

ANIRUDH KRISHNAN

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Advocate, India

Foreign Registered Lawyer, Singapore International Commercial Court

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BA LLB (Hons.) NALSAR University of Law

BCL, Oxford University



Recognized as a Band 1 lawyer by Chambers and Partners, Asia Pacific Guide, 2023, Anirudh Krishnan heads the Dispute Resolution practice at AK Law Chambers, with a team strength of 30 lawyers across South India while being headquartered in Chennai, India. His core specialization lies in commercial dispute resolution, with domestic and international arbitrations being a special area of focus.

Anirudh represents some of India's most prominent companies like Larsen & Toubro Construction, Afcons Infrastructure, Shapoorji Pallonji, Tata Projects Ltd, TRF Ltd, Kazstroyservice group of companies (KSS Group), Kris Heavy Engineering and Construction Bhd, NAPC Ltd, JSW group of companies, Jindal Steel Private Ltd and TVS group of companies, etc., in high-value disputes. He has created a niche for himself in construction and infrastructure arbitration.

He began his career at Clifford Chance LLP, London and subsequently moved back to India to set up AK Law Chambers. His area of practice includes:

- (i) **Arbitration:** Frequently representing domestic and international clients before domestic and international arbitral tribunals constituted under various rules, including Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), among others;
- (ii) **Litigation:** Routinely representing clients and briefing firms and lawyers as the lead counsel before the Supreme Court of India, High Courts of various states, and statutory tribunals, including the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal and National Company Law Tribunal, among others.

He is a part of the reserve panel of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre and on the panel of the Nani Palkhivala Arbitration Centre and the Madras High Court

Arbitration Centre. He has received numerous appointments as an arbitrator, including SIAC appointments. He is a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators. He has also testified as an expert on Indian Law in an ICC arbitration in London and provided an expert report on Indian Law, which was presented before the English Courts.

Notable Publications:

- Chief Editor, 5th and 6th editions "*Justice R.S. Bachawat's Law of Arbitration and Conciliation*" published by LexisNexis Butterworths. This commentary has been cited several times by the Indian Supreme Court and various Indian High Courts.
- Chief Editor of a recently released book on commercial litigation in India titled, "*Commercial Dispute Resolution: State of the Law in India*" published by Lexis Nexis. The foreword of the book was written by Hon'ble Justice M.M. Sundresh (Judge, Supreme Court of India) and Mr. Gary B. Born (Chair of the International Arbitration Practice Group at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP).
- Author, "*The Law of Reservation and Anti-Discrimination*", published by LexisNexis Butterworths.
- Featured in the book "*On the Rise - Inspiring Stories of young legal professionals in India*", compiled by Tariq Khan and published by LexisNexis Butterworths.
- Authored a chapter on the Indian position of law for the "*Handbook on Third Party Funding in International Arbitration*", edited by Nikolaus Pitkowitz and published by Juris Legal Information.
- Authored over 20 articles in various journals.

Bar Memberships:

- Anirudh is enrolled with the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu, India, with a right of audience before the Indian Supreme Court, all Indian High Courts and Tribunals;
- He is also a Foreign Registered Lawyer with a right of audience at the Singapore International Commercial Court and
- He is a registered Solicitor of England and Wales (Non-practicing).

Professional Memberships:

- London Court of International Arbitration – Young International Arbitration Group;

- British Institute of Comparative Law;
- Registered with the Solicitors Regulation Authority, England;
- Member of the Committee, Madras High Court Arbitration Committee;
- Empaneled Arbitrator, Dubai International Arbitration Centre;
- Empaneled Arbitrator, Nani Palkhivala Arbitration Centre;
- Drafting Committee for the Mumbai Court of International Arbitration (MCIA);
- Steering Committees of the Indi-Italian Chamber of Commerce;
- Ad hoc Fellow of the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy.

Memberships and Committees:

- Anirudh has been a part of the Special Committees set up, at various points in time, by the Law Commission of India, advising on the *amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996*, drafting of the “*Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts and Commercial Courts Bill, 2015*” and analysis of India's model *Bilateral Investment Treaties*. He was invited by the Justice Sri Krishna Committee to discuss further amendments to the Indian Arbitration and Conciliation Act 1996.
- Additionally, Anirudh is currently a member of the steering committee of Y-SIAC (Young SIAC) and the Governing Council *Madras Chamber of Commerce Arbitration and Mediation Centre*. He has also been a part of the steering committee of the *Indo-Italian Chamber of Commerce*; the *Madras High Court Arbitration Committee*, as the specialist appointed by the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court and notably the youngest member of the committee; the Drafting Committee for the rules of the *Mumbai Court of International Arbitration* and the steering committee of the *Young MCIA*. He was selected as the Inter-Pacific Bar Association Scholar, being the only Indian for that year.

