

**ASIAN LEGAL BUSINESS****INDIA**

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**STAY SAFE, INDIA**

I was going to write this note on how the theme of this issue is the emergence of India's smaller law firms, but given how rapidly the COVID-19 situation has deteriorated in the country over the past week or so, that issue takes obvious precedence. Like many Indians living overseas who have family back in the country, I have felt a mixture of anguish and anxiety at the way the crisis has worsened almost overnight.

As I write this, the daily number of cases has shot up to more than 300,000, forcing hospitals to turn away patients. Desperate relatives are now on social media, pleading for beds, oxygen, and medicine. When COVID-19 first hit last year, I was worried about how a country that is this densely populated and possessing both basic medical infrastructure and a poor social safety net, was going to cope. In the past week or so, those fears have been realised multiple times over.

As vaccine production is ramped up, and more oxygen and other facilities are made available, there is hope that the situation will come under control over the next few weeks. That time will provide an opportunity to enhance the framework currently in place to ensure that India is not hit this hard again. In the meantime, please take every precaution that you can to do your part to mitigate the crisis. Wear a mask. Stay at home unless absolutely necessary. But most importantly, keep your spirits up. We've been through crises before; we'll get through this as well. — **RANAJIT DAM**

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# INDIA FIRMS TO WATCH

Despite the challenging times witnessed by the legal industry since the outbreak of the pandemic, smaller law firms have punched above their weight in terms of work handled and services delivered. In its annual list, ALB is spotlighting 25 such firms which have overcome obstacles and continue to make an impact on the market. The list is in alphabetical order and some firms have been profiled. **BY APARNA SAI**

## JURIS CORP



JAYESH H

Established in 2000, Juris Corp currently has 46 fee-earners. The firm has not only had a consistent headcount but has also enlarged the ownership of Juris Corp by inducting five partners into equity as well as announced a partner promotion and other promotions during the year.

The firm provides legal services to a wide client base including domestic and foreign banks,



TALAT  
SHAH

financial institutions, venture capital and private equity funds, public sector undertakings, global companies, entrepreneurs, industry associations and trade groups etc.

Juris Corp has advised on various deals over the past 12 months. Among some of the important cases, the firm acted as the Indian law transaction counsels in relation to the first ever green loan extended by a Singapore-based lender in India, as well as advised on the merger of two power generation companies which involved complexities pertaining to asset classification, business structuring and safeguarding interests of the creditors, while drafting the merger scheme.

Juris Corp is lead by managing partners Jayesh H and Talat Shah. According to the firm, "it is focussed on driving firm efficiencies and ensuring the delivery of consistently high-quality legal services. The way forward is understanding our client's business and industry, while perceiving business issues behind the legal issues faced by them. The firm also has a culture of knowledge sharing and dissemination, wherein focused know-how and resources needed to consistently meet client requirements are readily available." ALB

## GOSWAMI & NIGAM



HIMANSHU  
GOSWAMI

Founded in 2020 by Himanshu Goswami and Nishant Nigam, the boutique firm focuses on matters pertaining to company law, corporate advisory, foreign direct investment, cross-border transactions, intellectual property laws, dispute resolution including alternative dispute resolution, commercial laws, real estate law, employment and labour laws and consumer laws.



NISHANT  
NIGAM

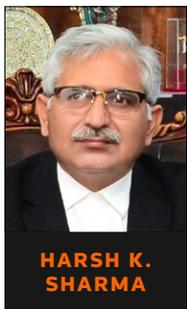
The firm consistently advises large corporations both domestic as well as transnational on labour and employment law queries and disputes. To cater to the growing clientele in southern

region of the country, Goswami & Nigam intends on expanding its footprint to Bangalore in the following six months.

"We believe in investing in resources which assist and facilitate the firm to provide the best possible results for the clients. With some of the brightest minds from the legal field as our resources, we are an amalgamation of experience and knowledge and we boast of merit both in terms of our work and the pedigree of our associates," Goswami & Nigam said on their strategy for growth. "When we invest time and effort in people they not only become your biggest support system, but grow to be aligned with firm's vision."

