

RiSE LEGAL INDIA

RISE
RATED
LAWYERS

A new ratings
system from
RSGI

PRIVATE CAPITAL
ARBITRATION
CAPITAL MARKETS
COMPETITION
CYBER
INFRASTRUCTURE
INTERNATIONAL TRADE

RE Legal
Intelligence
Revisited
SIGHT

February 2026

AI CONFIDENCE™ COMES

FROM A STABLE FOUNDATION

A close-up photograph of a hand placing a dark, rectangular stone block onto a stack of similar blocks, symbolizing building a foundation. The background is a solid blue color.

Legal AI has the potential to transform the way you practice—but only if you feel confident your foundation is built to support it.

AI Confidence™ isn't about trusting a product.

It's about trusting your own decisions. Knowing your data is safe. That your AI tools are transparent and reliable. That your workflows are built specifically for the way lawyers actually work. It's confidence in your ability to make informed, impactful choices for the future of your legal practice.

With iManage, you don't just get AI—you get the clarity, security and partnership you need to turn potential into power.

That's AI Confidence.



**START BUILDING
AI CONFIDENCE
TODAY**



FOREWORD

Welcome to the inaugural RISE Lawyers rating report.

The lawyers who feature in this report have gone through a new and unique assessment process. RISE is an acronym for reputation, instructions, sophistication and experience. Under these four broad indicators, lie over 20 sub-indicators that have been scored and combined to create a holistic credential. (A full methodology is available at the back of the report).

Why is it important? This is a moment of profound change for the legal profession – globally. AI is impacting both the individual lawyer’s practice and the business model of the law firm. The business context has also changed: clients want and need different levels of advice and support from their lawyers.

RISE is a methodology that seeks to capture these changes and predicts forward developments as well.

For example, under the ‘Reputation’ indicator, lawyers are assessed not just on their peer and client mentions, but also on their thought leadership and roles as influencers.

‘Instructions’ seeks to quantify the market share and complexity of a lawyer’s work – and it is not static. If a lawyer is not busy in one year, their ‘I’ score will fall. It is a data-driven analysis of a lawyer’s book of business.

‘Sophistication’ is that of a lawyer’s approach to the business of law. How are they using data and AI, marshalling their knowledge, leading their teams and providing value for money to clients?

And finally, ‘Experience’ captures the shift of law firms from providers of services to providers of experiences: what is a lawyer really like to work with? This indicator covers eight sub-indicators that reflect how client demands are changing. They cover the softer skills of emotional intelligence as well as the capacity if the lawyer to commercially strategise.

The method is based on RSGI’s 30-year track record as independent assessors of lawyer performance and legal market observers. We created the methodology for the Chambers Guides in the 90s, the FT’s ranking of lawyers on innovation in the mid-noughties and now a rating that we hope will take the profession well into the 21st century.

We hope it will provide an aide to clients, drive up standards for practitioners by helping them to properly benchmark against peers as well as highlight the role models for younger lawyers.

RISE is a new definition of legal excellence. To achieve a rating in this report is an achievement and we congratulate every one of the lawyers featured here.

A big thank-you as well to our RISE launch event supporters, who have enabled us to make the launch of this report a day to remember: iManage and Harvey our platinum partners; PwC, our general counsel partner and Litera, our report supporter.

The Resight India team

Jamie Judd, Mina Jenkins, Patrick Shortall,
Reena SenGupta, Toby Weston and Yasmin Lambert

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PRIVATE CAPITAL 50

India's private capital market has entered a new phase of maturity. Domestic capital no longer plays a supporting role to foreign investment. Indian institutions, family offices and retail flows set the pace of transactions, and Indian law firms often play a leading role rather than just a supporting one.

From an initial longlist of more than 200 lawyers, the RISE Private Capital 50 are helping to define how capital is deployed, structured and governed in India's next growth phase.

AZB & Partners performs most strongly overall, led by Ashwath Rau. He is

followed by Raghubir Menon of Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas and Reeba Chacko of Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas. Their placement reflects both individual strength and the depth of private capital capability at India's top law firms. Distinctions between private equity, venture capital and private credit continue to blur.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Ashwath Rau
AZB & Partners

Reputation: 10 **I**nstructions: 10
Sophistication: 8.7 **E**xperience: 9.9



Raghubir Menon

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

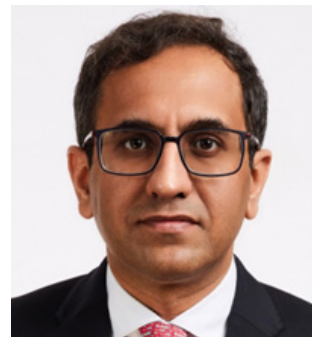
R:9.1 **I**:8.9 **S**:8.2 **E**:9.8



Reeba Chacko

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:8.1 **I**:8 **S**:8.2 **E**:8.1