Awards:

- Anirudh Krishnan has been ranked by Chambers and Partners (in both the Global and Asia Pacific rankings) from the year 2016 onwards, and in the current guides of 2024, he is currently ranked Band 1 in the category Corporate/Commercial: Chennai- India and also ranked in the category Dispute Resolution: Arbitration. He was recognized as one of the *Top 10 Influential Arbitration Lawyers in India 2023: Unveiling Power Players*

by Business Today and the *Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year 2023* by the Asian Legal Business, a Thomson Reuters ranking. This list is illustrative, and various other agencies have ranked him.

Experience:

- He has acted as an arbitrator in nine arbitrations and has appeared as lead counsel in over forty arbitrations (both domestic and international), including arbitrations that have seats in Singapore, London, Dubai, and Australia. These arbitrations are both ad-hoc and institutional, including under the rules of the ICC, SIAC, DIAC, LCIA, Australian Maritime Transport Arbitration Commission, Nani Palkhivala Arbitration Centre, Indian Council of Arbitration and Madras High Court Arbitration Centre. He has also appeared as lead counsel before various Indian courts. An illustrative list of reported judgements is annexed as *Annexure A*, and over one hundred cases before various Indian courts.

Mr. Anirudh Krishnan as an Arbitrator:

- Acted as a Sole Arbitrator in a dispute arising out of an employment contract governed by SIAC Rules with seat at Singapore.
- Presently acting as Sole Arbitrator in a dispute arising out of contracts for installation of fire safety systems (Names of the Parties are confidential).
- Acted as Sole Arbitrator in a dispute arising out of a Franchise Agreement between M/s. Planet Pop Foods Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Pop & More.
- Acted as Sole Arbitrator in a dispute arising out of a contract for testing of hydrogen cylinders between M/s. Arasan Air Products Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.
- Acted as a Co-Arbitrator in a dispute arising out of termination of an employment agreement between Mr. N. Balasubramanian and Hindustan Unilever.
- Acted as Sole Arbitrator in a dispute arising out of an engineering and erection contract between the Contractor and the Employer (Names of the Parties are confidential).

A broad genre of Arbitrations including:

- Construction and Infrastructure Arbitrations related to among other things bridges

(Chenab bridge project- the highest rail bridge in the world located in the Himalayas), thermal, solar, hydel and nuclear power plants (in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jammu and Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh), roads and highways, oil refineries (in Paradip, Orissa), railway freight corridors (in Maharashtra), metro rail projects (Chennai, Bangalore and Kolkata), high-speed rail/bullet train project (a pan Indian project), airports (Chennai, Tiruchirappalli, Goa and Lucknow) and Ports (Chennai, Tamil Nadu);

- Power and Energy;
- Solid Waste Management;
- General Corporate;
- Employment;
- Technology;
- Intellectual Property, among others.

Annexure A- Indicative list of reported judgments¹

➤ SUPREME COURT

- [Board of Control for Cricket in India vs. Kochi Cricket Pvt. Ltd. and Ors.](#), AIR 2018 SC 1549, 2018 (2) ARBLR 170 (SC), 2018 (3) BomCR659, (2018)5MLJ8, 2018(4) SCALE502, (2018)6SCC287, MANU/SC/0256/2018, (2018) ibclaw.in 125 SC
- [MYCON vs. MECON](#), MANU/SCOR/54696/2017
- [PASL Wind Solutions Private Limited vs. GE Power Conversion India Private Limited](#) (While Anirudh did not argue this case, an argument of his, made for the first time before the Madhya Pradesh High Court in [Sasan Power Limited vs. North American Coal Corporation India Pvt. Ltd.](#) 2016(2) ArbLR 179(MP), (2017) 1 CompLJ42(MP), MANU/MP/1269/2015 was quoted with approval by the Supreme Court) (2021) 7 SCC 1, 2021 3 SCC (Civ) 702, 2021 SCC OnLine SC 331

