



I.V.MERCHANT & COMPANY.

COMPANY PROFILE

|| Introduction

I.V. Merchant & Co. Advocates & Solicitors (“**IVM**”) is a leading full-service law firm, built on the tenets of integrity, knowledge and a passion for excellence. Established in 1968, our focus and expertise lie in civil, corporate and commercial litigation, banking, real estate laws, IPR, and information technology laws.

We provide legal services through a holistic approach that blends the highest level of professionalism with experience, to render effective solutions to complex cases and disputes. We provide tailored attention and responsiveness to each of our clients, combining jurisdiction specific knowledge with an international perspective. We believe in building lasting relationships with our clients, through honesty and confidentiality.

With the evolving business landscape and unprecedented push in entrepreneurship, IVM offers a wide range of legal, regulatory compliance and advisory services to the start-up and SME ecosystem, through guidance, documentation, litigation and general legal compliance.

IVM represents clients in the High Court of Bombay, City Civil Court, NCLT, DRT, RERA, SAT. We assist our clients with domestic and international arbitrations. We provide legal services and expertise to leading global corporates, MNCs, listed companies, banks and financial institutions. The firm has a team of experienced lawyers and has associations on a pan-India level.

Our main practice areas include:

- Litigation & Arbitration (Domestic & International),
- General Corporate Advisory,
 - Commercial Transaction Structuring,
 - International Contractual Transactions,
- Banking & Financial Market,
- Real Estate,
- Succession Laws,
- Intellectual Property,
- Media and Entertainment Laws,
- Pharmaceutical,
- Information Technology,
- SME / Start-ups Laws.
- Insurance,
- Maritime & Shipping.

|| Integrity, Knowledge & A Passion for Excellence

IVM is amongst Mumbai's eminent civil service law firms, carrying a legacy of more than half a century of distinction, established in 1968 by one of India's leading lady Solicitors, Mrs. Indira V. Merchant and Solicitor Mr. V. J. Merchant. Our interdisciplinary team has the depth and breadth of experience to handle the most challenging cases in a variety of complex areas.

Our Vision: To become the premier choice of a trusted advisor and legal partner for business growth and development in India.

Our Mission: To provide high quality, innovative and result oriented legal solutions, excellent legal representation and a dedicated quality legal service for individuals, start-ups and businesses of all genres through excellence, responsiveness, innovation and collaboration.

Our Core Values: Our team personifies and lives its core values in all its endeavors and actions. Our success is rooted in the founding principles that define us.

1. **Integrity:** We focus on building relationships with honesty, confidentiality, trust, respect, and ethics in all our actions.
2. **Privileged Communication:** Being a 5 decade old firm, IVM has retained its culture and values while blending in with the corporates, thus, creating its own niche which sets IVM apart. At IVM, we believe that our clients interact and share their information with us because they have faith and trust in us. We treat it all as privileged communication and ensure that confidential conversations or interactions between us and our client remain confidential on our part.
3. **Client First:** To fully understand our clients' requirements, challenges, objectives and goals and to maximize the value of our services, including safeguarding the security and confidentiality of their information. We honor our commitments and are accountable for our actions, successes and failures.
4. **Passion for Excellence:** To relentlessly pursue delivery of outstanding results in everything we do.
5. **Knowledge & Rigor:** Learning is a never ending journey and we use this to extract larger meaning from our constant pursuit of knowledge, data and information to support objective evaluation, decision making and innovation.

|| Why IVM?

For over 5 decades, IVM has been helping multinational and domestic organizations drive their growth in India and abroad through our legal acumen and advisory. IVM strives to achieve results that exceed expectations.

Our competitive edge lies in the tailored attention and responsiveness provided to each client, with a view to render effective solutions to complex problems.

We combine jurisdiction specific knowledge with an international perspective and specialize in providing all services under a single roof. This enables clients to receive judicious advice and get all the related work done instead of going from one office to another in search of different professionals for different legal services.