Harsh Maggon

Trilegal

R:6.5 **I**:8.3 **S**:8.7 **E**:9.4



Vikram Raghani

JSA Advocates & Solicitors

R:7.2 **I**:8 **S**:8.1 **E**:7



Vaidhyathan Iyer

AZB & Partners

R:6.4 **I**:7.3 **S**:9.4 **E**:9.4



Nandish Vyas

AZB & Partners

R:6.9 **I**:7.2 **S**:8.7 **E**:9.8



Haigreve Khaitan

Khaitan & Co

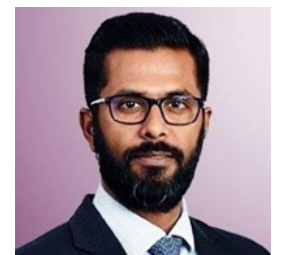
R:6.1 **I**:6.9 **S**:9.6 **E**:10



Nishant Parikh

Trilegal

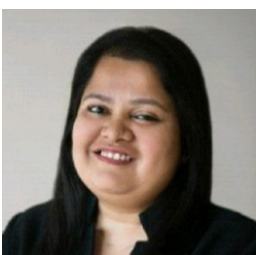
R:6.8 **I**:6.6 **S**:8.7 **E**:-



Shishir Jose Vayttaden

Khaitan & Co

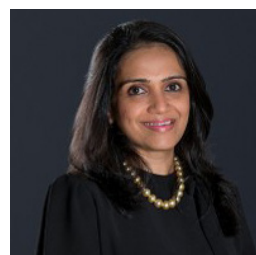
R:5.9 **I**:5.6 **S**:9.6 **E**:9.8



Sonali Mahapatra

TT&A

R:6.2 **I**:7 **S**:5.9 **E**:9.7



Darshika Kothari

AZB & Partners

R:5.4 **I**:7.1 **S**:8.7 **E**:9.7



Sai Krishna Bharathan

Trilegal

R:5.4 **I**:7.4 **S**:8.7 **E**:8.3



Anil Kasturi

AZB & Partners

R:6.4 **I**:4.7 **S**:9.1 **E**:9.5



Abhijit Joshi

Veritas Legal

R:5.5 **I**:7.3 **S**:6.6 **E**:9.9



Gautam Saha
TT&A
R:6.4 I:6.3 S:5.9 E:9.6



Kannan Rahul
Trilegal
R:5.6 I:6.3 S:8.7 E:9.2



Iqbal Khan
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:6.1 I:5.7 S:8.2 E:9.2



Ravindra Bandhakavi
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:6.2 I:5.8 S:7.5 E:9.3



Bharat Anand
Khaitan & Co
R:5.1 I:6.1 S:10 E:9.3



Nikhil Narayanan
Khaitan & Co
R:5.5 I:5.3 S:9.6 E:9.6



Kartick Maheshwari
Khaitan & Co
R:5.5 I:6.1 S:8.9 E:8.3



Jay Gandhi
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.5 I:6.6 S:8.2 E:8.5



Roxanne Anderson
AZB & Partners
R:5.4 I:6.3 S:8.7 E:8.5



Nivedita Rao
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.3 I:6.4 S:8.2 E:9.8



Srinath Dasari
AZB & Partners
R:5.8 I:5.2 S:8.7 E:9



Rabindra Jhunjhunwala
Khaitan & Co
R:3 I:6.2 S:9.6 E:9.9



Ganesh Rao
Trilegal
R:5.2 I:7.9 S:8.7 E:-



Siddarth Shah
Khaitan & Co
R:6 I:6.2 S:8.9 E:-



Amit Khansaheb
Trilegal
R:6.2 I:6 S:8.7 E:-



Manish Gupta
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.2 I:6.4 S:8.2 E:8.8



Nidhi Killawala
Khaitan & Co
R:4.3 I:6.5 S:9.6 E:8.8



Divaspathi Singh
Khaitan & Co
R:4.2 I:6.1 S:9.6 E:8.5



Nishchal Joshipura
Nishith Desai Associates
R:5.2 I:6 S:8.2 E:8.5



Pranav Sharma
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.5 I:5 S:8.2 E:8.7



Yogesh Singh
Trilegal
R:3.6 I:5.7 S:8.7 E:9.9



Gunjan Shah
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.5 I:6.2 S:8.2 E:-



Pranav Atit
Trilegal
R:4.8 I:4.9 S:9.4 E:9



Winnie Sherkhar
CMS INDUSLAW
R:5.1 I:5.8 S:6.5 E:10



Nanditha Gopal
AZB & Partners
R:5 I:5.6 S:8 E:8.8

PRIVATE CAPITAL 50 CONTINUED



Siddhart Srivastava
Khaitan & Co

R:4 I:5.3 S:9.6 E:8.5



Minhaz Lokhandwala
CMS INDUSLAW

R:3.9 I:6.6 S:6.5 E:9.6



Vivek Mamani
Khaitan & Co

R:4.2 I:4.7 S:9.6 E:9.3



Aditya Jha
Trilegal

R:5.3 I:5.7 S:8.7 E:-



Shuva Mandal
Anagram Partners

R:5.6 I:4.5 S:7.1 E:9.1



Sharda Balaji
NovoJuris

R:4.5 I:5.6 S:6.8 E:10



Deepak Jodhani
Khaitan & Co

R:4.3 I:4.9 S:8.9 E:7.8



Subhalakshmi Naskar
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:4.2 I:6.4 S:8.2 E:-



Siddharth Mody
JSA Advocates & Solicitors

R:4.8 I:6.4 S:6.5 E:-



S. Harish
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:5.2 I:4.8 S:8.2 E:-

ARBITRATION 30

The practitioners featured in this list represent the busiest and most complex arbitration practices in India over the past year. Drawn mainly from India's top five law firms with the bench strength to sustain full-time arbitration teams — AZB & Partners, Khaitan & Co, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas and Trilegal — they are defined by high dispute values, significant international elements and institutional rather than ad hoc mandates.

