



**BRUS CHAMBERS**  
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

MUMBAI  
INDIA  
○  
NEW DELHI  
INDIA

ASSOCIATE OFFICES – INDIA  
| Ahmedabad | Bangalore | Bhubaneshwar | Chandigarh | Chattisgarh | Chennai | Hyderabad | Kochi | Kolkata | Madurai | Visakhapatnam |

**SPECIALISED LAW FIRM | BEST KNOWLEDGE**

**FIRM LEADERSHIP**

Admiralty, Shipping & Maritime  
Corporate, Commercial/ M&A  
Projects, Oil, Gas & Energy  
Arbitration & Commercial Litigation  
Real Estate & Property  
Insurance  
Banking, Finance & Capital Markets



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September 01, 2011 – March 31, 2012



**BRUS CHAMBERS**  
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

In the recent months, there was a significant development in our practice areas and with this our firm is now a specialised law firm as our partners are very well known in their respective areas of practice while some are ranked by independent credential bodies, our law firm was recently re-branded. Clients who have sought high quality legal solutions in some of the most significant deals and cases in India preferred our law firm.

Brus Chambers being a specialised law firm the partner specialising and its team has the best knowledge in the subject areas and is committed towards the delivery of dependable, timely, high-quality work that brings measurable value to our clients. Our client relationship and industry alliances, allows us to concentrate on the dynamic evolution of the marketplace, while keeping pace with the changes in the legal industry to offer sound legal representation.

We pride ourselves on our specialized practice, which is highlighted by our commitment to quality standards while the charges are most reasonable.

The caliber and cost-effectiveness of our legal expertise is primarily the result of our partners and associates having outstanding experience, education and their commitment to information and technology in combination with our traditional values which makes it possible for us to deliver creative legal solutions in a timely and economical manner which makes us the market leader.

Our proudest achievement is the continuous strengthening of our Client Relationship Management potential. It is this single factor, the shared commitment in putting the needs of our clients at the heart of our profession, which drives the development and success of Brus Chambers.

Technology and communication systems have redefined and improved the manner in which we work, in tandem with our clients. By increasing our efficiency and responsiveness, and sharing knowledge through key initiatives, we remain agile and focused on confronting the unique aspects of our clients' business.



**Shrikant Pareshnath Hathi** [Managing Partner]  
B.Com., LL.B., LL.M., Solicitor (India and United Kingdom)  
Advocate Bombay High Court  
Solicitor Bombay High Court  
Advocate Supreme Court of India  
Advocate on Record Supreme Court of India  
Solicitor Senior Courts of England and Wales (Non-Practising)

**DISCLAIMER**

This information booklet is being provided only on request or may have been downloaded from the website on request and is not intended to advertise our services or capabilities, or solicit work, in any manner whatsoever. The contents of this booklet are aimed merely at providing more information about our firm to persons who are interested in knowing more about us. This booklet is meant only to provide information and use of the person(s) and not for circulation or public dissemination. Further, this information booklet does not, and shall not; create any attorney-client relationship between Brus Chambers and any person(s). Brus Chambers does not assume any responsibility whatsoever for any unauthorized distribution or dissemination of this information booklet or part thereof in any form, or any consequences thereof.

The Firm's domestic and international clients range from privately owned to publicly listed companies, including Fortune 500 entities.

The Asia Pacific Legal 500; Lloyds Group (Informa); Euromoney Expert Guides and other bodies have rated and recommended Brus Chambers.



'Genuine industry legal specialists are rare, but they can save time and money for clients.'

- Reena SenGupta, Financial Times

## Firm History & About Us

Brus Chambers is a specialised law firm, prominent and active in India and is also known as one of the best Indian law firm for its specialised practice having its main office and administration office in Mumbai, other office at New Delhi and associate offices at main cities in India. The founder partners of the firm started its law practice in 1992. Brus Chambers is a partnership firm under the Indian Partnership Act. The firm is also registered with the Bombay High Court as Advocates & Solicitors and with the Bombay Incorporated Law Society as Solicitors.

All partners are registered on the rolls of their respective Bar Councils to practice law while some partners are advocates on record on the rolls of the Supreme Court of India., Solicitor Supreme Court of England and Wales; Chartered Institute of Arbitrators at London (UK); Council of Energy Advisor at London (UK), Solicitors Regulation Authority.

Our aim is to provide consistently high quality advice, understanding of the commercial environment in which our clients operate. We offer in-depth local knowledge and a uniquely global perspective.

An ambition to be India's premier specialised law firm underpins our strategy. We aim to achieve this goal through sustained investment in managing knowledge and information, and by creating a working culture in our offices that enables our people to offer consistently high standards of client service.

The Firm's domestic and international clients range from privately owned to publicly listed companies, including Fortune 500 entities. The Asia Pacific Legal 500; Lloyds Group (Informa) and other independent bodies have consistently rated and recommended Brus Chambers.

Each client has a dedicated partner who leads, coordinates, and is directly responsible to meet client requirements efficiently. The ability to respond to client requirements and to render the highest level of services is fundamental to the approach of the firm towards its clients.

The new era of globalisation, where the work force is as intermingled as modern culture, it is the objective of Brus Chambers to provide our clients with the latest and the most appropriate strategies using analytical tools and management science, encompassing when required legal minds practicing in various jurisdiction, to serve the profession and further legal issues.

'..has really started to make waves in recent years.'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2004/2005

'..is a dominant force within Indian admiralty, maritime and shipping market'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2007/2008

'..has distinguished strengths in shipping claims'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2008/2009

'..the firm has a dedicated shipping practice that covers disputes, transactional matters and finance'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2008/2009

'..is widely respected for its wet and dry shipping expertise'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2009/2010

Shrikant Hathi is consistently ranked as 'Leading Individual' by Legal500 since 2004 for shipping work in India

Brus Chambers is a dominant firm in the Indian admiralty and shipping market and has a global reputation in this sector. Independent credential bodies such as Legal500; Informa Group (Lloyds); Euromoney Expert Guides has recommended Brus Chambers for shipping matters. Legal500 consistently ranks the firm for Shipping work. Shrikant Hathi of Brus Chambers is consistently ranked by Legal500 as a 'Leading Individual' in India for shipping work



Brus Chambers actively engages in lobbying for better strategies.

Our core values embrace the highest professional standards and build supportive and strong relationships with clients. These values are communicated throughout the firm and serve to instill in all our lawyers a full appreciation of professional and ethical responsibilities the firm places upon them.

We are committed to enhancing the firm's reputation for client service. We believe it is important to build long-term relationships with our clients in order to anticipate the legal and regulatory implications of commercial opportunities and to resolve problems and disputes affecting our clients' businesses at an early stage.

The firm is consistently recommended by the Asia Pacific Legal500 for dispute resolution for the fourth year.

With "a uniquely strong brain for arbitration, corporate and contractual law" Partner, Binita Hathi a qualified solicitor and advocate with masters in law, also admitted to the Supreme Court of India is renowned for her excellent corporate arbitration and litigation skills.

Legal500 commented that 'Brus Chambers handles complex arbitration matters, ADR and litigation claims...'