We assure utmost quality in our work and our attention to detail. As skilled industry advisers, our team of professionals has played a proactive role in the growth of key business sectors in India. Our firm is well-equipped to deliver industry specific advice across various industries and domains.

|| Our Services

IVM offers proactive and holistic advice and solutions in a committed and dedicated manner. Our approach includes partner involvement and timely execution of matters.

With domain knowledge spanning across multiple sectors, we have significant experience in advising clients including leading global corporates, MNCs, listed companies and entities desirous of setting up business in India. We have also represented and advised MNCs, banks and financial institutions and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

Broadly, we offer -

- Legal structuring and contractual documentation in various genres of business-like franchising & distribution, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, media & entertainment.
- Drafting and vetting of contracts, deeds, and agreements.
- Registration of IPR.
- Representation of clients in the High Court of Bombay, NCLT, DRT, RERA, SAT
- Assistance with domestic and international arbitrations

Dispute Resolution

Dispute Resolution is the process of resolving the dispute or the conflict arising between parties. Crucially, Dispute Resolution can be a way of solving a conflict without having to go to the Court. As a business, it is useful to know and understand the various methods of dispute resolution, in case a situation arises where a party needs to resolve the disagreements within one's business or with 3rd parties. For dispute resolution under the arbitration mechanism, we provide the following services of drafting, filing and representation for our clients:

- Arbitration Petition under section 9 – Ad-interim reliefs in the High Court,
- Arbitration Petition under section 34 – for setting aside the arbitral Award,
- Appeal under section 37,
- We also specialize in institution of Arbitration and have represented our clients in ICC and also represent before SIAC.

IVM's team of lawyers has a stronghold in providing strategic dispute analysis and advice in litigation and arbitration, both domestic and internationally. We help our clients make informed decisions consistent with our clients' commercial objectives.

From negotiation to mediation, arbitration and litigation, our access to an international network has given us the opportunity to successfully represent our foreign and domestic clients. Our team has extensive experience in providing effective alternate methods for dispute resolution, handling multi-jurisdictional disputes and dealing with matters in bankruptcy, insolvency before courts and consumer forums, domestic and international commercial arbitration.

IVM since its existence has been dealing with matters through accomplished and well versed advocates in its Team and has had an impeccable record of representing clients and their interests in the High Court of Bombay, Supreme Court of India, Debt Recovery Tribunal, Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Securities Appellate Tribunal, National Company Law Tribunal and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal. We specialize in handling matters pertaining to:

- Domestic and International Arbitrations,
- Litigations of Banking and Financial sectors,
- Property & Land Disputes,
- Corporate Litigation,
- Testamentary Matters & Inheritance,
- Bankruptcy & Insolvency,
- Matters relating to Capital Markets.

IVM has handled litigations for various genres of businesses including:

- Real Estate,
- Pharmaceuticals,
- Banks and NBFCs,
- Insurance,
- Media Houses,
- Manufacturing Companies,
- Partnerships Disputes / Company Disputes,
- Stock Broking Houses,
- Maritime & Shipping,
- Family Disputes (property and succession),
- Employment Disputes,
- Public Sector Undertakings.

We are empanelled with prestigious nationalized and scheduled banks, PSUs and government bodies.

Writ Petitions

IVM houses one of India's leading civil practices. Our dedicated team of experienced lawyers have been engaged with representing several clients proficiently with filing writ petitions. Fundamentally, writs are formal written orders issued by authorized executive or judicial bodies based on applications filed before the competent courts or authorities. Under law, a writ petition of a civil or criminal nature may be filed by an individual/aggrieved party to a higher level of court – High Court / Supreme Court, against the order or decision of a lower court.