The highest-scoring practitioners, led by Sanjeev K Kapoor at Khaitan, Vijayendra Pratap Singh at AZB and Rajen-

dra Barot at AZB, combine exceptional peer reputation with instructions running into and over the hundreds of millions of dollars. Indian practitioners used to co-counsel with foreign firms on international matters, but the RISE lawyers are increasingly leading those proceedings independently.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Sanjeev K Kapoor
Khaitan & Co

Reputation: 8.2 Instructions: 8.9
Sophistication: 7.4 Experience: 8.5



Vijayendra Pratap Singh
AZB & Partners

R:8.2 I:8.6 S:7.7 E:8.1



Rajendra Barot
AZB & Partners

R:8.3 I:9.3 S:6 E:10



Shaneen Parikh
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:8.2 I:8.7 S:6.1 E:-



Nitesh Jain
Trilegal

R:7 I:9.2 S:7.3 E:-

**Vyapak Desai**

Vyapak Desai Law Chambers

R:8.1 I:7.6 S:7.3 E:9.3

**Ila Kapoor**

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:7.4 I:8.3 S:6.7 E:-

**Binsy Susan**

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:7.1 I:7.8 S:6.7 E:7

**Ajay Bhargava
Khaitan & Co**

R:5.1 I:8.3 S:7.2 E:-

**Kingshuk Banerjee
Khaitan & Co**

R:6.1 I:7.8 S:6.5 E:8.3

**Shankh Sengupta
Trilegal**

R:5.6 I:6.8 S:7.4 E:-

**Naresh Thacker**

Chambers of Naresh Thacker

R:6 I:7 S:5.9 E:8.3

**Kapil Arora**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:3.6 I:8.2 S:7.6 E:-

**Ashish Bhan
Trilegal**

R:3 I:7.8 S:7.9 E:7.9

**Tine Abraham
Trilegal**

R:3.6 I:7.5 S:7.5 E:-

**Gunita Pahwa
S&A Law Offices**

R:3.4 I:8.4 S:6.0 E:-

**Dheeraj Nair**

JSA Advocates & Solicitors

R:3.9 I:7.6 S:6.3 E:8.5

**Manoj K Singh
S&A Law Offices**

R:3.1 I:8.1 S:7.1 E:6.1

**Manmeet Singh**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:2.7 I:8.1 S:7.5 E:8.5

**Indranil Deshmukh**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:3 I:8.4 S:6.2 E:10

**Smarika Singh**

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:3.4 I:7.3 S:7.1 E:8.1

**Sameer Tapia**

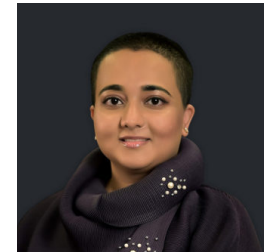
ALMT Legal

R:3.1 I:8.7 S:5.1 E:-

**Suvigya Awasthy**

PSL Advocates & Solicitors

R:3.6 I:7.1 S:7.7 E:7

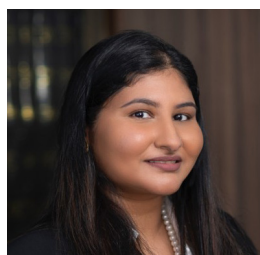
**Priyanka Shetty
AZB & Partners**

R:2.6 I:7.6 S:7.7 E:9.2

**Lomesh Nidumuri**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:2.6 I:7.8 S:7 E:-

**Sneha Jaisingh
Bharucha & Partners**

R:2.3 I:7.8 S:7.7 E:10

**Ketan Gaur
Trilegal**

R:2.6 I:7.5 S:5.9 E:7.9

**Ashim Sood**

Ashim Sood Law Offices

R:2.8 I:7.7 S:5.2 E:-

**Sooraj Sharma
Clavius Legal**

R:1.7 I:7.8 S:6.8 E:-

**Chakrapani Misra
Khaitan & Co**

R:4.4 I:5.5 S:6.2 E:-

CAPITAL MARKETS - EQUITY 39

The 2026 RISE India Equity Capital Markets list reflect a fast and unforgiving market. What was once a broadly unified capital markets practice in India has split along lines of expertise and deal rhythm. ECM lawyers operate in compressed timeframes where IPO windows can close overnight, QIPs must be executed with precision, and block trades require flawless coordination between issuers, bankers and regulators.