➤ HIGH COURT OF MADRAS

- [Adam and Coal Resources Pvt. Ltd. vs. Interbulk Trading SA](#), 2014(4) ArbLR 41(Madras), 2014 (5) CTC 704, 2014-4-LW833, MANU/TN/2019/2014
- [Boston Scientific International BV and Ors. vs. Trivitron Healthcare Pvt. Ltd.](#), 2016(3) ArbLR 312(Madras), 2015(5) CTC 190, (2015) 6 MLJ 647, MANU/TN/3076/2015
- [Maxwell Industries Limited vs. Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. and Ors.](#), 2018(2) ArbLR13(Madras), (2018) 2 MLJ 543.
- [Interbulk Trading SA vs. Adam and Coal Resources Pvt. Ltd.](#), 2014 (5) CTC689, MANU/TN/2141/2014
- [Mycon Construction Ltd. vs. Mecon Ltd.](#), (2018)1MLJ403, MANU/TN/4651/2017
- [Interbulk Trading SA vs. Adam and Coal Resources Private Limited](#), 2017(3) ArbLR141(Madras), 2017(2) CTC 491, 2017-1-LW130, (2017)1MLJ400, MANU/TN/3385/2016
- [Interbulk Trading SA vs. Adam and Coal Resources Private Limited](#), 2014 (5) CTC689
- [Buhari Sons Pvt. Ltd. vs. The State of Tamil Nadu](#), 2014(4)CTC113, (2014)5MLJ778,

¹ This list only includes cases where Mr. Anirudh Krishnan acted as the lead counsel does not include the various Supreme Court and Madras High Court judgements where he was the second chair. Copies of the judgments can be provided upon request.

- [M/s. Deccan Chronicles Holdings Limited vs. Union of India](#), (2014) BC 37 (Mad.), [2014] 121 CLA 383 (Mad.), [2015] 191 CompCas 557 (Mad), (2015) 1 CompLJ 213 (Mad), 2014 (3) CTC 321, 2014-3-LW499, (2014) 4 MLJ 257, MANU/TN/0660/2014
- [Tidel Park Limited vs. Arkay Energy \(Rameshwaram\) Limited and Ors.](#), 2018 (3) CTC 117
- [Indian Commerce and Industries Co. Pvt. Ltd. vs. OK Play Auto Private Limited](#), 2018(1)CTC 729
- [Guanxgi Liugong Maachinery Company Limited vs. Rais Equipment Pvt. Ltd.](#), 2014(3)CTC 290, (2014) 3 MLJ 873, 2014 (2) MWN (Civil) 579
- [Jai Rajkumar and Anr. vs. Stanbic Ghana Ltd and Anr.](#), 2019 (2) CTC 575, 2019 1 MLJ 752, [2018] ibclaw.in 19 HC
- [Sarath Kakumanu vs. Arunachalam Veerappan](#), AIR 2019 (NOC 182) 62
- [Qdseatoman Designs vs. P Suresh](#), (2019) 1 MLJ 163
- [3i Infotech Ltd vs. Romila Baja](#), 2019 (5) ARB LR 97 (Madras)
- [M/s. Agi Music vs. Illaiyaraja](#), 2019-4-L.W. 418
- [Prathyusha Educational Society vs. Principal Commissioner of Income Tax](#), [2019] 416 ITR 129 (Madras)
- [Pioneer Distilleries Ltd. vs. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. & Ors.](#) 2019 (4) CTC 711, (2019) 3 MLJ 197, MANU/TN/0754/2019
- [Embassy Property Development Pvt. Ltd. vs. SNP Ventures LLP](#) AIR 2019 Mad 329, MANU/ TN/ 8123 /2019
- [K.K Krishnan Kutty vs. Green Tree Homes and Ventures Pvt. Ltd. and Anr.](#) 2020(1) Arb LR 295(Madras), 2019 SCC OnLine Mad 8897, AIR 2019 Mad 215, (2019) 5 CTC 473
- [Canara Bank vs. Teledata Technology Solutions Limited](#) 2020 (2) Arb LR 521 (Madras)
- [3i Infotech limited vs. TNEGA](#) 2020 (2) Arb LR 291 (Madras), 2019 SCC OnLine Mad 33295, (2019) 5 LW 781
- [Trimex Industries Pvt. Ltd. and Ors. vs. Ind Barath Thermal Power Limited](#) 2021 SCC OnLine Mad 2793