- Civil Writ Petitions seeking Writ of Mandamus, Certiorari and prohibition against Government authorities, quasi-judicial authorities, judicial authorities under Article 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India.
- Criminal Writ Petition: Criminal Writ Petition filed Mandamus, Certiorari, Quo Warranto, Habeas Corpus and prohibition for quashing of FIR, quashing of charge sheet, quashing of process issued under Section 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India.
- Public Interest Litigation against government authorities who violate the fundamental rights of the citizens, students, professionals etc. or is ultra vires or contradictory to any law which affects the citizens, individuals, people and public at large.
- Contempt Petition for voluntary breach of the orders of the Hon'ble Court by issuing show cause notice and if contempt is proved then imprisonment upto 6 months and other reliefs as the Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper.
- Review Petition: Review Petitions filed for review and setting aside passed by the same High Court.
- Writ petition pertaining to employee transfer matters.
- Writ petitions pertaining to CRZ regulations and environment law.
- Writ petitions regarding land acquisition matters.
- Writ petitions pertaining to DRAT orders.
- All types of writ petitions including but not limited to challenging constitutional validity.

Corporate & Commercial

Corporate and commercial laws encompass areas of trade law that apply to the rights, relations, and conduct of persons and businesses engaged in commerce, merchandising, trade, and sales. This includes all of the laws that govern how to start, buy, manage and close or sell any type of business.

IVM offers legal services across the various stages of a business' life cycle – from guiding an entity on general and operational corporate matters, to assisting and advising them with complex business-related transactions. Our corporate & commercial practice is inclusive of a comprehensive range of general corporate advisory, structuring and commercial services to domestic and foreign clients that are keen on strategically investing or doing business in India and/or abroad. At IVM, we provide clients with optimum solutions that assist in overcoming complexities associated with commercial transactions, by developing innovative structures with a view to mitigate associated risks.

We advise clients across a broad spectrum of corporate transactions including mergers & acquisitions, business and asset transfers, schemes of arrangement, joint ventures and strategic alliances. In addition to conducting legal due diligence exercises, we focus on drafting, vetting and negotiating transactional documents and providing our clients with holistic transactional structuring advice. Our lawyers are experienced with *inter alia* FDI regulations, SEBI regulations and stamping provisions, which helps us deliver smart solutions, seamlessly and swiftly. Our services include -

- Investigating & preparing due diligence reports for target companies,
- Structuring foreign collaboration taking into account various applicable Indian laws,
- Structuring and drafting of Joint-Venture Agreements,
- Transfer of Technical Know-how,
- Drafting Trademark and License Agreements, Business Transfer Agreements, Shareholders Agreements, Share Purchase Agreements or other such agreements,
- Acquisition of shares by Foreign Companies,
- Compliances w.r.t. Registrar of Companies,
- Drafting of Partnership Deeds, Limited Liability Partnership Agreement.

Corporate Restructuring

- General Corporate advisory,
- Corporate Actions,
- Issue of ESOP and Sweat by companies.

Company litigation

- Domestic and International Arbitrations,
- Oppression and Mismanagement,
- Voluntary Winding-up,
- Filing various company applications before the Registrar of Companies (ROC),
- Filing various petitions under Companies Act, 2013,
- Suits for specific performance,
- Suits for dissolution of Partnership Firm,
- Suits relating to Maritime & Shipping,
- Execution Application for execution of decree or award against the judgment debtor in order to satisfy the decree under the provisions of Order 21 of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908.
- First Appeals for setting aside decree and judgment passed by the District Court, City Civil Court, High Court of Bombay.
- Appeal from order and Appeal (OS).

Miscellaneous drafting:

- Incorporation of Company / LLP/OPC,
- LLP Agreement, Addendums,
- Appointment Letter & Employment Agreement,
- Joint Venture Agreement,
- Shareholders Agreement, Share/Business Transfer Agreement, Share Purchase Agreement, Investor Agreement,
- Legal Notices.

We also undertake Due Diligence (Legal and Financial) for Public Sector and Scheduled Banks.