The RISE practitioners are defined by their ability to execute under pressure while maintaining market confidence. Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas and

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas lead strongly in ECM, with Prashant Gupta, Manan Lahoty and Yash Ashar frequently appearing on the year's most significant equity transactions. Trilegal, Khaitan & Co and JSA also feature prominently, with consistent deal flow on both headline IPOs and repeat issuer mandates.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Prashant Gupta
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
Reputation: 9.7 **I**nstructions: 9.2
Sophistication: 8.7 **E**xperience: 10



Manan Lahoty
 Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:9.2 **I**:9 **S**:7.2 **E**:8.5



Yash J. Ashar
 Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:9.2 **I**:8.8 **S**:6.5 **E**:9.7



Sandip Bhagat
 S&R Associates
R:8.5 **I**:9.0 **S**:7.3 **E**:8.5



Richa Choudhary
 Trilegal
R:6.6 **I**:9.8 **S**:8.3 **E**:8.8



Nikhil Naredi
 Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:8.6 **I**:8.3 **S**:6.5 **E**:-



Bhakta Patnaik
 Trilegal
R:7 **I**:9.1 **S**:7.7 **E**:8.5



Abhimanyu Bhattacharya
 Khaitan & Co
R:8 **I**:7.9 **S**:7.5 **E**:-



Vijay Parthasarathi
 Trilegal
R:7.7 **I**:8.4 **S**:6.9 **E**:7.9



Abhinav Kumar
 TT&A
R:7.2 **I**:9.1 **S**:6.1 **E**:-



Arka Mookerjee
 JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:6.5 **I**:9 **S**:6.2 **E**:7.9



Jabarati Chandra
 S&R Associates
R:6.0 **I**:8.7 **S**:7.5 **E**:-



Vishal Yaduvanshi
 Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:7.1 **I**:8.6 **S**:5.3 **E**:7.9



Aditya George Cherian
 Khaitan & Co
R:5.9 **I**:7.5 **S**:8.6 **E**:7.8



Madhurima Mukherjee
 JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:6.9 **I**:7.7 **S**:5.6 **E**:-



Varoon Chandra
AZB & Partners
R:4.9 I:9.1 S:6.6 E:9.5



Sudhir Bassi
Khaitan & Co
R:5.1 I:8.5 S:7.3 E:8.5



Lionel D'Almeida
AZB & Partners
R:5 I:8.7 S:6.9 E:-



Gautham Srinivas
Khaitan & Co
R:4.9 I:8.5 S:6.7 E:8.5



Gokul Rajan
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.1 I:8.3 S:6.4 E:9.5



Jitesh Shahani
S&R Associates
R:5.1 I:7 S:7.1 E:-



Ravi Dubey
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:4.9 I:7.5 S:6.5 E:-



Albin Thomas
Trilegal
R:2.4 I:8.8 S:7.1 E:-



Aashima Johur
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:2.4 I:8.1 S:7.7 E:8.5



Juhi Singh
S&R Associates
R:3.2 I:7.5 S:7.3 E:8.5



Reuben Chacko
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:3 I:7.6 S:7.6 E:-



Abhinav Maker
Trilegal
R:2.3 I:8.2 S:7.4 E:-



Vishnu Dutt U
Bharucha & Partners
R:3 I:7.8 S:6.6 E:9.5



Pratichi Mishra
S&R Associates
R:2.3 I:7.9 S:7.5 E:7.6



Abhiroop Lahiri
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:2.9 I:7.7 S:6.7 E:8.5



Thomas George
Khaitan & Co
R:2.7 I:7.7 S:7.1 E:-



Pracheta Bhattacharya
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:2.2 I:8.5 S:6.3 E:7.2



Priyadarshini Rao
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:2.7 I:7.8 S:6.7 E:-



Oishik Bagchi
Khaitan & Co
R:2 I:7.9 S:7.5 E:9.4



Brajendu Bhaskar
Trilegal
R:2.3 I:7.8 S:6.9 E:-



Abhiroop Datta
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:2.4 I:7 S:7.6 E:-



Vinay Sirohia
Trilegal
R:1.7 I:7.6 S:7.1 E:8.5



Prashant Rajput
Economic Laws Practice
R:2.7 I:6.1 S:6.7 E:7



Aayush Mohata
Khaitan & Co
R:2.4 I:4 S:8.3 E:8.3

CAPITAL MARKETS - DEBT 11

India's Debt Capital Markets practitioners operate in a structurally complex market that has become more technical and international. As Indian issuers diversify funding sources and access offshore markets, DCM lawyers navigate evolving regulatory regimes, hybrid instruments and cross border challenges.

Unlike ECM, where speed and market timing dominate, DCM rewards sustained technical depth and structural innovation. Khaitan & Co, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas and Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas perform strongly

in DCM, but the field also highlights notable specialist practitioners such as Niloufer Lam of NL LEGAL and Rahul Gulati and Priyanka Kumar of TT&A. Trilegal, Khaitan & Co and JSA have steady deal flow and breadth across structured and conventional debt products.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Manisha Shroff
Khaitan & Co

Reputation: 9.3 **I**nstructions: 9.2
Sophistication: 7.1 **E**xperience: 9.4



Uttara M Kolhatkar
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:8.5 **I**:8.5 **S**:5.3 **E**:-



Shubhangi Garg
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:6.2 **I**:8.5 **S**:8.1 **E**:-



Pranav Sharma
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:6.2 **I**:8.3 **S**:6 **E**:8.7



Priyanka Kumar
TT&A
R:6.6 **I**:7.6 **S**:5.9 **E**:-



Rahul Gulati
TT&A
R:4 **I**:9.5 **S**:5.9 **E**:8.5



Niloufer Lam
NL LEGAL
R:3.9 **I**:8.7 **S**:4.5 **E**:-



Veena Sivaramakrishnan
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:3 **I**:7.6 **S**:6.7 **E**:-



Aditya Bhargava
Trilegal
R:2.5 **I**:7 **S**:8.5 **E**:9.8



Subhalakshmi Naskar
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:3 **I**:6.2 **S**:7.9 **E**:8.3



Satadru Goswami
Saraf and Partners
R:1.5 **I**:6.5 **S**:7.5 **E**:-

NEXT:
COMPETITION
CYBER
INFRASTRUCTURE
INTERNATIONAL TRADE

COMPETITION 40

India's busiest merger control practices are fielded by its largest law firms, supported by heavy deal flows. Some such as SAM, JSA, and AZB also attract standalone antitrust instructions. 2025 saw a boom of transactions requiring Phase 1 filings. Slowdowns from tariff uncertainty were offset by the introduction of deal value thresholds.

