

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY | CORPPORATE ADVISORY

(TOP 5 MATTERS)

- 1. States of India – ‘Basmati’ Geographical Indication (GI)** 2018

Client: State of Punjab (India) IPAB

Case: Indian States including State of Madhya Pradesh claimed status of Basmati growing area (some districts of MP) and claimed GI tag. Intellectual Property Appellant Board (IPAB) directed GI Assistant Registrar, IP to grant GI Tag based on scientific studies conducted by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).
7 Indian states the GI tag including the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh granted the GI tag of basmati. The matter is still highly disputed.
<https://www.brecorder.com/2019/01/11/464986/gi-law-and-basmati/>
<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/delhi-hc-lifts-centres-curbs-on-gi-tag-for-basmati-rice/article26974290.ece>

Contribution: Conducted through research on history of basmati growing areas of Punjab, the cultural significance and geographical features earning the state the status of basmati growing area tag. Interviewed leading scientists and environmentalist, professors from Punjab Agricultural University, State of Punjab (PAU) regarding the same. Prepared applications and affidavits. 2018
- 2. Domestic company trademark violations** N.A.

Client: Leading cosmetics and SPA services provider in State of Punjab 2018

Case: Leading cosmetics and SPA service provider had entered into Franchise Agreements across state of Punjab. Misuse of Trademarks.

Contribution: Prepared Cease and Desists notices including examining agreements to streamline erstwhile franchisees misusing the benefits under the agreements which had expired by efflux of time.
- 3. Advisory for setting-up hotel in Himachal Pradesh** N.A.

Client: Howard Johnson Hotels 2017

Case: Advised on state & local laws for setting up a hotel in the Indian State of Himachal Pradesh.

Contribution: Performed due diligence on the client provided real estate documents and conducted detailed examination of applicable state & local laws, analysed risk mitigation strategies.

4. Legal Advisory for pan – India Operations of a tech-start-up N.A.

Client: Aamazing IT Design 2018

Case: Provided end to end legal services as an of-counsel to the tech-start for all its operations, hiring and employment documents, policy and standards, representing management for employment issues and advising on risk mitigation strategies for day to day operations.

Contribution: Drafted wide range agreements including employment/ hiring agreements, MoUs, non-disclosure and non-compete agreements, etc., conducted in-house training sessions, interacted with key-management personnel and presided over meetings with stakeholders.

5. Legal Advisory for pan – India Operations of leading Logistic Co. N.A.

Client: Core Logistic Pvt. Ltd. 2018

Case: Provided legal services and advisory for Pan India operations for the leading logistic company, based out of Chandigarh.

Contribution: Drafted notices and court documents, interacted with key management personnel on daily basis and advised on commercial issues including devising litigation strategies for the clients for disputes.