Regarding Goswami & Nigam's plans for the next 12 months, the firm said that it is looking to grow organically in the locations that where it is present and looking to focus on its arbitration and real estate practices. Given the background of the founding partners, these will be the focus areas of growth for the firm, while also working on transactional advisory and intellectual property portfolio management. <sup>ALB</sup>

## PROSOLL LAW



Prosoll Law is a Delhi-based criminal law boutique that was established in 1987. Within the criminal law space, the firm handles all practices ranging from the Prevention of Corruption Act

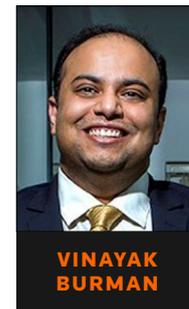
matters, anti-money-laundering, regulatory matters, white-collar crimes frauds and economic offense-related litigations, constitutional challenge disputes and civil litigation. The firm recently advised on various matters including Vijay Joshi vs CBI and Vinni Iron and Steel Udyog Ltd vs CBI (commonly known as the Jharkhand Coal Scam), the Bar Council of India graft case and the Micromax bribery case among others.

Harsh K. Sharma, Prosoll's founder, has represented high-ranking officials of various government and non-government departments, politicians, private persons, institutions and NGOs.

**AK LAW CHAMBERS**  
**AP LAW CHAMBERS**  
**ATHENA LEGAL**  
**DHAVAL VUSSONJI & ASSOCIATES**  
**EDIPLIS COUNSELS**  
**GOSWAMI & NIGAM**  
**GRAVITAS LEGAL**  
**JURIS CORP**  
**KAMENDU JOSHI & ASSOCIATES**  
**LEGASIS PARTNERS**  
**LEX CONSULT**  
**PARKER & PARKER CO.**  
**PIONEER LEGAL**  
**PROSOLL LAW**  
**PSA**  
**REGIUS LEGAL**  
**SAGA LEGAL**  
**SAGUS LEGAL**  
**SINGULARITY LEGAL**  
**STRATAGE LAW PARTNERS**  
**TATVA LEGAL, HYDERABAD**  
**TLC LEGAL**  
**VERITAS LEGAL**  
**VERTICES PARTNERS**  
**ZBA**

Besides Sharma, Vaibhavi Sharma is another key member on the team. She has worked extensively for the past four years in criminal matters, especially corruption cases emanating from the prevention of corruption laws and similar economic offences. She has been at the forefront of handling several cases related to criminal misconduct, trap cases, cheating, impersonation, forgery, physical assault, hurt and murder. <sup>ALB</sup>

## VERTICES PARTNERS



Vertices Partners, which was founded in 2016, offers legal services across the entire gamut of transactional, advisory, litigation and regulatory matters. The firm's areas of expertise include

corporate and commercial, M&A, private equity and venture capital and seed and angel capital, commercial litigation and dispute resolution; white collar, structured finance, stressed assets, banking and finance; intellectual property; real estate, and media and technology.

The firm has played a key role in a number of major deals, including Byju's acquisition of Whitehat Jr for \$300 million, Finova Capital's \$35 million fundraising round from Sequoia and Faering Capital, DeHaat's Series C \$30 million fundraising round, Pickrr Technologies' deal of \$4 million and Sindhuja Microcredit's deal of approximately \$8.9 million, Sugar Cosmetics' \$21 million Series C fundraising, acquisition of Fitternity by Curefit, and ChrysCapital's investment in Corona Remedies.

The core team includes founder and managing partner Vinayak Burman and founder partners Archana Khosla Burman and Amit Vyas.

"The firm believes in a partner driven service and therefore leverages a lean partner to associate ratio so as to ensure the quality of service to the client is maintained at all points of time. The partners collectively have over five decades of rich experience in their respective fields and this therefore gives the firm the ability to provide a global service offering," Vertices Partners says. <sup>ALB</sup>