Banking & Finance

Banking and Finance explores the dynamic, fast paced world of money, shares, credit and investments. Finance is essential as it provides the liquidity in terms of money or assets required for individuals and businesses to invest / growth for the future. Financial Intermediaries such as banks and NBFCs are the key players in these financial markets. Banking is also a global industry and other financial institutions and investment houses across the world deal with money circulation, credit, investments, financing, superannuation and more. Finance is continuously changing which makes a necessity to know all laws and reforms relating to the same.

Our banking & finance practice offers keen insight and combines market leading thought and commercial experience in the form of practical and innovative solutions to financing and insurance issues.

Given the range of clients and the broad spectrum of corporate commercial work that we handle, our Banking and Finance segment has had unparalleled experience in all manner of corporate transactions involving international and domestic market leaders. We cater to the needs of banks and financial institutions under the following construct:

- Conducting Title Search for various banks in reference to Mortgage and/or Charge in respect of the property in question.
- Suits filed for recovery of loan amount and foreclosure of mortgage.
- Summary Suits.
- Attending matters in Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT), Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal (DRAT) and also matters pertaining to the SARFAESI Act, Insolvency and Bankruptcy laws.
- Advising domestic and international financial companies, conducting Arbitrations, institutions and banks including non-banking financial companies on securitization laws, restructuring, securities, asset finance, project finance, banking and insolvency.
- Drafting of Policies as required by RBI.
- Drafting of various banking and financial agreements.
- Demand Notice / Loan Recall Notice, Notice u/s 138 of the NI Act & Notice U/s 25 of PSS Act, Default Notice.
- E-T&C (click-wrap contract for loan).
- Assisting in providing the list of documents for enforceability of the loan agreements.
- Invoking Arbitrations for non-payment
- Filing section 7.9, 95 petitions in NCLT.

We also undertake Due Diligence (Legal) for ARCs to take over NPA portfolios for Public Sector and Scheduled Banks.

We advise Credit Information agencies, draft various policies under RBI Act and have also handled various litigations where the borrowers were held as wilful defaulters. We also provide non-litigation services of drafting/vetting to Credit Information Companies for:

- Service Agreement,
- CIC Software Agreement,
- B2B2C Agreement,
- CICRA Compliant Website Policies,
- Writ petitions for not notifying borrower as Willful Defaulter.

Financial Markets

Financial Markets or capital markets provide an avenue for the sale and purchase of assets such as bonds, stocks, foreign exchanges and derivatives; wherein, businesses and investors raise money to grow their personal and commercial wealth.

IVM provides rigorous guidance on regulatory norms and compliances and understanding the legal implications of transactions and structures crucial to financial transactions.

The financial markets industry is a forever-in-flux segment that functions by coming together of many intricate moving parts. We at IVM understand the various compliances required by the numerous regulatory authorities and the complicated ongoing challenges therein.

In particular, we have assisted and advised our clients on a range of issues and compliances required by the following authorities:

- Securities Exchange Board of India,
- National Stock Exchange,
- Bombay Stock Exchange,

We also offer advisory in terms of services such as:

- Drafting and Vetting of Legal documents, deeds, contracts and agreements, MoUs and various other agreements in relation to the Financial Markets,
- Drafting of various policies and documents in compliance with SEBI Regulations
- Appearing before Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT),
- Carrying out Due Diligence,
- Drafting of and Replying to Show Cause Notices,
- Advisory on SEBI compliances.

Real Estate

Governed by both central and state laws, Real estate laws in India include laws regarding buying, selling, renting or dealing with all types of lands, buildings, houses etc. and all easementary rights attached to lands, buildings, houses etc. We help our clients understand the complexities around the purchase and sale of land, and simplify the process of owning real estate.