A client commented 'We highly appreciate the manner in which our International forum arbitration (ICC) was handled against GAIL'



We are acutely conscious of the fact that legal services are needed to be timely, economical, and efficient. Our longstanding client relationships have been built based on a strong commitment to quality of service, where value of our experience and expertise is realized. We determine the nature and extent of our involvement in matters at the outset based on resourcing and monitoring criteria. Efficient management of large-scale transactions and cases is a particular strength of the firm. We are experienced in drafting, negotiating, organizing, and managing transactions within tight time-scales.

## WHAT WE DO

Brus Chambers leadership is structured around the following specialised practice areas:

- Admiralty, Shipping & Maritime
- Corporate, Commercial/ M&A
- Projects, Oil, Gas & Energy
- Arbitration & Commercial Litigation
- Real Estate & Property
- Insurance
- Banking, Finance & Capital Markets

Each area comprises industry-focused teams dedicated to delivering incisive advice. Our lawyers are locally trained and fully conversant with the cultural and business practices in India.

Admiralty ship arrests or release, incorporation of a company, India entry, filing of trademark and certain selected areas of work are charged on lump sum basis.



## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Brus Chambers offer their clients the most comprehensive 24-hour, 365 days a year emergency response service in the world. The team ensures that their client is best advised on every possible aspect, which may arise in a matter. Wherever in the world, our emergency response team can be contacted at their Mumbai number on +91-22-22659969, +91-9769946865, +91-9769946864. With the tripping/redirecting facility the regular office numbers get re-directed after office hours i.e: IST 1900 Hrs to partner/s or associates mobile number or at his or her residence, hence providing 24-hour/ service.

'...a great strategist'  
-African Energy, Dubai

'...professional approach in establishing our wholly owned subsidiary company in India'  
-Yicheng Logistics (Tianjin) Co Ltd

The firm has an excellent reputation in the international and domestic market for all areas of corporate and commercial practice including foreign investments in India, mergers and acquisition, document drafting, ventures.



'user friendly law firm and professional approach towards work'  
-Rogaciano Rebelo, Honeywell, Dubai

## MARKET LEADING PRACTICES

### MUMBAI OFFICE

Admiralty, Shipping & Maritime  
Corporate, Commercial/ M&A  
Projects [Oil & Gas, Infrastructure, Construction, Mining, Energy, Shipping, Highways, Dams, Pipelines etc]  
Arbitration & Commercial Litigation  
Real Estate & Property  
Insurance  
Banking, Finance & Capital Markets

### NEW DELHI OFFICE

Litigation & Arbitration  
Corporate, Commercial & Contracts  
Projects [Oil & Gas; Telecommunication, Construction]  
Intellectual Property [Trademarks & Copyright]  
Property & Real Estate

## Admiralty, Maritime & Shipping

Brus Chambers is a dominant firm in the Indian admiralty, maritime and shipping market and has a global reputation in ship arrest or release including charter parties, bill of lading, contracts, P&I settlements, ship finance and all aspects of maritime matters including maritime arbitration.

Our firm regularly deals with:  
Arrests or Release of vessel in Mumbai  
Agency/freight forwarding matters  
Arbitration  
Bunker disputes

With excellent reputation in areas of corporate and commercial practice Brus Chambers is expanding and have introduced partner Uttam Hathi as lead figure for corporate work.

Legal500 commented that 'Brus Chambers has longstanding experience within the energy sector and offers solid expertise in M&A, JVs, licensing, divestiture structuring and development agreements'



'The practice assists overseas clients in ship arrests and releases, purchases and sales, cargo-claim, casualties, charter parties, collisions, marine insurance and commercial'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2003/2004

'Shrikant Hathi is consistently ranked by Legal500 as 'Leading Individual' in India for shipping work, he is ranked for the year 2005/ 06, 2006/ 07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10

'...it has established strong links with several high-profile shipping companies and has advised on numerous ship arrests.'

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2003/2004



Cargo claims

Arrest of Release of vessel outside Mumbai

CIF and FOB contracts

Claim and cause of action of any mortgage

Claim by a master in respect of disbursements

Claim by a master or crew for wages, etc.

Claim by the owner, consignee, or assignee of any bill of lading)

Claim for damage done by any ship

Claim for damage received by any ship

Claim for necessaries supplied to any ship

Claim for the building, equipping

Claim for repairing of any ship

Claim for the possession or ownership of a ship

Claim in respect of any registered mortgage

Claim in the nature of salvage services

Claim in the nature of towage

Claims Relating to Cargo

Contracts of Affreightment

Commodity disputes

Construction of ships, rigs and port facilities

Demise, time, and space charter agreements

Financing, mortgaging, and registration of ships

Freezing injunctions/ ship arrest or release

General average

Hire and off-hire claims

Incorporation of offshore companies

Management of offshore companies

International and domestic joint ventures

Lay time and demurrage disputes

Liner operations

Marine insurance

Maritime litigation

Ownership disputes.

P&I settlement

Performance warranties

Port regulations

Purchase and sale of vessels

Purchase and sale of other maritime assets

Resolving maritime lien disputes

Resolving ship mortgage disputes

Sale and purchase of second-hand tonnage

Setting up business in India

Foreign Investments in India

Supplies, repairs etc...Unpaid dues.

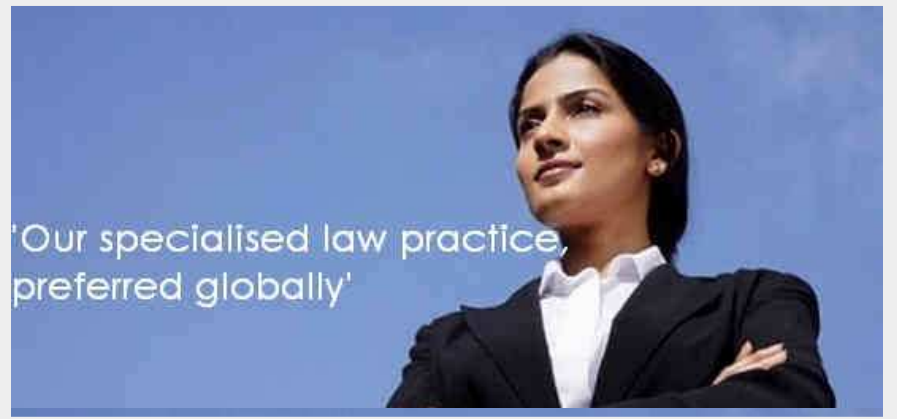
Taxation

Our Corporate, Commercial & Contracts team operate a number of significant transactional and corporate advisory practices, serving not only some of the world's largest companies but also numerous middle-market clients, including corporates and high net worth individuals as well as governmental institutions in India and internationally.



With excellent reputation in areas of corporate and commercial practice Brus Chambers is expanding and have introduced partner Uttam Hathi as lead figure for corporate work.

