



Ishan Khanna

Counsel

NCR

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Practices

Dispute Resolution
White Collar Crime

Education

B.A. LL.B (Hons.),
Hidayatullah National Law
University, Raipur

Professional Affiliation/s

Bar Council of India

Ishan is a Counsel in the Dispute Resolution/White Collar Crime practice group in the NCR office. Ishan specializes in white collar criminal law defence and advisory; he also regularly advises and represents clients in civil and commercial disputes. Ishan has represented clients in criminal trials and other proceedings, stemming from offences under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 / Indian Penal Code, 1860 ('IPC'), the Information Technology Act, 2000 ('IT Act'), the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 ('POCA'), the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, and the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act ('PBPT Act'), amongst others. Ishan regularly hand-holds and represents clients in criminal investigations initiated by law enforcement, for alleged violations under the aforementioned statutes.

In matters relating to the cyber space, Ishan has advised various intermediaries on their compliances under the IT Act and the Rules/Guidelines formulated thereunder. He has also advised clients on their possible exposure to criminal liability under IT laws and in cases where the clients seek to prosecute third parties for cyber offences.

On the quasi-criminal side, Ishan has represented clients to oppose attachment of their assets before the Adjudicating Authority and Appellate Tribunal under the PMLA, the Adjudicating Authority under PBPT Act, proceedings before High Courts seeking quashing of freezing orders passed under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and several other matters.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

In his areas of expertise, Ishan has advised and represented on the following recent matters:

White Collar Crimes

CBI and ED Proceedings (Domestic implication):

- Jagran Solutions (a unit of Jagran Prakashan Limited) in bail proceedings pertaining to the offence of money laundering, arising

Recognitions & Accomplishments

Recommended Lawyer
(White-Collar Crime) by
Legal 500;

30 under 30 Lawyers in the
year 2023 by BW Legal
World

out of the infamous NRHM scam in Uttar Pradesh. Obtained bail for the client;

- **Jag ran Solutions (a unit of Jagran Prakashan Limited)** in a trial pertaining to the offence of cheating arising out of the infamous NRHM scam in Uttar Pradesh. Also challenged trial proceedings before Allahabad High Court;
- **Jayaswal Neco Industries Ltd.** and its directors in prosecution by the CBI pertaining to the infamous Coal Block Allocation Scam;
- **International Jewellery Chain & Investment Companies** in proceedings arising out of attachment of properties under PMLA. The said proceedings arise out of money laundering allegations in the PNB Scam of 2018; and
- **An Investment Company** in relation to in the Aircel-Maxis Scam qua proceedings for attachment of properties under the PMLA.

Matters under Information Technology Act, 2000

- **One 97 Communications Limited (Paytm)** in proceedings stemming from an FIR alleging illegal advertisement of gaming platforms;
- **Meta Platforms Inc. (Facebook/Whatsapp)** in various proceedings before Indian Courts, where Meta was summoned for data disclosure;
- **Coda Payments India Private Limited** in relation to ED proceedings launched against the client basis a slew of FIRs registered in Hyderabad for purported commission of offences under the IT Act;
- **Advised a major international mobile company** on proceedings launched by the CERT-IN (under the Information Technology Act) for an alleged international breach of the company's user data;
- **Match Group LLC (Tinder)** in relation to criminal proceedings initiated by a customer for cheating/fraud/cyber crime;
- **Advised a Fortune 500 leading IT Company** on a Show Cause Notice issued by ED for alleged non-compliance with directions for interception of user data under the IT Act;
- **Advised a major international mobile company** on proceedings launched by the CERT-IN (under the Information Technology Act) for an alleged international breach of the company's user data;
- **Advised Telegram FZ LLC and Microsoft India** in responding to notices for information received from law enforcement agencies in multiple cases. Also appeared before law enforcement agencies to assist with the client's cooperation with the investigation;
- **Advised Microsoft India** in a case relating to theft of identity of the client by offending third-parties;

- **Advised Global Payments Asia-Pacific India Private Limited** and filed criminal complaints against two entities engaging in credit card fraud;
- **Advised QE Securities LLP** and prepared and filed a criminal complaint on its behalf against an ex-employee who deliberately damaged the source code of the client's internal software;
- **Advised Lal Path Labs** and prepared and filed criminal complaints in multiple cases of data theft;
- **Advised Johnson and Johnson Private Limited** in a case where a fake online account of a senior official of the client was being illegally operated. Prepared and filed criminal complaint in the said case; and
- **Advised Shopee.in** in relation to criminal proceedings launched against them for alleged offences under the IT Act.

