



# Practices: Employment, Labour and Benefits Industrial Relations White Collar Investigations

Corporate and Commercial

### **Education:**

B.A., LL.B.(Hons.), National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata (2005)

### **Professional Affiliations:**

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa International Bar Association

## Sectors:

Automobile IT/ITeS Aviation Banking Education Finance Hospitality Manufacturing

### **Anshul Prakash**

Partner

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Anshul Prakash is a Partner with the Corporate and Commercial Practice Group in the Mumbai office. He specialises in Employment and Labour laws and heads the Firm's Employment, Labour and Benefits (ELB) Practice.

Anshul has advised various prominent domestic and international clients on issues related to employment in respect of labour laws compliance, labour audits, transfer and relocation of employees pursuant to business transfers and asset sale and purchase, social security and employee incentive schemes, maternity benefits, drafting of employment contracts across levels including senior managerial personnel, human resource and personnel policy, worforce restructuring, hiring and termination of senior management, mid level and subordinate personnel, workers and labour union issues, outsourced worker issues, assistance on domestic enquiries investigations and exit strategies including documentation, prevention of sexual and other forms of harassment at workplace, industrial safety and health policies, government inspections and representations before the relevant authorities.

## **Representative Matters:**

In his areas of expertise, Anshul has represented and advised the following clients:

- Merck & Co. Inc., USA on various employment and labour compliance related issues in relation to its merger with Schering-Plough Corporation which has been renamed Merck & Co., Inc along with advice on issues related to industrial safety and health;
- Total SA., France on issues such as labour transfer, social security liabilities, transfer and retrenchment of workmen in relation to the sale of businesses of coatings resins of Cray Valley (Europe, Asia, South Africa) and Cook Composite Polymers (United States), as well as the photocure resins of Sartomer (Europe, United States, Asia) to Arkema S.A., France, having deal size of USD 720 million;
- Otsuka Pharmaceutical Factory, Inc, Japan on issues concerning transfer of employees and other issues related to social security and service terms in relation to the purchase of the infusions business from Claris Lifesciences;

Bengaluru Kolkata Mumbai New Delhi



- Hospira, Inc on labour compliance, employment registrations and social security accruals transfer in relation to the purchase of the injectables business of Orchid Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited;
- Wilbur-Elis Company, USA on labour union and employee transfer issues as well as labour law compliance in relation to its acquisition of the pharmaceutical product distribution business of Indchem International India;
- Johns Hopkins University, USA on the drafting of its human resource policies and issues in relation to compliance with the local social security laws;
- Graduate Management Admission Council, USA in relation to employment of senior management personnel including drafting of employment contract and personnel policy in India;
- Expedia Inc. on matters related to applicability of social security laws and related compliances in India as well as compliances in relation to engagement of contractors and contract labour in India;
- **Fosroc International Inc.** on the matters related to employee termination in India;
- Lutron Inc on matters relating to employment contract drafting, local filings and compliances on social security laws as well as employee termination and related procedure;
- Elul Tamarind Limited, Israel on matters related to drafting of consultancy agreement, employment contract and compliance under the applicable social security laws;
- Sodexo on matters related to disciplinary proceedings against employees and drafting of correspondence to terminate the services of the employee;
- Barclays plc on matters related to contract labour deployment, employee termination and statutory redundancy compensation;
- Q-Railing GmbH on matters related to employee termination and redundancy compensation as well as disciplinary proceedings;
- Hardcastle Restaurants Private Limited (McDonalds) on issues related to minimum wage compliance, labour welfare fund, employee termination and redundancy;
- Assa Abloy in relation to matters related to employee exits and related documentation;
- Convergys Corporation on matters related to employee recruitment, executive compensation, employee benefit plans, personnel policy manuals, harassment at workplace, domestic enquiries and social security contributions;