Legal500 commented that 'Brus Chambers has longstanding experience within the energy sector and offers solid expertise in M&A, JVs, licensing, divestiture structuring and development agreements'



Trade finance and documentary credits  
 Unsafe port or berth claims  
 Vessel documentation,  
 Vessel inspection, registration, and flagging  
 Vessel financing for lenders  
 Vessel financing for borrowers.  
 Vessel financing for charterers  
 Vessel management agreements  
 Vessel repair litigation

**Non-litigation areas on which we regularly deal with:**

sale and purchase of second-hand tonnage  
 ship finance & mortgaging  
 registration of ships  
 construction of ships, rigs and port facilities  
 international joint ventures  
 foreign investments in India  
 incorporating subsidiary companies  
 taxation  
 liner operations  
 port regulations.

Advising shipping companies, shipyards, suppliers, ship breakers and cash buyers, foreign-investment enterprises and banking institutions on complex and high-end international maritime transactions

**Corporate, Commercial & Contracts**

Brus Chambers corporate lawyers handle a full range of corporate, securities, and financing matters, including public offerings and private placements of equity and debt for both issuers and underwriters. Our corporate lawyers work with our clients to assist in the design of new and innovative securities. Brus Chambers has a broad background in assisting clients with corporate growth through mergers and acquisitions and also offers solid expertise in the corporate partnering area, focusing primarily on joint venture, licensing and development agreements. Our practice includes experience in negotiating a broad range of complex manufacturing joint ventures and other contractual relationships involving the sharing or transfer of intellectual property. Our mergers and acquisitions/corporate partnering practice is international in scope.

Brus Chambers is recommended by its peers for its corporate knowledge. Uttam Hathi is the name to note



‘The firm has undoubtedly joined the race and is now competing with the best known corporate and commercial law firms in India’

-Rogaciano Rebelo, Honeywell, Dubai

The firm has excellent reputation in corporate and commercial work. Uttam Hathi partner of the firm is the lead figure for corporate and commercial work. Legal500 commented that the firm has long standing experience and offers solid expertise in M&A, JV's, licensing, divestiture, structuring, foreign investments in India, development agreements and in energy sector



### Services

- Mergers, Acquisition
- Divestiture Structuring
- Foreign Investments and Regulations
- Doing Business in India
- Development Agreements
- Joint Ventures
- Collaborations
- Licensing Agreements
- Due-Diligence
- Merger Structuring
- Tax Planning
- Agreements
- Strategic planning
- Company incorporation

As a result of the firm's long-standing position as principal lawyer to many companies in the energy, shipping and infrastructure sector, Brus Chambers has played a major role in the restructuring of various parts of that segment of Indian business. In addition to energy transactions, the firm represents oil and gas, infrastructure, mining, technology, shipping, entertainment and media clients. Our lawyers also handle venture capital and other early-stage financings, transactions involving private equity funds, and specialized financings in both domestic and international contexts. In addition, we work on complex business restructurings, both in and outside of court-supervised proceedings.

We represent companies of all sizes, and have been especially active in the energy, energy services, energy transportation, oil, gas, infrastructure, shipping, mining, telecommunications, entertainment, media, and computer (hardware and software) service industries in recent years. We have handled major outsourcing contracts for various clients. We also handle a variety of international business transactions on behalf of many domestic and international clients.

As a law firm whose practices have been rooted in international commerce, Brus Chambers has an extensive practice in corporate & commercial activity. Our lawyers are actively engaged on a daily basis in the intricacies of our clients' business dealings, ranging from simple incorporations to large-scale strategic transactions, due-diligence, joint venture, mergers & acquisition, foreign investments, company formation, india entry. We offer the full range of legal services corporate clients require to facilitate commerce, both local and overseas.

The firm attends to high stake civil litigation before the Bombay High Court, Delhi High Court, other High Courts in India, Civil Courts and Supreme Court of India.

In a multi-national environment the practice of litigation can be both factually and procedurally complex and demands specialists who are not only experienced in the local laws and procedures but also conversant with practices in outside jurisdictions.

Our partners and associates have advanced academic qualifications and have two new partners previously practiced as counsel in the High Court and Supreme Court of India associated with Senior counsel Mr. Mahendra Shah, most importantly, three of our partners are also admitted to the Supreme Court of India as Advocate on Record also admitted to the Supreme Court of England and Wales



Our professionals are adept at representing clients in ways that transcend basic legal skills. We work with clients to understand the nature of their business and their goals, then apply legal reasoning that will help them reach their objectives. This is especially important when dealing in spheres of international business where little or no precedent is available to guide decision-making. The ability to successfully navigate clients through complex commercial issues, often crossing borders and intertwining cultures, has long been and shall remain a hallmark of Brus Chambers service. While most of our professionals consider themselves corporate & commercial lawyers, we also classify most into specialty groups.

The firm conducts commercial litigation, domestic and international arbitration in India and worldwide through its associate and correspondent lawyers, concerning disputes arising in banking, commodities, commercial contracts, sale of goods, debt recovery, public and private international law, ICC and other international arbitral bodies. Including company formations, reconstructions, venture capital arrangements, loan and security agreements, joint ventures and partnerships and advice on employment. We also deal extensively with the resolution of company and commercial disputes including company shareholders' rights, directors' duties and related matters.

There is a wide range of support services available, from business incorporation to nominee and administrative services, searches, filing of forms etc. Advice on all aspects of corporate law. Advice on all other commercial matters, including advice on structuring manufacturing agency, distributor and licensing agreements, negotiation, drafting and advising on registration, computer software licensing, formation of company.

## Arbitration & Litigation

Brus Chambers team possesses well proven expertise in handling complex arbitration matters, technical as well as specialized aspects and are constantly aiming at optimum results operating on international time frame. The team also specializes and undertakes comprehensive legal research and preparation for matters of alternative dispute resolution.

Given a rich pool of human resources, the firm has the ability to readily assemble dedicated teams of professionals with the requisite expertise to meet the client's requirements and handle complex arbitration matters.



**'The International Arbitration book, co-authored by your partners is fantastic'**

-Kari Russ, Editor, Aspature Books  
2005/2006

**'The firm has strong litigation arms, both in Mumbai and New Delhi'**

-The Asia Pacific Legal 500  
2003/2004

In the commercial world, arbitration has become the preferred method for resolving conflicts expeditiously and confidentially. Nevertheless, arbitration proceedings are a feasible option only if your rights are entrusted to experienced lawyers with considerable experience in this field.

Brus Chambers regularly attends to Domestic and International forum arbitration including ICC, LCIA, LMAA, BIR, and other forums



The firms' corporate commercial team represents several domestic and international media and entertainment companies and individual film and television stars, producers, distributors, associations etc.



Each client has a dedicated partner who leads, coordinates and is directly responsible to meet the client requirements effectively and efficiently. The ability to respond to our client requirements and to render the highest level of services is the fundamental basis of our philosophy.

The firm frequently attends to local and international arbitration including ICC, LCIA, LMAA and other international forums and our firm is also recommended by the Asia Pacific Legal500 for "Dispute Resolution" (Arbitration & Litigation) matters amongst other bodies.

Brus Chambers provides client-oriented, cutting edge, cost-effective legal expertise in a variety of practice areas.

The client-centered philosophy of our firm is characterized by the close attention paid to our clients objectives, clear and prompt client communication, and a continuous awareness of the cost/benefit trade-offs that are inherent in any legal representation.