In order to minimize risks and maximize the potential of our clients, our real estate services include:

- Providing Title Search and Title Certificate,
- Advising our clients while acquiring, disposing and/or exchanging properties,
- Drafting and/or Vetting of various legal documents i.e., Agreement for Sale, Sale Deed/ Conveyance, General Power of Attorney, Special Power of Attorney, Construction and Interpretation of various types of legal Contracts and Agreements,
- Verification and Analysis of various documents such as Title Deeds and/or investigation of the same,
- Drafting of contracts for construction property, turnkey contracts and also dispute related contracts in litigation,
- Litigation between society, tenants and the developer,
- Land acquisition matters,
- Appearing before local authorities in Mumbai,
- Drafting various other ancillary agreements such as Leave and License, Revenue Share Agreement, Lease Deed, Permanent Alternate Accommodation, Agreements under MOFA etc.
- Advising co-operative housing societies in their day-to-day matters and in matters of re-development,
- Home buyer clients and construction companies regarding the RERA Act, 2016 and appearing before the RERA authority,
- Advising in re-development and self-development projects,
- Drafting Re-Development / Joint Development Agreements,
- Suits for Declaration,
- Suit for Possession,
- Suit for Injunction,
- Escrow Letters, Legal Notices and Public Notices,
- Deed of Family Trust,
- MahaRERA Complaint and filing of Complaint.

Insolvency & Bankruptcy Law

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC) is the bankruptcy law of India which seeks to consolidate the existing framework by creating a single law for insolvency and bankruptcy in India. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code is a one-stop solution for resolving insolvencies which previously was a long process that did not offer an economically viable arrangement. IBC aims to protect the interests of creditors, small investors and makes the process of doing business less cumbersome.

We at IVM have represented various clients under section 7 (financial creditor), section 9 (operational creditor), section 10 (voluntary CIRP), section 95 (against personal guarantors to corporate debtors) petitions, other applications and representing Corporate Debtors under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code of India (IBC).

- Advise and appear on behalf of the Interim Resolution Professional (IRP) / Resolution Professional.
- We also represent clients in filing petitions under section 60.
- Representing Creditors before the Committee of Creditors (COC).
- Advising on Liquidation proceedings under IBC.

Individuals & Families

IVM assists individuals and families with personal, and family business related legal services and advisory. We represent a host of clients with respect to issues/cases including -

- Testamentary and Succession Laws,
- Property documents,
- Wills & Codicils,
- Inheritance
- Contractual disputes.

Succession Laws

In India, laws of Succession relate to legal principles of distribution of assets of a deceased individual whereas inheritance is the process an heir inheriting his ancestor's property. We provide the following services for estate planning:

- Drafting of Wills and Codicils,
- Family Settlement and Arrangements,
- Probate,
- Letters of Administration,
- Suits for Administration,
- Testamentary Suits.
- Partition suits.

IVM also advises clients in family disputes related to property and inheritance and represent clients in The High Court of Bombay for various suits along with the following:

- Advisory on digital assets,
- Drafting Living Wills,
- Advising on drafting Wills when the properties are situated in different countries,
- Drafting Gift Deeds,
- Deed of Family Trust,
- Public / Private Charitable Trust,
- General and Special Power of Attorney,
- Various NOC Letters.

Intellectual Property Laws

Intellectual Property means a set of intangible assets owned and legally protected by a company or individual from outside use or implementation without consent/license. An intangible asset is a non-physical asset that a company or person owns. The concept of intellectual property relates to the fact that the certain products of human intellect should be afforded the same protective rights that apply to tangible assets.

Our innovative approach encompasses all aspects of intellectual property protection. We provide the following services:

- Trademark Search, Application and Registration along with First Notice hearing,
- Assignment of IPR Agreement,
- Memorandum of Association (MOU),
- Grant of Rights Agreement,
- Options Agreement,
- Legal Notice for Infringement of IPR and reply to infringement notices,
- Suit for Infringement / passing-off.

In a constantly changing competitive market, our experienced IP lawyers provide cutting-edge end-to-end solutions from conducting search of trademark/ copyright to drafting documents, and representing clients in IP litigation for instance Suit for Infringement and Suit for Defamation.

