



## Pranjal Prateek

Partner

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### Practice:

Competition / Antitrust

### Education:

B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), Gujarat  
National Law University (2012)

### Professional Affiliations:

Bar Council of Delhi  
Delhi High Court Bar Association

Pranjal Prateek is a Partner in the Competition/Antitrust practice group in the NCR office.

Pranjal has been involved in many of the high-stakes merger control and enforcement competition / antitrust matters over the years. He is well recognised for his work and features as a ranked lawyer in several independent international research.

As part of training, education and awareness initiatives, he regularly conducts sessions with corporates, think tanks and law schools. Pranjal was also attached with the regulator, Competition Commission of India, as an intern in its early days of enforcement.

### Representative Matters:

In his areas of expertise, Pranjal has represented and advised the following clients:

#### Merger Control and Gun Jumping

- **Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd, Honda Motor Co., Ltd., Keihin Corporation, Nissin Kogyo Co., Ltd. and Showa Corporation** on their combination, creating an important auto parts conglomerate;
- **Toyota Motor Corporation** on its cross-shareholding transaction with Suzuki Motor Corporation, the largest passenger car manufacturer in India;
- **IHH Healthcare Berhad** on its acquisition of Fortis Hospitals which was arguably the first large and substantive hospitals merger in India;
- **STX Filmworks. Inc.** on its merger with Eros International plc, creating a global film and music production and licensing brand;
- **Manipal Health Enterprises Private Limited** on its acquisition of Columbia Asia Hospitals;
- **Eli Lilly and Company** in securing an important precedent setting win at the appellate level against a gun jumping penalty imposed on it for not notifying an acquisition involving a transfer of Novartis India's animal business;



- **Berger Paints India Limited and Berger Nippon Paint Automotive Coatings** on successfully defending a gun jumping claim in relation to transfer of assets to a joint venture with Nippon Paint; and
- **FMC Technologies Inc. and Technip SA** in securing an approval for the merger and their offerings of complementary products services for Oil & Gas sector, including sub-sea production and processing systems.

#### Antitrust Enforcement

- **Schaeffler AG and Schaeffler India Limited** in filing a leniency application before the CCI that ultimately led to no penalty being imposed;
- **Shree Cement Limited** in two separate appeals against the finding of a cartel and bid rigging at the appellate stage;
- **InterGlobe Aviation Limited (IndiGo Airlines)** in defending two separate cartel cases at the CCI and the appellate stage, respectively;
- **Intas Pharmaceuticals Limited** in an appeal against finding of an anti-competitive agreement by the CCI;
- **Ministry of Railways and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation** in successfully defending against alleged abuse of dominant position for ticket pricing;
- **GAIL (India) Limited** in successfully defending abuse of dominant position in gas supply and opposing an appeal filed by several parties in relation to a closure of the inquiry by the CCI;
- **Adidas AG** before the erstwhile COMPAT and the Supreme Court of India in relation to an allegation of abuse of dominant position;
- A **giant beverage corporation** on designing competition compliant business policies;
- **One of the world's foremost alcoholic beverages corporation** and its Indian subsidiaries in an ongoing confidential investigation; and
- **Several large Japanese automotive components manufacturers** in relation to on-going confidential investigations.

#### **Publications and Presentations:**

Pranjal has authored the following contributions:

- **"The CCI's power to issue interim relief: Lost in the interim?"** published by Bar and Bench (November 2020)
- **"Corona crisis: CCI intervention should be slow and calibrated to check prices"** published by PSU Watch (May 2020);



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- **"Parallel Behaviour and Agreement: Where is the Dividing Line?"**, Manupatra Competition Law Reports (May-June 2011);
- **"Three Years of Cartel Enforcement in India: What do the Chai Leaves Tell us?"**, ABA Antitrust Section E-Bulletin (December 2012);
- **"Let the Whistle blow loud and clear: Need for greater transparency and certainty in the Leniency Programme"**, published by the Competition Commission of India (February 2011);
- **Indian chapter on International Public Procurement, Center for International Legal Studies** published by Thomson Reuters Westlaw (May 2018); and
- **India Chapter for the Public Competition Enforcement Review** (2015 and 2016).

### **Recognitions and Accomplishments:**

Pranjal has been acknowledged for his experience and expertise by:

- **Chambers Global** as "Associates to Watch Out For" in 2020;
- **Legal500** as a "Rising Star" in 2020; and
- **Who's Who Legal** as "Future Leader" in 2019 and 2020.