The caliber and efficiency of our legal expertise is primarily the result of our committed partners and associates having outstanding experience, education, training and committed to the latest information and technology in combination with our traditional revolution make it possible for us to deliver creative legal solutions in a timely and economical manner.

## LITIGATION

The litigation team of Brus Chambers analyze the matter and according to the requirement plan strategically and advice client to proceed further. Legal action are initiated on behalf of client at the appropriate jurisdiction and applications are made accordingly for relief. Our firm also defends client when legal action are initiated against them.

We attend to litigation matters before the Bombay High Court, Delhi High Court and other High Courts in India, Civil Courts, Supreme Court of India.

The Asia Pacific Legal 500 amongst other bodies has recommended Brus Chambers for "Dispute Resolution" (Arbitration & Litigation) matters.

Projects form an integral part of the economy and development of most countries and India is no exception. The number of projects has increased substantially in India over the last decade and India in particular has witnessed a phenomenal boom. As a consequence of this, focus on projects in India is more intense than ever. Against this background, with our dedicated projects team, we cater to the needs of our clients from corporate set up to procurement, contract negotiation, dispute resolution, arbitration and litigation advocacy and settlement negotiations.



Areas for Arbitration & Litigation.

Our Arbitration and Litigation Practice works closely with the following areas:

- Contractual & Business law
- Shipping, Maritime & Admiralty
- Commercial, Corporate & Trade laws
- Oil & Gas
- Energy & Mining
- Construction & Infrastructure
- Telecommunication & IT
- Government Contracts
- Finance
- International law
- International Trade
- Intellectual Property
- Constitutional
- Property & Real Estate
- Anti-Trust & Trade regulations
- Banking laws
- Indirect Taxation
- Aviation & Transportation
- Entertainment & Media

‘The firm has a strong shipping practice that is active in the marine insurance market’  
-The Asia Pacific Legal500, 2008/09

The Firm has advised several overseas clients on mining and power projects in India including private power projects



## Projects

The firm attends and advises on projects pertaining to:

- Oil, Gas, Energy & Mining
- Infrastructure & Construction
- Shipping & Maritime
- Telecommunication
- Information Technology
- Dams, Highways, Pipelines
- Waterways & Bridges
- Agriculture, Fishing & Forestry
- Property & Real Estate
- Doing Business in India (India Entry)

**Brus Chambers** advice on all aspects of oil and gas projects and petroleum law, is active in the mining and energy sector, attending to all issues involved therewith.



Recently, the firm has been advising on several oil & gas and related projects in India, Middle East and Africa region and has been retained by several overseas and domestic companies. The firm is in the list of IndiaCore Who's who in Power Industry 2006

Legal500 (2005/ 2006) commented that 'The firm is a good choice for oil and gas related projects in both India and the Middle East. The firm also has experience of power projects.'

Legal500 (2006/ 2007) commented that 'Brus Chambers stands out for its (predominantly oil) projects-related work in the Middle East, notably in the UAE, Qatar, and even Iraq. It also has experience of work related to projects in the subcontinent'

Legal500 (2007/2008) commented that 'Brus Chambers has a keen focus on projects work within the oil, gas, power and construction sector, inclusive of the project finance, JV agreements and disputes sides to transactions'

Legal500 (2008/2009) commented that 'Brus Chambers range of projects work takes in the oil-and-gas, infrastructure and electricity sectors.'



The firm is well regarded for its deep understanding of the legal, technical and commercial intricacies involved in this industry.

- Advising on all aspects to projects, in particular, those relating to oil, gas, power, highway, construction, infrastructure, pipelines, dams, ports, airports, land transport, petroleum & petrochemical building, water & environmental engineering, and marine engineering
- Project finance, including construction lending and other loan agreements, and collateral security agreements
- Tender and document preparation as well as all international standard forms, including FIDIC, JCT and RIBA
- Joint venture agreements & partnering arrangements, supply contracts, consultants' agreements, operation & maintenance agreements, and other project documents
- Contract administration and risk management
- Dispute resolution, claims and arbitration

The firm advises on the legal aspects of the entire process, from exploration through production to distribution. Our firm advice on all aspects of oil and gas projects and petroleum law involving advice on field development through construction to final production including the construction of the pipelines and platforms, through-put, loading, lifting, royalty in kind payments, operating and sales contracts for crude oil and gas, off take agreements, drilling contracts, equipment leasing agreements and production sharing agreements.

Our firm also prepares and advises on refining agreements, distribution and binding agreements, amending and licensing agreements and a range of downstream arrangements and agreements relating to petrochemical industries.

Advice on all onshore and offshore licensing, exploration and production; oil trading and gas contracts; finance and corporate; refining and retailing; oil and gas litigation; environmental aspects of the oil business; service industry. In the electricity sector, we act for state owned and privatised power generation, transmission and distribution companies and large industrial consumers.

Brus Chambers is active in the mining and energy sector, attending to all issues involved therewith.

The firm represents Construction Company and contractors concerning agreements for pre-bid and post-bid of tenders.

The firm has gained a well-deserved reputation in the international market as advisor in infrastructure, construction, mining, energy, dams, highways, pipeline, oil & gas projects

Legal500 commented that 'Brus Chambers has a keen focus on projects work within the oil, gas, power and construction sectors, inclusive of the project finance, JV agreements and disputes sides to transactions.



Advice on construction documents such as consortium, joint venture, collaboration, associate agreements for pre-bid and post-bid of tender and other sub-contract documents and Engineering Procurement Contract, Construction Contract, On shore and Off shore Advance Engineering documents and all allied documents. Formation of joint venture (infrastructure) company for project/s or the venture and the allied documents for bridges, roads, dams, tunnels, pipelines, mining, marine, power etc.

- Advising countries and governments on telecommunications law, establishing licensing and supervisory mechanisms
- Provision of services, implementation and convergence issues in all areas of information technology, telecommunications and the internet ie VoIP telephony, VSAT, VAN, GMPACS, IASP, LMDS, wireless application protocol (WAP), satellite, VPNs, leased circuits
- Gaming and wagering services, including internet gaming services
- Hardware, software and other IT related litigation such as internet defamation, spamming, denial of service attacks and hacking
- Licensing and assignment of technology
- Protection of copyright, passing-off, trademark, registered designs, plant varieties, and semiconductor topography
- Dispute resolution of IP, IT and telecoms disputes both in court and in arbitrations.

'Brus Chambers range of projects work takes in the oil-and-gas, infrastructure and electricity sectors'

-The Asia Pacific Legal500, 2008/09

## Foreign Investments, Establishing business in India

Brus Chambers attends to foreign companies for entry strategies in India and assisting them through Government regulations and procedures for setting up their business operations in India, advising on foreign exchange management act (FEMA) and its regulations, foreign direct investment (FDI)

Brus Chambers assists in establishing business in India.

FDI approvals from foreign investment promotion board (FIPB) FIPB/Secretariat of Industrial Approvals (SIA); branch, liaison, subsidiary, project & site office approvals from reserve bank of india; Industrial licensing, Government contracts, transfer of technology and licensing, repatriation. The firm also advice on various provisions & procedures relating to imports and exports.

