### CORNERSTONE LAW EXCELLENCE ASSURED

# FIRM PROFILE

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## INTRODUCTION

Cornerstone Law is a full-service law firm with offices in Chennai, Cochin, Bangalore, Kolkata, New Delhi, and Pune.

The Firm is committed to provide legal services of high quality to help its clients grow and achieve their business goals. We proactively address client's legal risk issues to enable them to focus on their core business.

Our team of lawyers are process-oriented and empower clients to resolve legal issues by:

- Listening sensitively
- Diagnosing the actual problem from a maze of facts
- Delineating and researching legal issues
- Listing various options to address the full range of the problem
- Designing an efficient and cost-effective legal strategy
- Implementing the strategy with alacrity
- Keeping the client constantly informed

The Firm is based out of Anna Nagar in Chennai and out of Union Street, Off Infantry Road, Bangalore. The Firm believes in supporting each client, both during the periods of pain and through their periods of growth, because both stages are crucial, require understanding, and empathy. We believe in addressing legal risks in real time so that damage is negated.

### OUR PRACTICE AREAS AND INDUSTRY FOCUS

Cornerstone Law caters to a diverse clientele ranging from companies (both international & domestic) to individuals. Key practice areas including sectors in which the firm has an in-depth experience are:

- Labour and Employment Law compliance and advisory
- Inbound mergers
- M&A and Joint Ventures
- Information Technology Outsourcing Agreements
- Debt Recovery
- Dispute Resolution-Litigation & Arbitration
- Land due diligence
- Sale and Purchase of Land
- Commercial transactions like franchises agreements, etc
- Intellectual property registrations, licensing and dispute.
- Indirect Taxes

### **COUNSEL PROFILES**

#### **CHRISTOPHER MANOHARAN**

PARTNER - BANGALORE | CHENNAI

Christopher is a 1994 graduate of National Law School of India University, Bangalore. He later did his Master of Laws from the Annamalai University, specialising in Labour, Industrial and Administrative Law. Christopher is a Madras High Court Appointed Arbitrator and in addition to his practice as an Arbitrator, focuses on Corporate Commercial transactions, In bound Mergers, Venture Capital and Private Equity transactions. In addition he has done trademark raid execution, larae information technology outsourcing deals, Licensing Agreements, Commercial Real Estate, Employment Law, and Government Policy.



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Christopher's foray into the world of Venture Capital and Private Equity began with a stint in ICICI Venture. His exposure into the entire life cycle of fund management, right from the setting up of the 100 Million USD India Advantage Fund to exits in portfolio companies. He took these learnings with him while representing investments by Temasek (a Singapore Fund House) into the Indian private equity space in the early 2000s. His long stint of 6 years in Luthra & Luthra, a law firm based out of New Delhi, helped hone his skills in the General Corporate and M&A space. Christopher also appears before the National Company Law Tribunal and the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, Chennai, where he appears from time to time. Christopher is also empaneled with ICICI and the Union Bank of India.

Christopher worked with Wipro in the earlier part of his career, during which time he was exposed to multi million dollar IT Outsourcing deals. He carried this experience into his employment with Perot Systems and later Patni Computers, where he was involved in cross border negotiation, both remotely via phone and across the table physical negotiation, in countries like Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States.

#### SHADHIYA ELIZABETH GEORGE

#### PARTNER | COCHIN

Shadhiya Elizabeth George, completed her graduation in 2011 from the prestigious Symbiosis Law School, Pune (BBA. LL.B.) Since then Shadhiya has been involved in multiple transactions, some of significant value and impact. Shadhiya's early years in the profession was marked by an active involvement in clients in commercial disputes,

litigation where she acted for intellectual property infringement and property disputes. She transitioned from a dispute to a transactional practice, over a period of 2 years, taking with her the rich experience of "things that could go wrong", and using that experience proactively in her transactional legal practice. She has also had brief international exposure having worked in the United Kingdom and Dubai.



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Pertinent to state, Shadhiya has acquired expertise in managing intricate international agreements, particularly non-circumvention fee protection agreements that entail jurisdiction clauses related to the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC). Additionally, during her stint with a United Kingdom-based food and hospitality company, she dealt with commercial contracts and assisted with debt claims through litigation in her capacity as a legal executive. Shadhiya's experience of shareholder behavioral patterns has helped her draft fool proof share purchase, shareholder and share subscription agreements, earning the appreciation of her clients and seniors. She has over the years developed a certain versatility, seamlessly traversing industries as diverse as technology and hospitality, bringing to each her skills honed over years of observing the commercial operations of the industries she has been servicing. Shadhiya's eye for detail is best showcased in the various agreements that she has reviewed and negotiated in the past, some of them being (a) leases (b) leave and license agreements (c) sublease agreements (d) service agreements and (e) hotel management agreements. In her capacity with a managed workspace operator, she showcased her expertise by navigating complex terms and effectively addressing challenges in negotiations, which spanned across multiple states.

