



Gaurav Bansal
Partner

AZB House, Peninsula Corporate Park G K Marg,
Lower Parel, Mumbai 400 013

T: + 91 22 4072 9999

F: + 91 22 6639 6888

@: Gaurav.bansal@azbpartners.com

Gaurav Bansal is a part of the Firm's competition and antitrust practice and has over 10 years of experience. Gaurav specialises in and advises clients on various aspects of competition law, including, merger control, cartels, abuse of dominance, strategic vertical agreements, and compliance audits. Some of his key recent assignments include, securing merger control approvals for Tata Group in its USD 2.4 billion acquisition of Air India; EQT AB's USD 6.8 billion acquisition of BPEA; Vista and Elliot's USD 16.5 billion acquisition of Citrix; and USD 20.6 billion investment in Reliance's Jio Platform Ltd. by Facebook, Google and several private equity investors. On the behavioural side, Gaurav has advised various Indian and international enterprises spanning a variety of industries including automotive, aviation, FMCG, cement, steel, and pharmaceuticals.

Experience

- Partner (2021 – Present)

Key Practice Areas

- Competition/ Antitrust

Recent Work Highlights

- Reliance on (a) Securing an unconditional approval from the CCI in its acquisition of Den Networks Ltd.; and (b) Complex merger control issues and unconditional approval from the CCI in relation to Google and Facebook's investment in Jio Platforms Ltd.
- Tata Group on complex merger control approvals including (i) Tata Steels acquisition of Bhushan Steel Ltd. which was the first merger control approval in India under the newly introduced IBC regime; and (ii) Tata Digital Ltd.'s acquisition of online grocery store Big Basket
- Various Clients on behavioural proceedings, including cartel and abuse of dominance proceedings before the CCI, High Court and Supreme Court, across sectors including automobile, aviation, FMCG, paper, cement, and tyre
- Various Clients including Mercedes Benz India Pvt. Ltd., Tata Motors, Allianz, Agrocel Industries Ltd., Mastercard, etc. on competition compliance training programmes for including setting in place competition compliance manuals and dawn raid manuals.
- Various Clients including Daimler, Tata Motors, Royal Canin, IndiGo, and Jio Platforms Ltd. on complex behavioural issues involving evaluation of abuse of dominance and vertical agreements, including exclusivity agreements, tying-in arrangements, RPM, balancing online v/s offline considerations
- Various Private Equity Investors, Financial Institutions and Sovereign Wealth Funds including for KKR, Carlyle Group, Brookfield, Tiger Global, GIC, QIA, ADIA, CPPIB, Goldman Sachs, and SMFG, on (i) Evaluation of complex merger control issues and securing unconditional approval from the Indian antitrust regulator; and (ii) Range of merger control advisory includes evaluation of notification requirements, gun-jumping risk, determining the type of filing, inter-connected transactions, applicability of statutory exemptions, applicability of green channel route, implementation of clean teams

Memberships

- Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa (2015)

Professional Qualifications

- LL.M., O.P. Jindal Global University (2012)
- LL.B., The Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, (2010)

'Rising Star' for Competition/ Antitrust by Legal 500 Asia Pacific (2021 – 2023)

'Notable Practitioner' for Competition/ Antitrust by IFLR1000 (2020)