Assisting foreign entities to establish business in India or doing business in India with a clear road map to India entry is one of the key practice areas of the firm



‘Brus Chambers charges the most reasonable fees in the Indian legal market’



Brus Chambers attends to formation of companies, drafting of memorandum and article of association, strategic planning and taking searches and filing the required documents, forms, applying for permission, approvals, co-ordination, inquiries, where ever required and also due diligence of companies prior to takeover, merger, purchase of companies and inspection.

Brus Chambers also attends to all the issues and maintenance of the company even after formation of the company such as filing of annual reports, resolutions, filing of all the required forms, liasioning with government officials such as Reserve Bank of India, Registrar of Companies, SEBI etc.

Whether your company is large or small, new or established, you can benefit from the wide range of services offered by our firm.

#### **Establishing Start up company/ Formation of a company**

Starting up a business can be a difficult decision, especially if you have no-one to share your ideas, hopes or even fears with. With our corporate specialists supporting you, your business can go from start-up, to success and expansion, in safe hands.

Our team possesses vast amounts of experience in the management and resolution of corporate legal issues, which could affect your future economic growth and development.

Today's competitive global market requires businesses to develop relationships with firms in many different parts of the world. Brus Chambers is no exception.

But what happens if it all goes wrong?

Should your business fall upon hard times, Brus Chambers, with a proven track record in corporate recovery and business restructuring, can help you turn around your fortunes. We will do our utmost to ensure that you reach the best possible outcome.

Expansion and reduction are two major decisions to be undertaken by all businesses. We recognize that legal help isn't simply a switch that can be turned on and off when the business hopes to expand or recover. Our approach means that we work closely with you, helping to ensure that the daily running of your business remains smooth and effective.

Each client has a dedicated partner who leads, coordinates, and is directly responsible to meet client requirements efficiently in the matter.



‘Brus Chambers fees are transparent’

Brus Chambers does formation and maintenance to Indian companies. Brus Chambers attends to formation of companies, drafting of memorandum and article of association, strategic planning and taking searches and filing the required documents, forms, applying for permission, approvals, co-ordination, inquiries, where ever required and also due diligence of companies prior to takeover, merger, purchase of companies and inspection.

Brus Chambers also attends to all the issues and maintenance of the company even after formation of the company such as filing of annual reports, resolutions, filing of all the required forms, liasioning with government officials such as Reserve Bank of India, Registrar of Companies, SEBI etc.

Companies incorporated under Indian laws are required to file information such as accounts, returns and other documents.

Our team of experts will provide and arrange, including:  
Maintenance of Registers  
The registers of your company will be maintained.

Preparation/filing of Annual Return

Our team will arrange with a Chartered Accountant in consultation with Brus Chambers and prepare, and file the form each year on behalf of the Company ensuring that the filing deadline is met.

Documentation in relation to Annual Accounts

Our team in consultation with a Chartered Accountant will notify you each year in advance of the filing deadline, sending all the necessary documents to ensure that the Annual Accounts are filed in an efficient and timely manner.

In addition to the above, we will upon request by you:

Arrange and document AGM

We will advise you when the meeting is due and provide you with all the necessary documentation for signing.

Prepare paperwork relating to structural changes to the Company:

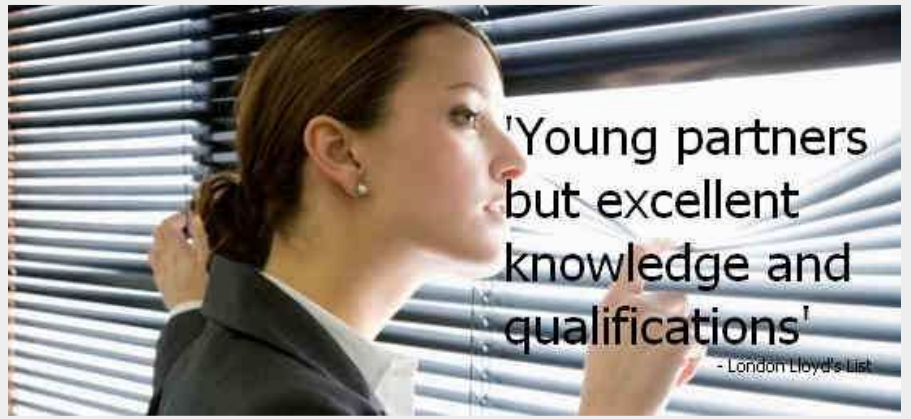
Change of officers, change of registered office, change of accounting reference date, change of name.

Changes to share structure

The firm represents developers, contractors, builders and consultants for best property deals in India



Understanding the commerce, not  
just the law



We will prepare all necessary documentation with regard to share transfers/allotments, increase in capital etc.

#### Certification and Notarisation

We will prepare the necessary paperwork and arrange for the certification and notarisation of documents.

Arrange for the Elective Resolution Regime to be put in place

Your company may elect to take up Elective Resolutions in order to dispense with certain procedures each year and we will provide you with the necessary advice and documentation in respect of this.

#### Provision of Registered Address

Every company must provide a registered office address, which need not be the same address as the company's place of business. We will provide Brus Chambers address as your company's registered office, receiving mail on behalf of the company and forwarding the same according to your instructions until complete formation and actual functioning of the company.

#### Other Commercial and Corporate aspects

The firm also attends to privatization, re-structuring, acquisition, merger, demergers, foreign direct investments, ship finance, project finance, joint ventures, contractual law, attending to complete range of business law matters.

## Real Estate & Property

The firm represents developers, contractors, builders, consultants, flat purchasers. Advice is also given on all aspects of strategic planning, disputes in the real estate, flat purchasers.

Advising and giving preliminary report on property acquisition, taking searches, investigating property title, issuing Public notice, issuing title certificate and steps required to comply with for purchase of property, preparing the required documents. Advice on building and real estate property ownership, building and development contracts, leasing, license etc and drafting of the required documents viz: agreement for sale, conveyancing, lease, licence, mortgage, development agreement and all documents, concerning property and real estate.

The firm has an impressive record of accomplishment in banking and finance including project finance, ship finance, film finance and all aspect of banking, finance and securities.



## Banking, Finance & Securities

The firm advice on banking and financial services including advice on syndication and other loan arrangements, facility letters, security documentation, letter of credit and financial services regulations, project finance, ship finance, guarantee arrangements, performance bonds and bonding facilities.

The firms and partners experience ranges from venture capital raising, initial public offerings, and high-yield debt offerings for growth companies to investment-grade, hybrid debt, and asset-backed offerings and exchange transactions for more seasoned issuers.

‘a fast-developing reputation,  
based on value for money for  
trademark matters’  
-Suhail Farooqui, Al-Alawi & Co

## Intellectual Property Rights

Brus Chambers advices on and deals with the registration of trade mark, notice of opposition to an application for registration of trade mark, renewal of registration of trade mark, restoration of trade mark removed from the register for non payment of renewal fees, certificate of the Register with regard to a proposed assignment of a registered trade mark, registration of registered user, cancellation of entry of a registered user of trade mark, search, litigation, drafting of documents, protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights including rights relating to trademarks, copyrights, patents, get-ups and designs. The firm also prepare intellectual property licensing and registered user agreements. Matters arising in connection with the media, communications and entertainment fields, competition law, computers, licensing and franchising agreements and data protection advice.