White Collar matters of domestic implication

- **Westlife Development Limited (McDonald's India)** in proceedings under the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988. Advised the client at the stage of investigation, and successfully represented it before the PBPT Tribunal and Appellate Tribunal;
- **Instakart Services Private Limited** in proceedings for anticipatory bail for seven officials, in investigation launched under the GST Act, 2017. Successfully obtained anticipatory bail for all officials;
- **Synthimed Labs Private Limited** in criminal proceedings under the NDPS Act, 1985, stemming from alleged violation of the Controlled Substances Order issued under the NDPS Act. Successfully challenged the criminal proceedings before the Punjab and Haryana High Court;
- **Inox Air Products** in an SLP challenging criminal prosecution under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. Successfully obtained a quashing of all proceedings;
- **Inox Leisure Limited** successfully in proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh, for quashing prosecution initiated under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 against the Directors of the Company;
- **Inox Leisure Limited** in defamation proceedings before the trial Court and quashing proceedings before the Delhi High Court, arising out of a criminal complaint filed by the shoe brand Bata, against statements made in the movie Jolly LLB 2;
- **Inox Leisure Limited** successfully in proceedings challenging FIR registered under the Telangana Cinemas (Regulation) Act, 1955;
- **Siemens Healthcare Private Limited** in a writ impugning proceedings before the Local Complaints Committee under the POSH Act, 2013. Obtained stay on LCC proceedings;

- **Greenlam Industries Limited** in Anticipatory Bail proceedings for its marketing head arising out of an FIR against the company for allegedly hurting cultural sentiments. Successfully obtained anticipatory bail for the client;
- **Pearl Academy** in opposing a revision petition by a complainant seeking registration of FIR against the client for alleged cheating;
- **Flipkart Internet Private Limited** in proceedings before Punjab and Haryana High Court, challenging criminal proceedings under Section 295-A, IPC (offending religious sentiments). Obtained stay on investigation under FIR;
- **Siemens Limited** in relation to various matters before the Punjab and Haryana High Court, District Court(s) qua various criminal and civil disputes;
- **Mr Chand Ratan Agarwal**, in attachment proceedings before the PMLA Adjudicating Authority, in an ECIR qua the INX Media case;
- **Asian Paints Limited** before the Bombay High Court, in a challenge to issuance of process by the Trial Court for alleged offences under the Maharashtra Mathadi, Hamal and Other Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) Act, 1969;
- **Ceasefire Industries Private Limited** in prosecution for alleged violation of guidelines/rules to prevent spread of COVID-19; and
- **A private client** in an SLP arising out of proceedings for eviction of the client from its property, under Section 145 of the CrPC. Successfully obtained a favourable judgment from the Supreme Court and the SLP of the opposite party was dismissed.

Internal Investigation(s) and Due Diligence(s)

- **A major international medical products brand** in internal investigation for alleged kickbacks received by its employees from external vendors;
- **A major investment company** in a due diligence to understand risk exposure of the ongoing ED and CBI proceedings against an entity which the client was seeking to invest in; and
- **A major investment company** in a due diligence to understand risk exposure in acquiring land which had been investigated as 'proceeds of crime' by the ED under PMLA.

Corporate and Commercial Disputes

- **Bergen Engines India Private Limited** successfully in an arbitration for recovery of outstanding dues related to a Services Agreement;
- **Fernas Construction India Private Limited** in an ongoing domestic arbitration related to claims arising out of non-payment of dues, for performance of an EPC Contract;

- **Ratnagiri Gas and Power Private Limited** in domestic arbitration initiated for non-performance of terms of an EPC Contract;
- **H-D Motor Company India Private Limited** in connection with various ongoing commercial & consumer disputes;
- **Asian Paints Limited** before the Bombay High Court, in a challenge to demand letters issued under the Maharashtra Mathadi, Hamal and Other Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) Act, 1969, directing the client to deposit allegedly outstanding levy/wages; and
- **Siemens Healthcare Private Limited** in relation to compliances under the E-Waste Management Rules, 2016, Stamp Duty and Customs.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Ishan has authored the following contributions:

- **Zero FIR in Cyber Offences: A Welcome Step by the MHA to Expedite Action Against Cyber Crime** published by Mondaq in May 2025;
- **'On the Resurrection of Retrospective Proceedings under Benami Law'** published by the Quint in October 2024;
- **'Rana Kapoor Bail: HC Order is Welcome, But PMLA's Twin Conditions Still an Issue'** published by the Quint in February 2023;
- **'The PMLA Judgment and How It Allows ED To Give Fundamental Rights a Skip'** published by the Quint in August 2022;
- **'Satyendar Jain's Arrest Yet Again Raises Questions About ED's Role and Approach'** published by the Quint in June 2022;
- **'Specific Liability of E-Commerce Entities under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019'** published by Mondaq in August 2022; and
- **'Anomalies in extra territorial jurisdiction for cyber crimes in India'** published by Lexology in August 2021.