arbitration involving commercial and real estate laws. She appears before the Supreme Court, Madras High Court, various Arbitration Tribunals, amongst other fora. She has worked extensively on commercial and real estate dispute matters involving joint ventures, joint development agreements, engineering contracts, financing agreements, RERA and IBC. She also works on civil and constitutional law matters.

The opening of the Chennai office is aligned with the Firm's broader strategic view of the Southern states of India being a solid base for a number of large and medium scale conglomerates and industries comprising of diverse sectors such as automobiles, textiles, cement, engineering and pharmaceuticals among others. Through the new office in Chennai, the Firm intends to work closely with its existing and prospective clients in Southern India, to meet their business needs and act as a trusted and strategic advisor.



Commenting on the new office in Chennai, Haigreve Khaitan, Senior Partner said:

'We believe that Southern India holds great promise for the Firm, and it was only a logical choice for us to set up our presence in Chennai after Bengaluru to cater to our growing set of clients in this region. We are extremely thrilled and looking forward to extending our support and exceptional service to all our existing and prospective clients on the ground. Vivek's decision to anchor the Chennai office made it very easy to take the plunge. We are already in talks to expand our local talent pool including with some of our younger colleagues relocating to Chennai and focussing on setting up our customary state-of-the-art infrastructure facilities and also forging new relationships'.