The highest-scoring practitioners in this report, led by Nisha Kaur Uberoi at JSA, Harman Singh Sandhu at SAM, and Avaantika Kakkar at CAM, combine strong peer reputations with instructions from a range of internation-

al and domestic clients. They reflect a competition bar that has grown in sophistication in the last decade.

Many exceptional practitioners can also be found at mid-tier and boutique firms such as Chandhiok & Mahajan, Axiom5, and Anant Law.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Nisha Kaur Uberoi

JSA Advocates & Solicitors

Reputation: 9.6 **I**nstructions: 10
Sophistication: 5.7 **E**xperience: 8.1



Harman Singh Sandhu

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:9.3 **I**:9.1 **S**:7.9 **E**:7.6



Avaantika Kakkar

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:9 **I**:9.2 **S**:7.2 **E**:9.1



Samir R Gandhi

Axiom 5

R:8.3 **I**:9.1 **S**:8.4 **E**:9.4



Karan Chandhiok

Chandhiok & Mahajan

R:8.4 **I**:9 **S**:7.6 **E**:9.5



**Ram Kumar
Poornachandran**

AZB & Partners

R:7.9 **I**:9 **S**:7.7 **E**:8.8



Yaman Verma

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:6.7 **I**:9.8 **S**:7.1 **E**:8.3



Anshuman Sakle
Khaitan & Co

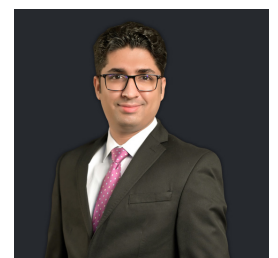
R:8.1 **I**:8.3 **S**:6.9 **E**:8.5



Rahul Rai

Axiom 5

R:6.9 **I**:8.9 **S**:7.6 **E**:9.8



Bharat Budholia

AZB & Partners

R:7.8 **I**:8.8 **S**:6.1 **E**:7.9



Naval Satarawala Chopra

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:6.9 **I**:8.2 **S**:8.3 **E**:-



Shweta Shroff Chopra

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

R:6.7 **I**:8 **S**:8.7 **E**:7.9



Hemangini Dadwal

AZB & Partners

R:6.7 **I**:8.7 **S**:6.9 **E**:8.5



Manas Kumar Chaudhuri

Khaitan & Co

R:5.9 **I**:9.1 **S**:7.7 **E**:8.5



Anisha Chand

Khaitan & Co

R:6.8 **I**:7.2 **S**:8.1 **E**:8.3



Ravisekhar Nair
Economic Laws Practice
R:6.1 I:8.5 S:6.5 E:8.5



Rudresh Singh
Trilegal
R:5.8 I:8.6 S:6.3 E:-



Vaibhav Choukse
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:5.4 I:9.3 S:5.5 E:9.8



Aparna Mehra
Trilegal
R:7.5 I:6.8 S:6.5 E:-



Deeksha Manchanda
Chandhiok & Mahajan
R:4.9 I:8.8 S:7.5 E:-



Gautam Chawla
Trilegal
R:6.3 I:7.5 S:7.1 E:-



Sonam Mathur
TT&A
R:6 I:7.7 S:8.1 E:9.3



Pranjal Prateek
Khaitan & Co
R:4.7 I:8.1 S:7.9 E:8.5



Dhruv Rajain
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:5.4 I:8 S:6.7 E:7.4



Kirthi Srinivas
AZB & Partners
R:4.4 I:9.1 S:6.5 E:8.5



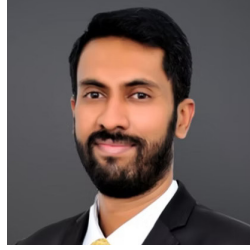
Abir Roy
Sarvada Legal
R:5.3 I:6.6 S:6.6 E:-



Rohan Arora
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:4.7 I:7.6 S:6.5 E:8.3



Gauri Chhabra
Trilegal
R:3.7 I:7.4 S:8.5 E:-



Avinash Amarnath
Chandhiok & Mahajan
R:2.5 I:8.6 S:7.1 E:8.1



Rahul Goel
AnantLaw
R:2.7 I:8.9 S:6.5 E:-



Parthsarathi Jha
Economic Laws Practice
R:3.6 I:8 S:6.3 E:7.9



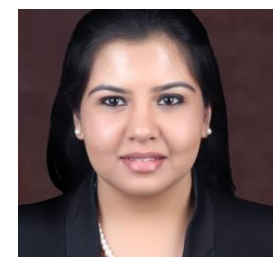
Ela Bali
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:1.7 I:9.3 S:6.1 E:-