Shadhiya has played a vital role in the information technology industry, contributing her effort in putting together impactful contracts in tech and software licensing. She uses her legal acumen and drafting skills to ring fence her client's interest effectively. She regularly helps put in place digital terms and conditions for company websites like the Terms of Use, Cookie Policy and Privacy Policies. These digital contracts are drafted in a manner that it reflects the client's corporate ethics and culture.

#### SWATHI MANJUNATH PARTNER | BANGALORE

With over ten years of practice, Swathi Manjunath has emerged as a distinguished legal professional, known for her insightful approach to complex legal challenges. Her proficiency in Civil Litigation, particularly in the intricate landscape of Real Estate, has positioned her as a trusted advocate in navigating the intricacies of property disputes, acquisitions, and transactions. Swathi Manjunath, specializes in Civil Litigation, with a keen emphasis on Real Estate matters. Whether you are dealing with

property disputes, real estate transactions, or

seeking advice on property-related legal



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concerns, Swathi Manjunath's extensive experience ensures robust legal representation and guidance. Beyond her proficiency in Civil Litigation and Real Estate, Swathi Manjunath brings a comprehensive understanding of commercial laws. Our firm's commitment extends to providing strategic counsel on a wide range of commercial matters, ensuring that our clients receive comprehensive legal support in navigating the complexities of business-related legal challenges.

Swathi Manjunath, understands that each legal matter is unique, requiring personalised attention and tailored solutions. She is committed to providing her clients with the highest standards of legal representation, backed by a deep understanding of the law, strategic thinking, and a client-centric approach.

#### RISHABH KAPUR PARTNER | NEW DELHI

Graduating with honors from the esteemed National Law School of India University in 2014, RIshabh has swiftly distinguished risen as a Advocate-on-Record, Supreme Court of India and specializes in civil litigation and advisory services across a spectrum of legal domains. His practice predominantly focuses on litigations relating to commercial laws and regularly appears before the Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi, NCLT, NCLAT, NCDRC, Courts other District and Tribunals, in addition to appearing before Arbitral Tribunals.

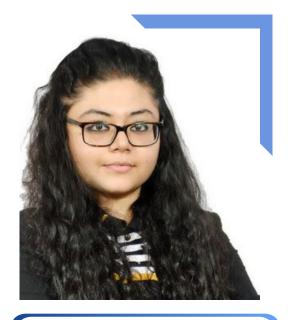


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Rishabh is committed to delivering strategic and personalized legal solutions tailored to each client's unique needs. His practice is characterized by diligence, integrity, and a deep-seated dedication to achieving favorable outcomes for his clients. Whether representing individuals, businesses, or institutions, Rishabh approaches each case with meticulous attention to detail and a steadfast commitment to upholding the highest standards of legal representation.

#### SHARANYA MUKHERJEE CONSULTING COUNSEL

Sharanya is a legal consultant specialising in the intersection of digital rights, data protection, and privacy law. Her expertise extends beyond these core areas to encompass commercial law and intellectual property, equipping her with comprehensive understanding of the legal landscape for businesses in the digital age. She helps businesses navigate through global data privacy standards, including GDPR and



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CCPA. She has worked with companies to provide strategic guidance in contract negotiations, policy development, and comprehensive training programs, to ensure privacy is seamlessly integrated into a company's operations. Currently a consultant with Cornerstone Law, Sharanya has worked with Allendevaux & Company LLC, an Ohio-based full-service firm that helps organizations globally with their Cybersecurity, Data Protection, and Compliance requirements.

#### POORNIMA DEO CONSULTING COUNSEL

Poornima's practice encompasses various facets of Corporate and Commercial Law, making her a go-to expert for businesses navigating complex legal landscapes. Her forte lies in structuring and re-structuring, Mergers and Acquisitions, joint ventures, business succession, and estate planning. She is particularly recognized for her proficiency in trust formation and management services, as well as handling cross-border transactions.



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With a notable focus on private equity investments in Indian startups, she has guided numerous investors, navigating complex deals, including Alternative Investment Funds (AIF). Her proficiency extends to legal, statutory, and regulatory compliance for companies operating both domestic and international. She is actively engaged in advising clients from diverse sectors, with a particular focus on Pharma, Bio-Tech, Information Technologies, and automotive parts manufacturers in India. Her role involves not only offering legal counsel but also encompasses the intricate task of drafting commercial agreements and shareholder-related documents.

Poornima Deo's illustrious career is a testament to her deep legal acumen and dedication to provide top-notch legal advisory services. As a Consulting Counsel at Cornerstone Law, she continues to make significant contributions to the success and legal compliance of her clients across diverse industries.

# CLIENT PROFILES

We have been working with mid-sized IT Outsourcing Companies. We have also been working with Large Logistics and manufacturing companies based out of France, Germany, and Taiwan. Furthermore, we are empaneled with a large private sector and a public sector bank.

We have also been empaneled with a market leader in the FMCG space. We are unable to disclose further details as we are bound by Attorney-Client privileges.

# **CONTACT US**



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#### **BANGALORE BRANCH:**

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