## OUR CHARGING METHOD

Brus Chambers professional charges are mainly computed on hourly basis, blended hourly rates, some are customised on case to case basis or on fixed fee, retainer etc depending on client requirement or on the matter. All disbursements and service tax where applicable are computed on actual unless the same is a package offer.

### Billing Methods

Client has an option to select any one of the billing method before commencement of work.

The firm's approach to the question of costs has a certain degree of flexibility and rigid structures are not adopted.



### **Hourly Billing Rates (Our Billing Code- 01HBR)**

Hourly rates are defined by qualifications, experience of the partner or lawyer working in the file this also depends on complexity, urgency, budget and requirements in the matter. While computing the hourly rate of each partner or lawyer we have also considered the competitive market, efficiency of each lawyer and the discount that could be made available to make the hourly rate reasonable. Each partner's hourly rates are defined above.

Generally, the firm's time is billed at hourly rates which vary consistent with the experience of the various lawyers and staff who work on the case. The practice is also to employ non-lawyers within the firm (e.g. paralegals) wherever possible to assist the lawyers in the matter. Unless other arrangements are made in advance, the client is invoiced on a regular basis for the time spent by the firm on a client's matter and for costs and expenses incurred on behalf of the client.

Hourly rate are often used where the scope or type of service to be provided is not routine or evolve over time or will be determined by factors outside the control of the client (e.g., an opposing litigant, a corporate acquisition or a similar type of custom engagement). When entering into an hourly fee arrangement, the client is encouraged to seek estimates for the work. Litigation budgets often form a part of the communication process. While the ongoing detailed reporting sometimes itself increases the level work, with email and fax deliveries, short and informal updates become a more effective tool to solidify and bolster the attorney client relationship.

It is the firms practice to notify client at the time the firm is engaged as to the number of lawyers including non-lawyers (paralegal) that will work in the file and should there be a requirement to increase the number of lawyers or non-lawyers the lead partner simply informs the client and if there is no such notification from the beginning then it is assumed that only the lead partner along with a paralegal will work in the given file.

All Disbursements incurred are computed on actual. Third party costs would include the following (where applicable): travel and transport; photocopying; phones and faxes; experts and counsels; airfare, hotels and meals, video-conferencing; correspondent fees and expenses; court or institutional fees' stamping and registration; government, quasi-government or other fees; other actual expenses.

Each client has a dedicated partner (the lead partner) who will lead, coordinate and will be directly responsible to meet the client requirements effectively.

Our Billing rates are subject to a minimum fee of USD 500 + Disbursements on actual.

Timesheet is maintained concerning usage of hours/ man-hour computation, the total usage of time is reflected in our Bill of Cost when forwarded.



### **Blended Hourly Rates (Our Billing Code- 02BHR)**

Blended hourly rates are usually based on the average rate of two or more personnel (lawyer and/or non-lawyer including paralegals) who will work on a file. All time is billed at this blended hourly rate, regardless of which personnel is doing the work. In our blended billing rates each client has a dedicated partner (the lead partner) who will lead, co-ordinate and will be directly responsible to meet the client requirements effectively. This blended hourly rate for the given file is agreed with client at the time of the firm is being engaged.

It is the firm's practice to notify client at the time the firm is engaged as to the number of lawyers including non-lawyers (paralegal) that will work in the file and should there be a requirement to increase the number of lawyers or non-lawyers the lead partner simply informs the client.

Many clients are opting for this method as this method for small-size to mid-size to large-size work is economical and easy to compute and understand.

All Disbursements incurred are computed on actual. Third party costs would include the following (where applicable): travel and transport; photocopying; phones and faxes; experts and counsels; airfare, hotels and meals, video-conferencing; correspondent fees and expenses; court or institutional fees' stamping and registration; government, quasi-government or other fees; other actual expenses.

Each client has a dedicated partner (the lead partner) who will lead, co-ordinate and will be directly responsible to meet the client requirements effectively.

Our Billing rates are subject to a minimum fee of USD 500 + Disbursements on actual.

Timesheet is maintained concerning usage of blended billing hours, the total usage of time is reflected in our Bill of Cost when forwarded.

### **Fixed fee for various stages of work (Our Billing Code- 03FVS)**

Fixed fees are fees that client agrees to pay a decided definite amount for a particular work unto certain stage as assigned to law firm, By defining the set fee client are aware of the cost upfront, this method helps client to budget their legal expenses. We estimate the fees and expenses unto certain stage and set the professional fee unto that stage and once that stage is about to be completed we estimate the next stage. All third party

expenses are on actual but is estimated for convenience of client and added to the fixed fee, if it is apprehended that the third party expenses is likely to escalate or de-escalate then client are informed accordingly.

Certain types of matters under fixed fee arrangements include

- a. company incorporation,
- b. acquisition,
- c. simple contract drafting,
- d. trademark filing,
- e. admiralty ship arrest
- f. or similar types of work.

**Annual Retainer with Discounted blended hourly rates  
(Our Billing Code- 04ARD)**

The firm is retained by client for twelve months, the retainer fees is a set fee payable by client for being retained, our firm annual retainer fee is set at USD 6000 and during this period the blended hourly rates as defined above will apply at 35 per cent of the applicable rates and this rate will apply unto 160 man hour whether used or unused by client, and on completion of 160 man hour thereafter our standard blended hourly rates will apply.

It is the firms practice to notify client at the time the firm is engaged as to the number of lawyers including non-lawyers (paralegal) that will work in the file and should there be a requirement to increase the number of lawyers or non-lawyers the lead partner simply informs the client.

All Disbursements incurred are computed on actual. Third party costs would include the following (where applicable): travel and transport; photocopying; phones and faxes; experts and counsels; airfare, hotels and meals, video-conferencing; correspondent fees and expenses; court or institutional fees' stamping and registration; government, quasi-government or other fees; other actual expenses.

Timesheet is maintained concerning usage of blended billing hours, the total usage of time is reflected in our Bill of Cost when forwarded.

**Discounted Billing rates (Our Billing Code- 05DBR)**

Our firm considers offering a discounted rate if the firm receive a certain level of work from the client, the level of discount increases as volume of work to the firm gets higher. Discount offer is discussed with the partner concerned.

**Contingency Fee (Our Billing Code- 06COF)**

Contingency fees are not allowed under the Indian law therefore all disbursements or third party expenses estimated should be paid in advance, while our Professional fees (estimated man hour) of at least fifty percent should be paid in advance and the balance fee should be discussed with the partner concerned. We do not recommend contingency fee for client as our partner's rates are twenty percent more than regular rates.

