



Gopika Pant, Senior Partner
Delhi



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Gopika has more than thirty five years of legal experience and is dual qualified in India after completing her BA Hons from St Stephens College in 1982 and LL.B. from Delhi University in 1985 and is also admitted to the Bar in the State of New York, USA after completing her LL.M. from Columbia University in 1986 and working in New York City during 1986-1990, prior to returning to India. She has significant experience in Indian corporate and commercial laws, including in cross border commercial transactions (mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures, business alliances), private equity investments and exits, information technology, banking and finance, matters relating to nonbanking finance companies, corporate restructurings, real property transactions, foreign investments into and outbound investments from India and intellectual property law. She was made Partner in India's leading law firm prior to setting up Indian Law Partners (ILP) in 1999.

Gopika has been listed in the Forbes India Legal Powerlist 2020 as one of the Top Managing Partners in India.

In 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Gopika was honoured in the 'A' List of India's top 100 lawyers by the India Business Law Journal, published in Asia from out of Hong Kong.

Gopika's experience includes advising Times Bank in India's first private banking merger between HDFC and Times Bank; Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in its equity investment in the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMIC); JBIC in its several other investments in India; KIA Motors (Korea) on its USD 2 billion greenfield automotive cluster in India; Hyundai Motor on its USD 300 million proposed investment in OLA Cabs and Ola Electric; Hyundai Motor on its investment in Revv, India's leading self-driving car rental start up; BUPA, UK with regard to its acquisition of 26% in a health insurance joint venture in India with the Max Group; BlueScope Steel in its joint venture with TATA Steel Limited, Serco Group plc's acquisition of the Infovision Group in India; Toshiba's recent investment in a waste management company in India, New Silk Route's investment in Café Coffee Day Resorts, Kuwait Petroleum in its proposed investments in Indian petrochemical giants, Brookfield, Savills UK, Microsoft, Dow Jones, Bosch and GE on various diverse matters including business strategy in India.

Education

- LL.M. Columbia University, New York, USA, 1985-1986
- LL.B. Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi, 1982-1985
- B.A. (Hons), St. Stephens College, Delhi University 1979-1982
- Diploma in Environmental Law, World Wide Fund for Nature 1993

Professional memberships

- Supreme Court Bar Association, India
- Bar Council of Delhi, India
- New York State Bar, New York, USA
- American Bar Association
- International Bar Association
- Centre for Environmental Law

Directorships

- Colgate Palmolive India Limited
- Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited

Recent speaking assignments

- Webinar on **Opportunities Galore: India and Queensland's trade & investment relationship** organized by Ashurst along with the Australia India Business Council in November 2020.
- **American Bar Association, Singapore Trans-Pacific Conference, 2018** – Regulation of Foreign Direct Investments and Averting and Responding to Corporate Ethical Crisis.
- **India Policy Roundtable, London:** Ease of Doing Business in India
- **Managing Partners Roundtable, London:** New Indian Government- Announcements and Deliveries and Liberalisation of Legal Services in India
- **India Inc. Seminar, London** – A New Dawn for India - What the 2014 Election results mean for Indo-UK Business, London
- **Institute of International Business Law, Tokyo** - Investing in India – Legal issues and practical tips
- **Impact of the Indian Elections 2014 on Indo-Japan Business, Tokyo** - Legal Issues and Considerations when Investing into India, Nikkei Center, Tokyo
- **Seminar hosted by Ashurst Singapore at Singapore** – New Indian Companies Act 2013 - Challenges to be faced, Singapore
- **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Seminar on Gender Discrimination & Sexual Harassment in the Work Place:** CII, New Delhi
- **Private Equity Forum: Directors Liabilities and Responsibilities,** Aamby Valley, Maharashtra
- **Palm Beach Investors Club: Investing in India** – Legal and Regulatory Framework, Palm Beach, Florida.

Recent Publications

- JLL's, Asia Pacific Property Investment Guide – India chapter.
- Debtwire's Global Report on Non-Performing Loans with regard to the India chapter along with Ashurst.
- Legal and Regulatory sections on Real Estate published by Nomura Research Institute.
- India Chapter of Asia Pacific Employment Law Handbook along with Ashurst.
- Chapter on 'An Unbeatable Combination in Legal Services' in a book named 'Winning Partnership – India UK Relations Beyond Brexit' published by India Inc., UK in 2017.
- Chapter on 'India' in Legal Environment Report of the 'Belt and Road' Countries released by All China Lawyers Association and published by Peking University Press in 2017.
- Article on "Effective corporate succession is crucial for sustainability of family run-businesses in India" in the leading Indian business daily, Economic Times.
- Article on "Regulatory Framework and Barriers for the Indian MSME Sector" published in Business World's SME Whitebook 2017-2018.