



## Rahul Dutt

Partner

One Indiabulls Centre  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tower 1  
841 Senapati Bapat Marg  
Mumbai 400 013, India

T: +91 22 6636 5000  
F: +91 22 6636 5050  
E: [rahul.dutt@khaitanco.com](mailto:rahul.dutt@khaitanco.com)

### Practices:

Mergers & Acquisitions  
Joint Ventures  
Franchising  
Infrastructure  
Corporate and Commercial  
Advisory

### Education:

B.L.S. LL.B., Government Law  
College, University of Bombay  
LL.M European and International  
Trade Law (Distinction),  
University of Leicester, U.K.

### Professional Affiliations:

Bar Association of Maharashtra &  
Goa

Rahul is a Partner in the M&A and Private Equity Practice Group in the Mumbai office.

Rahul specialises in mergers & acquisitions, joint ventures, franchising, technology licensing, infrastructure and commercial contracts across sectors including retail, refining, petrochemicals, telecommunications, security solutions, and general corporate law advisory.

Prior to joining the Firm, Rahul was senior in-house counsel with India's largest private sector company, Reliance Industries Limited, and led several of Reliance group's transactions and has overseen commercial contracts across businesses and functions.

Rahul also worked for a year (2004 - 2005) for law firm Michael Wilson & Partners in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

### Representative Matters:

In his areas of expertise, Rahul has represented and advised the **Reliance Group** on:

#### Mergers and Acquisitions

- Acquisition of the textile manufacturing assets, employees, and contracts of Hualon Corporation (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd., which was then in receivership;
- Acquisition of BP Chemicals (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd., manufacturer of purified terephthalic acid, from BP Plc.;
- Acquisition of Network 18 Media & Investments Limited;
- Divestment of GAPCO Rwanda engaged in petroleum retail business in Africa to an indirectly held African company; and
- Part divestment of its textile business under the "VIMAL" brand to a Chinese company (Shandong Ruyi Science and Technology Group Company) by transferring the business into a special purpose vehicle.

#### Joint ventures and franchising

- Establishing a butyl rubber manufacturing JV business in India, with SIBUR JSC, the Russian technology owner;



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- Establishing a pre-fabricated building manufacturing JV business in India, with Nova Chemicals Corporation, the US technology owner;
- Establishing a football franchising and media rights JV business for the Indian Super League with the STAR Group;
- Establishing a brand acquisition and licensing joint venture with Iconix Brand Group Inc.;
- Establishing its retail business' joint ventures relating to the following brands: Marks & Spencer, Zegna, Paul & Shark, Brooks Brothers, Office Depot and Pearle Europe; and
- Establishing franchising arrangements relating to the following brands: Kenneth Cole, Timberland, Steve Madden, Super Dry, Dune, Quiksilver, Thomas Pink and Stuart Weitzman.

#### Infrastructure and Technology Licensing

- On EPC, project management and construction contracts for its refinery expansion project at Jamnagar, east-west gas pipeline from Andhra Pradesh to Gujarat, and convention centre at Bandra-Kurla complex;
- On IRUs, long term and short term leases for procurement of telecom infrastructure such as ducts, fibres, bandwidth, and towers, for the group's 4G rollout; and
- In obtaining process technologies for its refinery, including E-Gas technology license from Phillips 66 for setting up a coke gasification facility.

#### Group Level Legal Policies

- In developing overall legal policies and strategies relating to commercial and legal risk allocation and dispute resolution management.

#### **Publications:**

- While at Michael Wilson & Partners, Rahul was editor of the firm's booklet for "Doing Business in Kazakhstan", and its periodic newsletter to clients.