Vijay Pratap Singh
Chauhan
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:2.7 I:8.1 S:6.4 E:8.3



Anu Monga
AnantLaw
R:2.7 I:8.9 S:5.4 E:9



Neelambra Sandeepan
Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan
R:2.6 I:7.6 S:6.3 E:-



Unnati Agrawal
CMS INDUSLAW
R:2.8 I:7.3 S:5.9 E:8.5



Simran Dhir
S&R Associates
R:3.1 I:6.8 S:6.5 E:7.9



Abhay Joshi
Economic Laws Practice
R:2.8 I:7.5 S:5.5 E:-



Gaurav Desai
Touchstone Partners
R:2.2 I:7.6 S:6.7 E:8.1



Akshat Kulshrestha
S&R Associates
R:2.3 I:7.2 S:6.7 E:-

CYBER 20

The 2026 RISE list of Indian cyber lawyers covers a range of technology and data-focused practices. Some lawyers have evolved from traditional technology, media and telecoms backgrounds, while others combine policy and legal advice or handle post-incident breaches. Despite the variety of practices represented, several individuals were frequently named as overall cyber specialists.

The 20 individuals included combine strong reputations, with high value and complex mandates over the past 12 months. Unsurprisingly, many are also leaders in using AI and new technologies within their own firms. Senior figures like Rahul Matthan at Trilegal or Stephen Mathias at Kochhar are

pioneers in tech, data and cyber law but do not feature. This list seeks to focus on 'jobbing' practitioners.

Cyber law is a rapidly growing practice area, often cited as the key risk concern for general counsel. As companies become more like software businesses, their data and cyber security needs become more complex, needing practitioners to meet these demands.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Nikhil Narendran
Trilegal

Reputation: 9.8 **I**nstructions: 9.3
Sophistication: 6.7 **E**xperience: 8.5



Mathew Chacko
Spice Route Legal
R:8.1 **I**:8.7 **S**:6.3 **E**:-



Supratim Chakraborty
Khaitan & Co
R:7 **I**:8.8 **S**:6.9 **E**:7.9



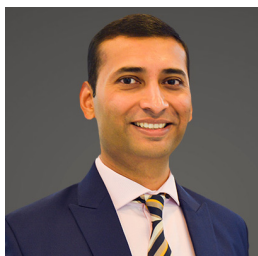
Jyotsna Jayaram
Trilegal
R:6.9 **I**:8.7 **S**:7 **E**:8.5



Arun Prabhu
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:7.2 **I**:7.5 **S**:6.8 **E**:-



Nehaa Chaudhari
Ikigai Law
R:6.3 **I**:7.9 **S**:6.8 **E**:-



Probir Roy Chowdhury
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:5.4 **I**:8.5 **S**:5.7 **E**:7.9



Sreenidhi Srinivasan
Ikigai Law
R:4.7 **I**:8.1 **S**:7.7 **E**:-



Sajai Singh
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:8.1 **I**:5.6 **S**:5.2 **E**:-



Ranjana Adhikari
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:3.3 **I**:8.5 **S**:8.3 **E**:9

FIND OUT MORE AT:
RESIGHTINDIA.COM



Jaideep Reddy
Trilegal
R:3.5 I:8.3 S:7.5 E:8.5



Akash Karmakar
Panag & Babu
R:3.2 I:9.7 S:5 E:9.3



Harsh Walia
Khaitan & Co
R:3.9 I:7.5 S:6.7 E:-



Shreya Suri
CMS INDUSLAW
R:3.1 I:8.1 S:6.2 E:-



Hemant Krishna
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:3.1 I:6.1 S:8.2 E:-



Aadya Misra
Spice Route Legal
R:3.3 I:7.1 S:5.7 E:9.8



Anirban Mohapatra
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
R:2 I:7.6 S:7.4 E:9



Namita Viswanath
CMS INDUSLAW
R:3.6 I:5.9 S:6.5 E:-



Rishi Anand
DSK Legal
R:3.3 I:3.5 S:6.1 E:8.5



Utham Chengappa
Mani Chengappa & Mathur
R:1.8 I:4 S:4.1 E:-

INFRASTRUCTURE 36

India's infrastructure lawyers operate in a market where the rules are being rewritten in real time. It calls for creativity, expansive legal expertise and pragmatism. Neeraj Menon (Trilegal) leads the list on combined RISE scores, followed by Amit Kapur (JSA) and Jatin Aneja (SAM).

The energy transition has accelerated contractual innovation. Virtual PPAs have moved from novel to mainstream in a single cycle, round the clock renewable contracts demand new approaches to risk allocation, and green hydrogen offtake agreements are often drafted alongside the regu-

latory regimes that will govern them. Financing architecture is also evolving requiring lawyers to move fluidly between project documentation and capital markets regulation. As infrastructure investment accelerates, the gap between routine execution and true structuring capability is widening.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Neeraj Menon
Trilegal
Reputation: 9.8 Instructions: 8.3
Sophistication: 7.3 Experience: 7.8



Amit Kapur
JSA Advocates & Solicitors
R:9 I:8.6 S:6.8 E:8.5



Jatin Aneja
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
R:7.6 I:8.6 S:6.7 E:-