- [Millenium Steel India Pvt. Ltd. vs. Ind Barath Energies Ltd.](#) 2021 SCC OnLine Mad 2611
- [3i Infotech Limited vs. P. Balasubramanian](#) 2021 SCC OnLine Mad 2641, (2021) 6 Mad LJ 16, AIR 2022 (NOC 154) 78, (2021) 5 Arb LR 344
- [Kwality Spinning Mills Ltd. vs. Cotton Corporation of India](#) 2021 SCC OnLine Mad 5216
- [63 Moons Technologies Limited vs. Brickwork Rating India Private Limited](#) 2021 SCC OnLine Mad 5428, (2021) 6 CTC 1, 2021 AIR CC 3269, AIR 2022 (NOC 86) 46
- [ONGC, Cauvery Asset vs. Steel & Grip](#) 2021 SCC OnLine Mad 5309
- [Tidel Park Limited vs. Arkay Energy \(Rameswarm\) Limited and Ors.](#) MANU/TN/7548/2021
- [E-merge Tech Global Services P. Ltd vs. M.R. Vidhyasagar and Ors](#) MANU/TN/9773/2021, 2022(1) CTC 30, 2022(1) MWN 596
- [Millenium Steel India Pvt. Ltd. and Ors. vs. Reckitt Beckinser \(India\) Pvt. Ltd and Ors.](#) MANU/TN/9499/2021, 2021 (1) CTC 1, 2021-5-LW 710, 2022(1) MWVN 465
- [Hari and Co. vs. Chennai Port Trust](#) 2022 SCC OnLine Mad 94
- [Amica Financial Technologies Pvt. Ltd. vs. Hip Bar Pvt. Ltd.](#) (2022) 2 MLJ 36, MANU/TN/1004/2022
- [Northern Arc Captial Limited vs. Feed Back Infra Private Limited](#) 2022 SCC OnLine Mad 501
- [Northern Arc Capital Limited vs. Sambandh Finserve Private Limited](#) 2022 SCC OnLine Mad 2904
- [Arkay Energy \(Rameswaram\) Ltd. vs. Rajesh Lakhoni](#) MANU/TN/7088/2022
- [Primex Healthcare and Research Pvt. Ltd. and Ors. vs. A.A.L. Ramaswamy and Ors.](#) 2022(6)CTC19, 2022-4-LW964, 2022 (3) MWN 612, MANU/TN/7484/2022
- [Vatsala Jagannathan and Ors. vs. Tristar Accommodations Limited and Ors.](#) 2023(4)CTC209, 2023-1- LW427, MANU/TN/0230/2023
- [Sararth Kakumanu vs. Veerappan Arunachalam and Ors.](#) 2023-2-LW519, 2023 (2) MWN 495, MANU/TN/2064/2023
- [Prime Store and Ors. vs. Sugam Vanijya Holdings Private Limited and Ors.](#) 2023 (2)

MWN 165, MANU/TN/2526/2023

- [Arkay Energy \(Rameswarm\) Limited vs. TIDEL Park Limited](#)
MANU/TN/1523/2023
- [Kris Heavy Engineering and Construction SDN BHD vs. PNHB-LANCO-KHEC-JV](#) MANU/TN/0576/2023
- [63 Moons Technologies Limited vs. Wadhwan Global Capital Limited and Ors.](#) 2023-1-LW549, (2023) ibclaw.in 40 HC, MANU/TN/0444/2023

➤ **OTHER COURTS AND TRIBUNALS**

- [Sasan Power Limited vs. North American Coal Corporation India Pvt. Ltd.](#) 2016(2) ArbLR 179(MP), (2017) 1 CompLJ42(MP), MANU/MP/1269/2015
- [Stanbic Bank Ghana Ltd. vs. Rajkumar Impex P. Ltd.,](#) [2018] 208 Comp Cas 308, MANU/NC/5462/2018
- [Sterling and Wilson Private Limited vs. Embassy Energy Private Limited](#)
MANU/NC/0880/2022
- [S. Rajagopal Chairman – Monitoring Committee of Frontier Lifeline Private Limited vs. K. M. Cherian, Promoter and Erstwhile Director of Frontier Lifeline Private Limited and Ors.](#) MANU/NC/2114/2022
- [Andhra Pradesh State Financial Corporation vs. S. Rajendran, Liquidator, Krishna Industrial Corporation Limited and Ors.](#) (2023) ibclaw.in 60 NCLAT, MANU/NL/0083/2023