## **PARTNERS /LAWYERS RATES**

<b>INDIA</b>	<b>HOURLY RATES IN USD</b>
Shrikant Hathi, Partner	171
Uttam Hathi, Partner	171
Binita Hathi, Partner	171
Nilesh Pandya, Partner	171
Pragyan Sharma, Partner	171
Mandakini Sharma, Partner	171
Kailash Chand, Partner	171
Vinay Jain, Partner	171
Sr. Associate	108
Associate	81
Para-Legal	45

## **PAYMENT TERMS & MODE**

Accountable advance, as agreed should be deposited with Brus Chambers prior to commencement of any work, either by Bankers Cheque in favour of "Brus Chambers" or "Brus Chambers" payable at Mumbai or by irrevocable telegraphic transfer to our bankers at "HSBC" or "DBS Bank Ltd" or as may be advised.

## **SPECIALISED LAW FIRM**

"Jack of all trades, master of none" is a figure of speech used in reference to a person that is competent with many skills but is not necessarily outstanding in any particular one. This person is a generalist rather than a specialist.

'Genuine industry legal specialists are rare, but they can save time and money for clients' as is quoted by Reena SenGupta from Financial Times.

Studies have also shown that specialist executes their work with near perfection than a generalist.

Brus Chambers is a specialised law firm with each partner specialising in selected areas of practice and the firm have broadened the practice not by seeking to do everything for everyone, but by focusing on those sectors where the firm can offer clients the most rounded advice, drawing on deep knowledge of their international markets and the commercial, business and regulatory issues that shape their world. The firm specializes in Admiralty, Shipping & Maritime; Corporate, Commercial/ M&A; Projects, Oil, Gas & Energy, Infrastructure; Arbitration & Commercial Litigation; Real Estate & Property; Insurance; Banking & Finance. Our partners are very well known in their respective areas of practice while some are ranked by independent credential bodies and being a specialised law firm the partner specialising and its team has the best knowledge in the subject areas and is committed towards the delivery of dependable, timely, high-quality work that brings measurable value to our clients.

## PARTNERS

Uttam Hathi



**01. HATHI, Mr. Uttam Pareshnath,**  
[B.Sc., PGDMMT., LL.M]  
PARTNER

### CONTACT DETAILS

Email: [uttam@bruschambers.com](mailto:uttam@bruschambers.com)

Tel: +91-22-22659969 , +91 9757282670

Fax: +91-22-22691882

Practising law since: 1992

### EXPERTISE

Corporate, Commercial & Contracts;

Property & Real Estate;

Banking Finance & Securities;

Shipping, Admiralty & Maritime;

Projects (Infrastructure & Construction; Mining & Energy; Shipping);

Litigation & Arbitration.

### AFFILIATION

Member of the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa as Advocate

### CAREER

St Xavier's College, Bombay University (B.Sc);

SASMIRA, Mumbai (PGDMMT)

Government Law College, Bombay University (LL.B);

Government Law College, Bombay University (LL.M);

### PREVIOUS ASSOCIATION

Little & Co

Counsel Bombay High Court and the Supreme Court of India

### LANGUAGES

English; Hindi; Marathi; Bengali; French

**Shrikant Hathi**



**02. HATHI, Mr. Shrikant Pareshnath,**  
[B.Com., LL.M., Solicitor- India., Solicitor-United Kingdom]  
ADMINISTRATIVE & MANAGING PARTNER

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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Fax: +91-22-22691882

Practising law since: 1992

**EXPERTISE**

Admiralty, Maritime & Shipping;  
Projects [Oil, Gas, Energy, Infrastructure, Mining];  
Projects [Highways, Pipelines, Dams];  
Insurance;  
Arbitration & Litigation;

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa as Advocate;  
Member of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society as Solicitor;  
Solicitor Senior Courts of England and Wales (Non-Practising);  
Advocate on Record Supreme Court of India.

**CAREER**

Elphinstone College, Bombay University (B.Com);  
Government Law College, Bombay University (LL.B);  
Government Law College, Bombay University (LL.M);  
Bombay Incorporated Law Society (Solicitor).  
Advocate on Record Supreme Court of India;  
Solicitor Senior Courts of England and Wales;

**PREVIOUS ASSOCIATION**

Little & Co (appointed thru' Mr. Charles J.E. Grundy- now deceased)

**LANGUAGES**

English; Hindi; Marathi; Bengali; French

**Professional charges are either on hourly basis or lump sum basis unless the firm is retained on a long term basis.**



**Binita Hathi**



**03. HATHI, Ms. Binita Shrikant**, [B.Com., LL.M., Solicitor]  
PARTNER

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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Tel: +91-22-22659969 , +91-9769946864

Fax: +91-22-22691882

Practising law since: 1995

**EXPERTISE**

Dispute resolution (Arbitration & Litigation);  
Admiralty, Maritime & Shipping;  
Corporate, Commercial & Contracts,  
Projects [Oil & Gas, Infrastructure & Construction],  
Projects [Mining & Energy, Shipping];  
Real Estate;  
Insurance;

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa as Advocate; Member of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society as Solicitor; Advocate on Record Supreme Court of India.

**CAREER**

Government Law College, Bombay University (LL.B);  
Government Law College, Bombay University (LL.M);  
Bombay Incorporated Law Society (Solicitor);  
Advocate on Record Supreme Court of India

**PREVIOUS ASSOCIATION**

Mulla & Mulla, Craigie, Blunt & Caroe;  
Bhatt & Saldanha;  
Hariani & Co;  
Desai & Dewanji

**LANGUAGES**

English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali

**Pragyan Sharma**



**04. SHARMA, Mr. Pragyan Pradip**  
[B.SL., LL.B]

Email: [pragyan@bruschambers.com](mailto:pragyan@bruschambers.com)

**EXPERTISE**

Litigation & Arbitration  
Intellectual Property  
Corporate and Commercial  
Real Estate  
Projects and Infrastructure

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Delhi as Advocate.

**CAREER**

Indian Law Society, Pune University (BS.L);  
Indian Law Society, Pune University (LL.B).

**PREVIOUS ASSOCIATION**

Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan

**LANGUAGES**

English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali

The firm contributes towards charity of Child Relief and also to religious charitable institution Tirupati-Tirumalai Devasthanam-TTD.



**05. CHAND, Dr. Kailash**  
[M.Com., LL.B., Ph.d]

Email: [kailash@bruschambers.com](mailto:kailash@bruschambers.com)

**EXPERTISE**

Litigation & Arbitration  
Projects and Infrastructure  
Corporate and Commercial  
Intellectual Property  
Real Estate

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Delhi as Advocate.  
Admitted to the Supreme Court of India and Advocate on Record  
Supreme Court of India.

**CAREER**

MCom; Phd; University of Delhi (LL.B)

**LANGUAGES**

English; Hindi, Bengali

**Mandakini Sharma**



**06. SHARMA, Ms. Mandakini**

[B.A., LL.M]

Email: [mandakini@bruschambers.com](mailto:mandakini@bruschambers.com)

**EXPERTISE**

Corporate & Commercial  
Projects and Infrastructure  
Litigation and Arbitration  
Real Estate

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Delhi as Advocate.