Media & Broadcasting

Media law covers an area of law which includes media of all types (TV, film, music, publishing, advertising, internet & new media, etc.) and stretches over various legal fields, including but not limited to corporate, finance, intellectual property, publicity and privacy. Media law provides an excellent opportunity to examine conflicting rights and interests, as the rights to free expression, information, and a free press compete with other critical rights such as reputation, a fair trial, privacy, confidentiality, intellectual property, and national security, as well as the right to be free of discrimination in all its forms

IVM provides the following services to its wide range of clients across the Media and Broadcasting domain, with respect to drafting, vetting, and negotiation of:

- Various Cast and Crew Agreements,
- Production Agreements,
- Legal Notices and replies therefor,
- Financing Agreement,
- Distribution Agreement,
- Transfer of Rights and Intellectual Property Agreements;
- Filing of and representing clients in litigation matters related to films, etc.
- Suits for Defamation.

Pharmaceutical

Pharmaceutical businesses focus on the research, development, marketing and/or distribution of drugs, typically in the context of healthcare and/or wellness.

IVM has been providing legal services on a retainer basis for many pharmaceutical companies whereby we have handled varied contractual drafting and vetting of Agreements/Deeds keeping in mind the rules, regulations and law of the FDA and FSIA (for natural products) along with safeguarding the Intellectual Property Rights of the respective parties, including but not limited to:

- Drafting of contracts with API contractors,
- Third-party contract manufacturing,
- Loan Licensing Agreement,
- Co-Development Agreement,
- Supply & Distribution Agreement with suppliers and distributors across the globe for the Pharma Company,
- Manufacturing Agreements,
- Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreements,
- Commercial Agreement,
- MOU for Patent,
- Litigation and dispute resolution/arbitration domestic as well as international.

We advise various Indian Pharma companies and companies in the USA, Russia, Germany, London, Nepal, Australia, Lithuania, Canada, Panama, UK, South Africa, Mozambique, Bahrain, Cambodia, Vietnam, Palestine, UAE, Philippines, Uzbekistan, Dubai, Versailles (France) for pharma sector in India and also provide services such as drafting, vetting, negotiating of the aforementioned Agreements.

Information Technology

Information Technology (**IT**) involves the usage of any computers, storage, networking and other physical devices, infrastructure and processes to create, process, store, secure and exchange all forms of electronic data. IT is used in the context of business operations, as opposed to the technology used for personal or entertainment purposes. The commercial use of IT encompasses both the computer technology and telecommunications.

IT is a fast-rising industry which has brought a lot many technical, business and legal issues in its wake. At IVM, we help clients understand and overcome complications arising out of legal issues pertaining to the development, licensing, sale and use of information technology. With respect to the Information Technology domain, we focus on providing the following services:

- Advice on matters relating to E-Commerce Contracts,
- Software and Website Development Agreements,
- Arbitration, Litigation and mediation support in Information Technology issues,
- Other IT related agreements,
- Term Sheets,
- White Label Agreement,
- Software License / Transfer / Sale Agreement,
- Founders' Agreement,
- Annual Maintenance Contracts,
- E-Commerce Vendor Agreement,
- Service Agreement,
- Work Order,
- Maintenance & Tech Support Agreement.

IVM has extensive experience in drafting various policies for businesses involved in e-commerce, tech startups, and drafting data sharing agreements with GDPR regulated countries. We advise clients on Data Privacy laws including GDPR compliance and accordingly draft various website policies and internal policies for their companies.

- Conducting a GDPR audit for business;
- Review the data protection practice the business;
- Drafting Gap Report / Compliance Report;
- Advisory on corrective measures pursuant to the Gap / Compliance report;
- Drafting mandatory GDPR compliant website policies and mobile application policies for the business – Privacy Policy, Cookie Policy, User Policy, Terms of Service, GDPR, General Disclaimer, Privacy Agreement
- Advisory on handling a data breach;

- Drafting of notices with respect to a data breach;
- Responding to legal notices for data breach or data mismanagement;
- Drafting of contracts and agreements pertaining to data sharing and handling – Data Protection Agreement, Data Processing Agreement.
- Advisory on NFTs.