Hemant Sahai
HSA Advocates
R:7.7 I:7.9 S:7.5 E:9.9



Nayantara Nag
Trilegal
R:7.7 I:7.8 S:7.6 E:7

**L Viswanathan**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:9.2 I:6.1 S:6.9 E:10

**Akhil Bhatnagar**
Khaitan & Co

R:5.7 I:8 S:8.5 E:8.3

**Avirup Nag**
Saraf and Partners

R:6.6 I:7.9 S:6.7 E:9.5

**Anuja Tiwari**
AZB & Partners

R:5.7 I:7.6 S:6.3 E:-

**Gahan Singh**
Khaitan & Co

R:3.5 I:8.2 S:7.5 E:9.7

**Mohit Saraf**
Saraf and Partners

R:3.9 I:7.6 S:7.9 E:9.6

**Anjan Dasgupta**
DSK Legal

R:3.8 I:8.1 S:5.5 E:9.4

**Manasvini Raj**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:1.8 I:8.7 S:7.8 E:8.5

**Dibyanshu Sinha**
Khaitan & Co

R:3.5 I:6.9 S:7.8 E:-

**Subhalakshmi Naskar**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:4.8 I:5.5 S:7.9 E:8.3

**Sangita John**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:1.8 I:8.7 S:7.1 E:-

**Surya Sreenivasan**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:1.9 I:8.4 S:7.3 E:-

**Ramanuj Kumar**

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:1.9 I:9.5 S:4.9 E:8.9

**Akshay Malhotra**
TT&A

R:2.9 I:7.7 S:6.5 E:9.3

**Aakanksha Joshi**
S&R Associates

R:4.1 I:7.4 S:4.6 E:8.5

**Soumya Malik**
HSA Advocates

R:3.1 I:7.6 S:6.1 E:8.8

**Deepak Sabharwal**
DSA Legal

R:1.9 I:8.2 S:7.1 E:8.3

**Aditya Periwal**
AZB & Partners

R:3.8 I:6.3 S:6.8 E:-

**Gunita Pahwa**
S&A Law Offices

R:2.1 I:8.4 S:6 E:-

**Pallavi Bedi**
Phoenix Legal

R:3.7 I:7.3 S:4.7 E:7.9

**Shivanshu Thaplyal**
Khaitan & Co

R:2.3 I:7.3 S:7.1 E:9.5

**Mallika Anand**
AZB & Partners

R:1.9 I:7.5 S:6.9 E:7

**Pratichi Mishra**
S&R Associates

R:1.3 I:7.6 S:7.5 E:7.6

**Ranjit Prakash**
Archeus Law

R:2 I:7.9 S:4.7 E:9.7



Amar Narula
Trilegal

R:2.6 I:5.9 S:7.1 E:-



Gayatri Shanker
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

R:1.1 I:7 S:7.4 E:-



Riyaz Bhagat
Trilegal

R:1.8 I:5.9 S:7.9 E:-



Sitara Pillai
Samvad Partners

R:1.5 I:7.2 S:4.8 E:-



Sameer Jain

PSL Advocates and Solicitors

R:2.1 I:4.8 S:7.8 E:9.7



Monali Dutta
HSA Advocates

R:1.9 I:5.6 S:6.1 E:-



Megha Agarwal
Khaitan & Co

R:2.3 I:4.3 S:6.8 E:9.3

INTERNATIONAL TRADE 17

Business is in an unusually demanding moment, with FTA implementation, novel sanctions exposure and CBAM obligations arriving simultaneously.

Several RISE lawyers advise the Government of India directly on FTA negotiations and WTO disputes, giving them a dual role that is rare in any market: shaping the regulatory environment that their private clients must then navigate.

What further distinguishes this RISE list is the technical depth the practice demands — serious trade remedy work requires economic analysis, data reconciliation and WTO jurispru-

dence alongside legal advocacy. Practitioners are now asked to advise on new issues such as drafting trade contracts with contingency provisions for tariff surges and sanctions events; calculating carbon footprints for CBAM compliance; and building continuous dumping-margin monitoring systems for clients who want to identify exposure pre-investigations.

Scores reflect performance across more than 20 indicators aggregated into the four RISE components: Reputation, Instructions, Sophistication and Experience. For a full methodology and to see how individual scores are calculated, go to page 18 or visit resightindia.com.