- Black & Veatch Inc. on matters related to industrial safety and health, liabilities of directors, labour inspections, domestic enquiry procedures, employee exit procedure and strategy;
- Rexam Plc on issues related to labour union activities, unrest, collective bargaining agreements, domestic enquiries and disciplinary actions;
- Elliot Group on aspects of social security contributions for foreign employees in India, contract labour and compliance issues;
- **Expedia Inc.** on employee suspension and subsequent termination on grounds of gross misconduct;
- Brady Corp on employee maternity benefits, discrimination claims, employee retention and severance compensation;
- RICS on various employment issues concerning employee discipline, data privacy, employee exit, prevention of sexual harassment at workplace, human resource policies;
- SPX Flow on issues related to workers' union and industrial relations;
- Benteler on employee grievance redressal mechanism, misconduct, domestic enquiry and employee exit strategy;
- Meidensha Corporation on employee policies concerning leave entitlement, disciplinary proceedings, standing orders under the applicable laws;
- Evolis SA on employee relocation, profile transition, disciplinary proceedings, workforce conduct strategy post management takeover as well as strategic advice on employee exits;
- Chino Corporation on employee disciplinary issues, personnel policy overhaul, phase-wise employee exit strategy for workforce restructuring;
- Accenture on the aspect of principal employer liabilities related to outsourced workforce, social security obligations and representation to the competent authority;
- Capgemini on reassignment of employee roles, assessment of impact on grade parity and remuneration, employee variable remuneration and exit strategy;
- **Firstsource** on employee indiscipline and related employer actions, overhaul of existing employee policies including health and safety at workplace; and
- Proterra Investment Partners on senior executive exit and documentation concerning severance compensation and post-employment obligations;
- British Telecom on employee investigation and exit, multilocation labour law compliance check, industrial relations, contract workers engagement, employment



documentation and advisory including prevention of sexual harassment related aspects;

- Mexichem on compliance training for employees, internal investigations, employee terminations, general employment and anti-bribery advisory;
- InterGlobe Aviation Limited (Indigo) on senior executive exit strategy, documentation and related compliances;
- West Corporation on aspects concerning workforce transition and mobility in relation to its acquisition of NASDAQ's public relations business;
- Clariant on employee discipline issues, internal strategy, crisis management and media responses;
- Deluxe Entertainment Corp on employment documentation including employee handbook, employment contracts, overtime payments, consultancy agreements;
- HDFC Limited on employment documentation including employee handbook, employment contracts, consultancy agreements, code of conduct, full and final settlement letters:
- Sumitomo Chemical on investigation of alleged unfair employment practices at workplace;
- Regents of the University of California on the implications of the ongoing inquiry and investigation by government agencies;
- Ariston Thermo (Racold) on proposed group restructuring in India including retrenchment strategy, assistance in handling trade union disputes and relocation of plant operations;
- Apax Partners on separation and release agreements for senior management;
- **Renault Nissan** on investigation of alleged breach of health and safety requirements at workplace;
- Solenis International LP on the employment aspects related to merger of BASF's wet-end Paper and Water Chemicals business with Solenis

# **Publications and Presentations:**

Anshul has contributed articles for several reputed publications and is regularly quoted in the print and electronic media on employment / HR related issues. Some of his contributions include:

- Contributed to the report on 'Future of Work' as part of collaboration between International Bar Association and International Labour Organisation (2018-2019);
- The India Chapter of Global Legal Insights to Employment & Labour Law (2019, 2018 and 2017) published by Global Legal Group;



- The India Chapter of Employment & Labour Law -Jurisdictional Comparisons (2015) published by Thomson Reuters;
- The India Chapter of Employment & Labour Law -Jurisdictional Comparisons (2014) published by Thomson Reuters;
- The India Chapter of Employment & Labour Law -Jurisdictional Comparisons (2012) published by Sweet & Maxwell;
- The India chapter of the International Comparative Legal Guide to: Employment & Labour Law (2012) published by Global Legal Group;
- The India chapter of the International Comparative Legal Guide to: Employment & Labour Law (2011) published by Global Legal Group; and
- The India Chapter of Labour Law A Practical Global Guide (2011) published by Globe Law and Business.

Anshul has been a speaker on employment and labour law aspects for various forums and panel discussions organized by industry bodies.

# **Achievements and Recognitions:**

Led by Anshul, the Employment, Labour and Benefits (**ELB**) practice at the Firm has been ranked as Tier 1 by Legal 500 Asia Pacific in 2017, 2018 and 2019. The ELB practice in the Firm has also been mentioned as 'recognised practitioner' by Chambers and Partners in 2019. Anshul has often been recommended by Asia Law Profiles.