Start-ups

India's startup ecosystem is presently booming. Startups typically comprise of young companies brimming with innovation, formed with the vision to develop unique products or services in the form of solutions for the market. Startups aim to remedy deficiencies of the existing products/services, or create an entirely new category of products/services with a view to disrupt entrenched ways of doing business in a specific industry.

We provide startups with legal assistance at various stages - right from their inception, depending on their requirements.

IVM is also empaneled with several startup Incubators and Seed Funding Companies. We offer expertise to the startup landscape through:

- Advisory guidance,
- Documentation,
- Litigation,
- Managing Business Compliance,
- Drafting & vetting of contracts, deeds, and agreements,
- Drafting Start-up Incubation Agreements, Founders Agreements, Share Purchase Agreements, Agreements for Ownership/ Assignment/ Transfer of Intellectual Property Rights (Trademark, Copyrights and Patents),
- Registration of Trademark, Copyrights and Patents,
- Company Secretary Compliances,
- ESOP Scheme Implementation Compliance,
- Drafting of Website terms, conditions and Cookies policies,
- Joint Ventures and Collaboration based Agreements.

We also cater to startups in advising and drafting of the following:

- Trademark Filing and Registration,
- Logistics Agreement,
- Employment Agreement,
- NDAs,
- Website Policies (For Users and Vendors) & Mobile App Policies,
- Return, Refund, Exchange, Credit, Cancellation Policies,
- Vendor Agreements,
- Distribution Agreements.

SMEs

A small and mid-size enterprise (**SME**) is a business that maintains revenues, assets or a number of employees below a certain threshold. SMEs play a major role in most economies, particularly in developing countries. No one with a business expertise is expected to know all legal aspects connected - now or later, to the business and to keep up with the dynamic structure of the laws that are revised, updated, modified, altered, changed, partially or in full sometimes, in order to keep-up with the changing times and legal requirements. We specialize in legal planning that differs not just from industry-to-industry or company-to-company. We believe in and practice the mantra of “No two cases are the same” and put in efforts in planning and strategizing for each of our clients as per their respective businesses and business needs. We provide our SME clients with the following:

- Legal opinions,
- Drafting of Non-Disclosure Agreements,
- Drafting / Vetting of MOUs / Agreements,
- Drafting of various business related agreements,
- Application for trademark / copyright registration,
- Arbitration under MSME Act,
- Advisory under MSME Act.

Insurance

An insurance policy is contract in which an individual or entity receives financial protection or reimbursement against losses against mishaps from an insurance company.

The insurance sector has been developing with leaps and bounds. We address insurance and reinsurance coverage issues arising out of a wide variety of claims like general liability claims and claims related to storm, fire, water losses etc., personal injury claims, product liability claims, regulatory issues and corporate & commercial work, both for insurance companies and for other clients.

Our Firm deals in insurance regulations and/or documentations related to Insurance & Reinsurance Laws, including handling claims and arbitrations in the High Court or before regulatory authorities. We represent insurance companies as well as insured for high value insurance claims which are arbitrable.

Labor / Employment Laws

With a view to make labor and employment strict and regulated in any firm/company, we at IVM deal with documentation and laws around:

- Gratuity Trust Deed,
- Employment Contracts,
- Employee Transfer Petitions in the High Court of Bombay,
- Employee Handbooks,
- Advisory on Employment Laws,
- Opinion on Labor Laws.

Laws relating to market-entry in India

India has always harbored a dynamic landscape for business. Foreign companies take into account various market-entry considerations when eyeing opportunities here. For entry into the Indian market, it is essential to know the laws of India for structuring transactions and exploring market strategies. At IVM, we help foreign businesses with a host of legal services in this regard, including:

- Advisory services on in-bound and out-bound franchise,
- Incorporation of Company / LLP
- Litigation matters pertaining to the domain,
- Franchise Agreements,
- Master Franchise / Channel Partner Agreements,
- Hospitality Industry Agreements,
- Medical Tourism Agreements,
- Joint Venture Agreements,
- Jewelry Industry - Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS):
Assaying and Hallmarking of jewelry – Master Channel Partner Agreement.

|| Our Leadership Team

Our team consists of Partners, Advocates, Solicitors and Paralegals who are professionally qualified and efficient in providing services to our clients.

