



Raj Panchmatia

Partner

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Practices:

Dispute Resolution

International Commercial
Arbitration

Education:

Solicitor, Bombay Incorporated Law
(2004)

Solicitor, Supreme Court of England
and Wales (NP) (2006)

LL.M., Mumbai University (2004)

LL.B., Mumbai University (2000)

B.Com., H.R. College of Commerce
and Economics, Mumbai (1997)

Fellow of Malaysian Institute of
Arbitrators

Professional Affiliations:

Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa

Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Supreme Court Bar Association

Bombay Bar Association

SIAC India Users Counsel

ICC India Arbitration Group

Mumbai Centre of International
Arbitration (MCIA)

Indian Merchant's Chambers (IMC)

Bombay Chambers of Commerce
and Industry

Law Society of England & Wales,
U.K

Sectors / Areas:

Automobile

Defence

Hospitality

Infrastructure

Raj Panchmatia is a Partner in the Dispute Resolution practice group in the Mumbai office. He specialises in advising clients on dispute resolution and commercial litigation. He handles matters both in domestic and international fora and has advised clients on a wide variety of claims under the Indian arbitration laws, SIAC, LCIA, ICC, UNCITRAL and HKIAC, and has extensive experience in dealing with disputes under all forms of contracts and agreements.

Raj is appointed on the SIAC Panel of Arbitrators and HKIAC List of Arbitrators. He is also on the Panel of Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC) as an India Specialist Mediator and a Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) Accredited Mediator.

Raj is one of the select members of the SIAC India Users Counsel and the ICC India Arbitration Group. He was instrumental in drafting of the Mumbai Centre of International Arbitration (MCIA) Rules and is a co-convenor of Indian Arbitration Forum Western Region.

A regular speaker at various conferences and seminars, Raj has been invited by many prestigious bodies such as the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Court of International Arbitration, India (LCIA India), Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA), Swiss Arbitration Academy (SAA).

Select Representative Matters:

- **Mumbai Metro Regional Development Authority (MMRDA)**, an arm of the Maharashtra State Government, in one of its largest Infrastructure arbitration dispute regarding construction of Mumbai Metro Rail Project for a total claim of INR 4,500 Crores. Separately, Raj also successfully advised and procured an order for MMRDA on proceedings involving metro fares as per the agreed terms in the concession agreement between MMRDA and Mumbai Metro One Private Ltd;

Power
Private Equity
Real Estate
Shipping

- A **large French business house** on defending claims aggregating to approximately EUR 1,597,000, for alleged breaches of shareholders agreement;
- **MAN Industries (India) Limited** on recovering payments of EUR 24 million under a manufacturing and supply agreement prior to shipment of goods to Iran in the background of certain existing international sanctions and further securing necessary documents to the client from the Iranian counterparty;
- **Narendra Plastics Private Limited**, Asia's largest manufacturer and supplier of plastic bags, on a dispute against its international supermarket chain customer and advised on strategy and securing order for payment of USD 1.8 million;
- An **Indian promoter** on disputes arising out of the shareholders agreement for enforcement of a put option, indemnity and guarantee rights of the investor involving payment of AED 137,500,000. The matter involved three multi-jurisdictional disputes, with more than one governing law of the contract;
- **Indian promoters** in an arbitration and representing them in proceedings before the Indian courts, in a dispute with its equity investor about enforcement of a put option agreement, involving interpretation of the amended provisions of the Indian arbitration laws, in particular the applicability of the put option agreements entered prior to change in law;
- A **Japanese client** in an arbitration for recovery of outstanding dues of USD 2 million in a dispute arising out of an EPC contract in the energy and infrastructure sector;
- **Indian Beauty and Hygiene Association (IBHA)**, challenging the vires of an amendment to the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules seeking mandatory marking of cosmetic products with a red or green dot, indicating the source and/or ingredients as vegetarian or non-vegetarian;
- A **leading international medical equipment manufacturer and its Indian subsidiary** on their litigation strategy and suits filed by the Indian distributor for enforcement of an alleged oral contract and for an anti-suit injunction;
- **Tech Mahindra Limited** on the constitutionality and retrospective effect of Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act 2015; and
- **Vedanta Limited and Cairn India Limited** on a merger scheme which consolidates Vedanta Limited's position as one of the world's largest diversified natural resources companies.

Recognitions and Accomplishments:

Raj has been consistently recommended by many of the world's leading law chambers and accreditation bodies. He has been recognised as Future Leader in Arbitration by Who's Who Legal in their Global Guide for Arbitration in 2021 and 2022 and by Chambers and Partners in the field of Arbitration in their 2021 and 2022 Ranking. He has also recently been listed by Legal 500 in the field of Dispute Resolution in their 2022 Ranking

Raj received the '*Rising Star under 40*' Award in 2016 by Legal Era.

Publications and Presentations:

Raj has authored the following contributions:

- **"Enforcement of Put and Call Options - Challenges in Manoeuvring the Exit"** published by Oxford University Press;
- **"Decoding the Code - A New Paradigm for Insolvency Dispute Resolution"** published by Mondaq;
- **"Impact of Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act on foreign-seated arbitrations"** published by International Law Office (ILO);
- **"The Commercial Courts Act: Is It the Solution For Delayed Justice"** published by Lexology;
- **"Put and Call options in India: Do these exit options really exist ?"** Published by Asia Pacific Regional Forum News, News Letter of International Bar Association Legal Practice Division (IBA);
- **"The Viewpoint - Arbitrability of Oppression/ Mismanagement Disputes"** published by Bar & Bench;
- **"Enercon Vs. Enercon: The continuing trend of a pro arbitration Supreme Court"** published by Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA);
- **"The Viewpoint: Jurisdiction of Indian Court in International Commercial Arbitrations"** published by Bar & Bench in January 2013 and was further published by Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA); and
- **"The Viewpoint - Investment Arbitration in India: An introduction to concept and challenges in the White Industries dispute"** published by Bar & Bench.