



VIKRANT KUMAR

Designation: Senior Partner

Vikrant.Kumaresarafpartners.com

Expertise: Corporate & Commercial, Private Equity & Venture Capital and Mergers & Acquisitions,

Education: B.A. LL.B (Hons.); National Law School of India University, Bangalore

Bar Admission: Bar Council of India, Bar Council of Delhi

Awards and Recognitions:

- Recognised as '**Recommended Lawyer**' for Corporate and M&A and Lifesciences & Healthcare practices by the Legal 500 Asia-Pacific Rankings 2024
- Recognised as '**Distinguished Practitioner**' in Corporate and M&A practice by Asialaw Profiles 2023.
- Consistently been recognized as a '**Notable Practitioner**' for Corporate and M&A practice by IFLR 1000 Asia-Pacific Rankings, 2016-2023.

Overview: Vikrant is a Senior Partner in the Mergers & Acquisitions and General Corporate Advisory practice at the Bangalore offices of the Firm.

Vikrant's specialization includes cross border (inbound & outbound) M&A and joint ventures (across private and public companies), private equity, venture capital and hedge fund investments. He also has extensive experience in business / asset transfers, corporate structuring, and commercial contracts. Mr. Kumar also has in-depth experience in advising on franchising, distribution and technology license arrangements. As part of his practice, he also routinely advises on regulatory and licensing, employment and labour, and real estate matters.

He has in-depth knowledge and understanding of various aspects relating to the legal and regulatory jurisprudence and practice in these areas. He also has extensive knowledge of foreign investment & exchange control laws generally and as also the gamut of laws routinely associated with the manufacturing sector in general (including central and state specific industrial & labour laws, environmental laws and real property laws). Mr. Kumar is also well versed with laws regulating the pharma sector and the food industry as also packaging & labelling laws.

He has a vast experience of almost two decades in mergers and acquisitions and private equity practice and has been associated with L&L Partners.

Experience: Certain major transactions handled by Vikrant are:

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

- Advised ArcelorMittal on its proposed acquisition of a large southern Indian mining group.
- Acted as Indian counsel to Abbott Laboratories in its USD 3.8 billion acquisition of Piramal Healthcare's domestic formulation business, which one of the largest business transfers in this sector in India
- Acted as Indian counsel to Huron Consulting Group Inc., a NASDAQ listed company, in divestment of its legal services segment to Consilio Inc. for US\$ 112 million.
- Acted as Indian counsel to Huron Consulting Group Inc., Huron Consulting Group Inc., a NASDAQ listed entity, *in its acquisition of Rittman Mead Consulting India Limited.*
- Acted as Indian counsel to Visteon Corporation, a NYSE listed corporation in connection with the acquisition of Johnson Controls Inc.'s "automotive electronics and engineering" business.
- Acted as Indian counsel to Emerson Electric Co., a NYSE listed corporation on the sale of its Power Transmission Solutions business to Regal Beloit Corporation.
- Advised *Middleby* Corporation, a NASDAQ listed corporation in the acquisition of the "commercial refrigeration, food equipment and service business" business from Celfrost Innovations, an Indian entity with pan India operations. In addition to complementing Middleby's existing warming and cooking equipment segment, this acquisition increased Middleby Corporation's presence and footprint in India manifold and gave it a wide distribution network in India.
- Acted as Indian counsel to Tangoe Inc. in its acquisition of Symphony Teleca's telecom expense management business.
- Advised Quark, Inc.'s on the Indian element of its sale of its global operations to Platinum Equity Partners, a privately held provider of publishing software for professional designers and enterprise organizations.
- Advised Martin Engineering on its acquisition of the conveyor manufacturing business of Clean Cat Conveyors Private Ltd.
- Acted as Indian counsel to Ashland Inc. as part of the restructuring exercise for the combination of Ashland Inc. and Süd-Chemie Aktiengesellschaft's worldwide businesses relating to the foundry industry.
- Advised Medreich Limited in connection with its joint venture with Adcock Ingram, a company belonging to the Tiger Brands group of South Africa.
- Advised bioMerieux in connection with a proposed investment in an Indian portable / low cost diagnostic equipment development company.

- Advised *promoters* of *Akuate Internet Services Private Limited* in the sale of shareholding in *Akuate to Times Internet Limited ("TIL")* (a *Bennett Coleman* group company). *Akuate* owns and operates the popular cricket website www.cricbuzz.com and the mobile application 'Cricbuzz'. *Cricbuzz* and *GoCricket*, launched by *TIL* in 2014 will come together to create the largest cricket news destination, reaching over 50 million monthly users on digital platforms

JOINT VENTURES

- Advised *DLF Brands Limited* on their joint venture with *Forever 21* in the single brand retail sector.
- Advised *Christian Louboutin S.A.* on its 51:49 joint venture with an Indian joint venture partner in the single brand retail space.
- Advised *Chemtura Corporation* on its proposed joint venture with an Indian chemicals conglomerate to set up a bromine derivatives manufacturing plant.

PRIVATE EQUITY

- Advised *WCP Holdings III* (a *Wolfensohn Capital Partners* fund) and *Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden N.V. (FMO)* in connection with their investment in *Ujjivan Microfinance Services Private Limited*, a leader in the Indian microfinance space.
- Advised *Citi Venture Capital International* in connection with a proposed investment in a large Indian telecom tower company.

GENERAL CORPORATE ADVISORY

- Advised *Abbott Laboratories* on the Indian regulatory and licensing regime for drugs and pharmaceuticals, packaging and labeling laws and related matters.
- Advised *Wal-Mart* in connection with a proposal to set up cash and carry wholesales stores in Southern Indian states.
- Advised *LVMH* group on their various franchise and distribution arrangements in India.
- Advised *Abbott Laboratories* on integration of its India operations under a common enterprise resource planning (ERP) platform.
- Advising *ADTRAN Inc.*, on its foray into India, including on foreign investment & exchange control laws, central and state specific industrial & labour laws and real property laws.
- Advising *Middleby* on various foreign investment & exchange control and corporate law matters.
- Advising *Rambus* on various general corporate law matters.