Falguni Merchant



Partner

- BCom, LLB (Government Law College - Mumbai)
- Advocate, High Court Bombay

Specialization Areas

Arbitration and Dispute Resolution.

Adv. Falguni Merchant has over 35+ years of experience in the arena of Arbitration, litigation and other mechanisms of dispute resolution from across all industries.

Expertise

- Arbitration laws,
- Drafting of deeds and documents.

Dimple Merchant



Partner

- BBI, LLB (Government Law College - Mumbai)
- Advocate High Court of Bombay
- Solicitor (The Bombay Incorporated Law Society)

Specialization Areas

Commercial Litigation, Real Estate Laws, Corporate Laws & Banking & Insurance Law

With over 10 years of professional experience, Adv. Sol. Ms. Dimple Merchant heads litigation Practice at the Firm. She has been a driving force in enhancing the positioning of I.V. Merchant as a premier full-service law firm.

Expertise:

- Strategizing non-litigation matters.
- Handling procedural litigation alongwith strategizing in matters of Insolvency and Bankruptcy at The High Court of Bombay, DRT, NCLT, SAT, RERA etc.
- Advising Indian and International Companies with regards to Data Protection.
- Handling litigation and non-litigation matters of leading PSUs, Government, Scheduled and Private Sector Banks and Non-Banking Financial Institutions.

Krishma Merchant Patel



Partner

- BMS, LLB (K. C. Law College - Mumbai)
- Advocate, High Court Bombay

Specialization Areas

Intellectual Property Rights Law, Franchise Law, International Law, Advising Startups and Information Technology Law.

Adv. Krishma Merchant Patel has over 9 years of experience in Intellectual Property Law, Media Law and contractual drafting. She has been instrumental in bringing creativity into the business of law by focusing on clients from IT, Pharmaceuticals, Medical / Health Tourism and Media & Broadcasting. She works extensively with startups at the incubation stage, educates and guides them with required legal agreements.

Expertise

- Pharmaceutical laws,
- Media Laws,
- Intellectual Property Rights.

Gaurav Jangle



Partner

- B.SL, LLB (ILS Law College, Pune),
- LL.M (Business Laws) (Savitribai Phule, Pune University).

Specialization Areas

Litigation (White Collar, Dispute Resolution/Arbitration), Real Estate & Construction related laws, Banking Laws & Project Finance, Testamentary & Succession Laws, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Laws & Restructuring, Company Law, Insurance Laws, Securities Laws, Maritime & Admiralty Laws.

Gaurav Jangle co-heads the Dispute Resolution & Litigation practice areas of the Firm. With over 12 years of experience, he is a seasoned lawyer, appearing before various courts, tribunals and arbitral tribunals for commercial, engineering, banking and finance, manufacturing and various other type of arbitral matters.

Expertise

- Civil and Commercial Litigation,
- Arbitration and Alternate Dispute Resolution,
- Banking & Finance,
- Company and Corporate Law related matters,
- Regulatory Approvals and Compliances,
- Testamentary & Succession Laws.

Awards & Recognition

- Indian Partner & representative at WILL - World Independent Lawyers League.
- Member of the prestigious International Legal Alliance representing India globally.
- Awarded for contribution and excellence in working towards women by Stree Astitva in collaboration with All Ladies League and Women's Economic Forum. Founder member of Advocates Law Firms Association.
- Founding member of Advocates' Law Firms' Association (ALFA).
- Member of extended leadership program in Lean-In.
- Award winner of Excellence in Business Award, 2017.



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