



Bahram N. Vakil
Co-Founder & Senior Partner

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One of the founding partners of AZB & Partners, Bahram N. Vakil is amongst India's foremost restructuring, infrastructure and project finance attorneys and has been acknowledged as a leading restructuring and project finance lawyer by most international publications. The World's Leading Lawyers for Business calls Vakil a gregarious and hard-headed lawyer who is valued by clients for his "smart, reliable and practical advice." Chambers & Partners Global singles out his finesse at negotiations, stating that "He adds value in negotiations, ensuring both parties see the other's point of view." He has an LL.M. from Columbia University and is a member of the New York State Bar.

Experience

- Co-Founder & Senior Partner, AZB & Partners (2004 – Present)

Key Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Energy
- Infrastructure
- Microfinance

Recent Work Highlights

- Carval Investors on the acquisition of Uttam Galva Value Limited and Uttam Galva Metallics Ltd under the IBC
- RBI appointed administrator of DHFL and his transaction advisor, Ernst & Young, through the first of its kind restructuring and bidding process of a financial services company in IBC being put up for sale in parts
- Resolution Professional of Jet Airways on the insolvency proceedings of Jet Airways under the IBC

Directorships, Memberships & Affiliations

- Member of the Insolvency Law Academy's Thought Committee on Bank Insolvency (2023)
- Chairperson of the ASSOCHAM (The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India) National Council on Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code and Valuation (2023)
- Member of expert committee to recommend reforms in the Arbitration Law
- Independent Expert for the review function "Compliance" under Performance Review Committee of IFSCA
- Member of Working Group on Direct Listing of Equity Shares of listed Indian companies on IFSC Exchanges
- Member of the Expert Committee for the proposed International Arbitration Centre (IAC) at GIFT IFSC
- Member of the expert committee to propose creditor-led resolution approach under the Code, constituted by Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (2023)
- Steering Committee Member, ASSOCHAM 5th National Summit Asset Reconstruction Companies (2023)

- Co-Chair, International Development & Practice Committee, International Insolvency Institute (2022)
- FICCI National Executive Committee (2022)
- FICCI Capital Markets Committee : Sub Group on Ease of Doing Business (March – July 2022)
- Committee of Experts constituted by the International Finance Services Centre Authority (IFSC) to recommend measures / create a framework, for transfer of stressed loans from domestic lenders to permitted financial institutions in IFSC (January – February 2022)
- Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets, a private sector initiative working to scale an effective and efficient voluntary carbon credit market to help meet the goals of the Paris Agreement (2021)
- Insolvency Law Amendment Committee, constituted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, to recommend amendments to the IBC (2019 – Present)
- Task Force on the Development of Secondary Market for Corporate Loans, set up by the Reserve Bank of India (2019 – Present)
- International Insolvency Institute, a non-profit, limited membership organization, set up to promote international cooperation and coordination in the insolvency field (2019 – Present)
- Technical Co-Chair, Main Organising Committee of INSOL International (2019)
- Dr. T. K. Viswanathan Committee on Bankruptcy Law Reforms, constituted by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, to draft the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (2015)
- Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Committee, SEBI Advisory Group (2011)
- U.K. Sinha Committee – Working Group on Foreign Investment in India (2010)
- New York State Bar Association (1985)
- Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa (1982)

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor, India (1986)
- LL.M., Columbia University, New York, USA (1983)
- Bachelor of Law, Bombay University (1982)

Recognized as an 'Eminent Practitioner' (2018 – 2024) and a 'Band 1' lawyer (2011 – 2017) for Banking & Finance by Chambers Global

Recognized as an 'Eminent Practitioner' (2018 – 2024) and a 'Band 1' lawyer (2012 – 2017) for Banking & Finance; an 'Eminent Practitioner' (2020 – 2024) for Restructuring/Insolvency; and 'Highly Recommended' for Corporate/M&A (2012 – 2015) by Chambers Asia-Pacific

Featured in the 'Top 100 Indian Lawyers' list, published by India Business Law Journal (2016 – 2024)

Recommended for Infrastructure, Banking, Finance & Project Finance by RSG India Report, (2017)

Inducted into the 'Hall of Fame' for Banking & Finance and Projects/Infra & Energy by Legal 500 Asia Pacific (2021 – 2024)

Named as a 'Leading Individual' for Banking & Finance (2012 – 2020), Projects & Energy (2012 – 2020) and Restructuring & Insolvency (2021 – 2024) and 'Recommended' for Restructuring and Insolvency (2020) by Legal 500 Asia Pacific

Recognized as 'Highly Regarded' for Banking, Project Finance and Restructuring & Insolvency by IFLR1000 (2023)

Recognized as 'Highly Regarded' for Banking, Project Finance and Energy & Infrastructure by IFLR1000 (2018 & 2020 – 2022)

Recognized as one of 'Asia's Best Lawyers' by IFLR1000 (2020 – 2021)

Recognized as an 'Elite Practitioner' for Banking & Finance (2020 – 2024) and Infrastructure (2020) by Asialaw Profiles

Nominated as 'Restructuring Expert of the Year' in India by Leaders in Law - Global Awards (2021)

Named a 'Leading Lawyer Legend' for Banking & Finance and 'Leading Lawyer Champion' for Projects & Energy in the Legal Era Leading Lawyer Rankings (2023)

Named a 'Leading Lawyer Champion' for Banking & Finance, Projects & Energy and Restructuring & Insolvency in the Legal Era Leading Lawyer Rankings (2022)

Recognized as 'Leading Insolvency Law Attorney of the Year' by Acquisition International (2022)

Named Restructuring Law Lawyer of the Year – India by Global 100 – 2021, a list 100 of the World's leading firms and individuals

Named as a 'Market Leading Lawyer' for Banking & Finance and Corporate/M&A by Asialaw Leading Lawyers (2016 – 2019)

Recommended as a 'Thought Leader–India' for Banking & Finance, Banking Regulatory and Restructuring & Insolvency (2023), 'Thought Leader – Restructuring & Insolvency (GRR)' (2022), 'Thought Leader – GBRR' (2021), 'Global Leader' for Banking & Finance, Banking & Regulatory and Restructuring & Insolvency (2020 – 2021) and for Corporate Governance (2021) by International Who's Who Legal

Awarded 'Banking & Finance Lawyer of the Year – India' at the Corporate Live Wire Global Awards (2019)

Recognized as a 'Top Legal Practitioner' in India for Project Finance by the Banking, Finance and Transactional Law Expert Guide (2018)