Sanjay Notani
Economic Laws Practice

Reputation: 9.3 **I**nstructions: 9.8
Sophistication: 7.2 **E**xperience: 8.5



V. Lakshmikumar

Lakshmikumar & Sridharan

R:8.5 I:10 S:7.9 E:8.5



Devinder Bagia

Lakshmikumar & Sridharan

R:7.5 I:9.5 S:5.9 E:9.2



Dhruv Gupta
Trilegal

R:6.4 I:8.9 S:7.5 E:7.2



Parthasarathi Jha
Economic Laws Practice

R:7 I:8.5 S:6.3 E:7.9



Atul Sharma
Sarvada Legal

R:6 I:9.1 S:5.7 E:-



Reena Khair
Kochhar & Co

R:4.1 I:8.5 S:6.7 E:-



Seetharaman Sampath
Sarvada Legal

R:4.1 I:9.1 S:4.7 E:-



Ankur Sharma

Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan

R:3.3 I:9.2 S:6 E:6.8



Anuradha R V
Clarus Law Associates

R:3.4 I:8.9 S:6 E:-



Ashish Chandra
DSK Legal

R:3.2 I:8.6 S:5.2 E:8.1



Ayush Mehrotra
Khaitan & Co

R:1.9 I:8.4 S:8 E:8.3



Mayank Jain
Khaitan & Co

R:2.2 I:7.8 S:6.6 E:8.5



Anu Monga
AnantLaw

R:2.1 I:8.6 S:5.4 E:9



Ajinkya Gunjan Mishra
S&R Associates

R:2.4 I:7.6 S:6.5 E:8.5



Rajat Agarwal
VERTICES PARTNERS

R:1.3 I:8.3 S:6.6 E:8.1



Udayan Choksi
Veritas Legal

R:0.9 I:7.5 S:5.9 E:8.1

**TURN OVER FOR
METHODOLOGY**

THE RISE METHODOLOGY

What is RISE?

RSGI has developed a new methodology to assess, rate and rank individual lawyers across any legal specialism. It is called RISE.

RISE is a proprietary methodology that assesses the qualities that currently define exceptional practitioners and will continue to separate them from their peers. It also captures what clients look for in their external counsel and will be regularly updated.

The indicators are:

- Reputation in the market, consisting of four sub-indicators: peer and client recommendations, directory recognition, and news and media profile;
- Instructions, analysing the quality of their client base, and the complexity, volume and value of their work;
- Sophistication of their approach to the business of law, including use of AI, technology and data, pricing models and talent development of their teams;
- Experience: how their clients rate the experience of using them, including scores for their EQ, strategic thinking and network.

Why India, Why Now?

India's legal market is at an inflection point. Across arbitration, capital markets, competition, cyber, infrastructure, international trade and private capital, the past eighteen months have brought genuine legal change, not just market activity. New legislation, bilateral trade agreements, novel sanctions exposure, a wave of domestic listings and an approaching data protection regime are collectively reshaping what lawyers are being asked to do and how they do it. Rating practitioners at this moment captures something more

meaningful than reputation alone: it reflects who has adapted, who is leading, and who is best placed to advise clients through what comes next.

Who are we rating?

This research identifies leading practitioners across seven practice areas in the Indian legal market – arbitration, capital markets, competition, cyber, infrastructure, international trade and private capital – based on measurable performance between July 2024 and January 2026.

RSGI researchers conducted more than 300 qualitative interviews with practitioners and clients over six months. Each interview explored recent instructions, client relationships, use of technology and data, and what differentiated the lawyer's practice. Lawyers also shared information on their work and clients over the past 12 months. Scores were assigned to more than 20 individual indicators before being aggregated into the overall RISE rating scores.

The lists that follow are the result. They are not simply a record of who is well known. Several highly regarded senior figures do not appear because the assessment considers activity over the preceding 12 months. Others appear who may be less visible in traditional directories but whose instructions, client relationships and approach to practice mark them out as leaders for this moment.

To be included in the lists, lawyers must have conducted an interview with RSGI and shared requested information on recent clients and work.

The RISE philosophy

Some of the ratings may be surprising as they combine quantitative and qualitative intelligence. For example, lawyers with strong reputations might have a lower score overall because the RISE rating also includes an instruc-

tion score, which captures how busy lawyers have been over the past year.

RISE is also a forward-looking methodology. The 'sophistication' indicator tracks partner traits that are increasingly important in an AI-enabled world and arguably will become as critical as technical legal skill. These are the ability to combine technology and human skills, to leverage proprietary data and to create custom tools, along with the ability to lead, mentor and develop a team. The 'experience' indicator tracks how the business of law is transitioning from law firms that offer services to ones that offer 'experiences'. This indicator looks at how clients feel about the experience of working with their lawyers: what are their EQ skills like? How strategic are they as thinkers? How well networked?

We believe the RISE rating will become a key component in how partners assess themselves and their teams, becoming a tool that can drive performance. For clients, the RISE rating can help them track and keep up to date with the external counsel they know and those they see on the other side of deals – and, ultimately, help them decide whom to instruct.

Find out more

The full list of RISE rated lawyers, including profiles and a breakdown of the 20 indicators used to compile the RISE rating are featured on Resight India and in the RISE microsite. The RISE microsite comparative tools which allow users to explore and compare individuals on each of the component metrics. Both are available to Resight India subscribers. You can find out how to subscribe by emailing resightindia@rsgi.co or at resightindia.com.

RE Legal
Intelligence
Revisited
SIGHT

Harvey

Practice
Made
Perfect

AI Tailored for Law



AI Is More Than A Mandate —It's Your *Reputation*

The world's most trusted legal tech provider among the G200 is now the most awarded legal AI in the market.

Meet Lito

Drafting, compare, contract review and workflows, knowledge and experience management, recruitment and compliance, marketing, CRM, business development, and more.

Native Integration with Microsoft

Embedded directly in Outlook, Word,
Web, and Apple iOS



INNER CIRCLE
FOR MICROSOFT AI BUSINESS SOLUTIONS



30+ Years of Legal Expertise

Skills and intelligence informed
by decades of legal innovation and
your trusted Litera solutions



Enterprise-Grade Security

Built on Litera's secure infrastructure
with strict data governance



Best in Large
Language Models



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Solution of the Year



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