**CAREER**

Hindu College; University of Delhi (B.A);  
Campus Law Center, University of Delhi (LL.B);  
Campus Law Center, University of Delhi (LL.M)

**LANGUAGES**

English; Spanish, Hindi, Bengali

**Nilesh Pandya**



**07. PANDYA, Mr. Nilesh**

[B.A., LL.B]

Email: [nilesh@bruschambers.com](mailto:nilesh@bruschambers.com)

**EXPERTISE**

Projects & Infrastructure  
Real Estate  
Litigation & Arbitration  
Banking & Finance

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa.

**CAREER**

Mumbai University (LL.B);

**LANGUAGES**

English; Hindi, Bengali

**Vinay Jain**



**08. JAIN, Mr. Vinay**  
[LL.B., Solicitor]

Email: [contact@bruschambers.com](mailto:contact@bruschambers.com)

**EXPERTISE**

Mining & Electricity  
Projects & Infrastructure  
Oil, Gas & Energy  
Litigation & Arbitration

**AFFILIATION**

Member of the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa as Advocate; Member of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society as Solicitor;

**CAREER**

Mumbai University (LL.B); Bombay Incorporated Law Society (Solicitor);

**LANGUAGES**

English; Hindi

Brus Chambers is a specialised law firm practicing in the areas of Admiralty, Shipping & Maritime; Corporate & Commercial; Projects on Oil, Gas, Energy, Mining, Infrastructure & Construction; Arbitration & Litigation; Real Estate; Insurance; Banking & Finance

The law firm and its partners are recommended and ranked consistently by independent credential bodies .



## **OUR CONTRIBUTION FOR GOOD CAUSE**

The firm contributes 0.50 percent from the net profit of the firm towards charity of the Child Relief and 0.50 percent from the net profit of the firm to religious charitable institution Tirupati-Tirumalai Devasthanam- TTD

## **DEDICATED PARTNER**

Each client has a dedicated partner (the lead partner) who will lead, coordinate and will be directly responsible to meet the client requirements effectively.

## **ENTERTAINMENT & COPYRIGHT**

Brus Chambers have setup a separate team to deal with the entire gamut of entertainment industry including copyright work, the team boast of their best knowledge in the subject areas and is committed towards the delivery of dependable, timely, high-quality work that brings measurable value to entertainment industry.

## CONTACTING Brus Chambers



**BRUS CHAMBERS**  
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

### MUMBAI (RESEARCH & MAIN) OFFICE:

8, Rajabhadur Mansion, 3rd Floor, Ambalal Doshi Marg,  
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Emergency: +91 9769946865, +91 9769946864

E-Mail: [contact@bruschambers.com](mailto:contact@bruschambers.com)

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICE:

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Tel: +91 22 22659969 (24 Hrs facility)

Fax: +91 22 22691882

Emergency: +91 9869025182

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**BRUS CHAMBERS**  
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

Emergency Response Team can be contacted  
via +91-22-22659969 or +91-9769946865 a 24-  
hour service.



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Bhubaneshwar | Chandigarh | Chennai | Hyderabad | Kochi | Kolkata | Madurai |  
Vishakapatnam |

Url: [www.bruschambers.com](http://www.bruschambers.com)

### Managing Partner

Mr. Shrikant Pareshnath Hathi

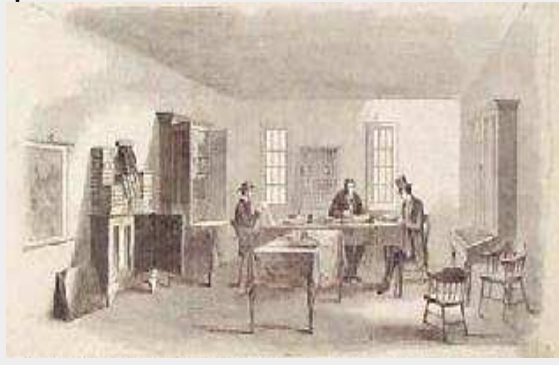
Email: [shrikant@bruschambers.com](mailto:shrikant@bruschambers.com)

General Help Desk: [contact@bruschambers.com](mailto:contact@bruschambers.com)

## RECOGNITION OF SOLICITORS IN INDIA

Hundred years history of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society (the "Law Society") is intermixed with the history of its Members then known as "Attorneys" and further intermixed with the history of the establishment of the Court of Judicature in Bombay. The Law Society was formed and incorporated 222 years after the advent of the first Attorney in Bombay and the establishment of the first Court of Judicature in Bombay.

**The Supreme Court of India recognises the qualification "Solicitors"**



Despite the existence of the Dual System, with the enactment of the Supreme Court Advocates (Practice in High Court) Act, 1951, the Rules of the Bombay High Court were amended in December, 1952, to provide for the appearance of Advocates of the Supreme Court on the

Original Side of the High Court without being instructed by an Attorney. In practice it had no impact on the dual system.

The Advocates Act, 1961 came into force on May 19, 1961 and is an Act to amend and consolidate the law relating to Legal Practitioners and to provide for the constitution of the Bar Councils and All India Bar Council. Sweeping changes were made in the law relating to Legal Practitioners. The existing law was contained in the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, the Bombay Pleaders Act, 1920, the Indian Bar Council Act, 1926 and the Letters Patent of the various High Courts. These Acts provided for several classes of Legal Practitioners including Attorneys. The Act was enacted to give statutory expression of the need for the profession of law in India being integrated on an All India basis. The main features of the Act were the establishment of an All India Bar Council, a common Roll of Advocates having a right to practice in any Court including the Supreme Court, the integration of the Bar into a single class of Legal Practitioners to be known as "Advocates" and the creation of autonomous Bar Council, One for the whole of India and one for each State.

The Act when enacted recognized the continued existence of the legal system known as the Dual System then prevailing in the High Courts of Calcutta and Bombay and made special provisions in that behalf. The said two High Courts, if they so desired, could discontinue the system at any time. The Bar Council of Maharashtra was constituted in 1961.

One of the problems which the Law Society had to face and deal which was the continuance of two classes of legal practitioners' Barristers/Advocates on the one hand and Attorneys on the other hand and working under the Dual System transplanted in Bombay by the British following their English System.

A Bill was introduced to amend the Advocates Act, 1961 to abolish the dual system. Ultimately, by the amendment effected to the Advocates Act, 1961 by Act 107 of 1976 with effect from January 1, 1977 the Dual System came to an end and from that day all the different classes of legal practitioners were fused into one class, namely, Advocates.

The Supreme Court of India recognizes the qualification "Solicitors" and passed an Order under Article 145 of the Constitution amending the Supreme Court Rules and incorporating therein an express provision in Order IV Rule 5(ii) (aa); viz. that a Solicitor on the rolls of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society as being eligible for exemption from training and tests and being eligible to be enrolled as an Advocate on Record, under the Supreme Court Rules.

Likewise, the Law Society of England and Wales had also recognized the qualification of an Attorney and after the fusion of the class of legal practitioner known as Attorneys in Bombay as Advocates, on a representation made by the Law Society. The Law Society of England and Wales recognizes the qualification of a Solicitor under the examinations held by the Law Society after 1977 as candidates eligible for qualifying as English Solicitor.