



<u>Surname, First name</u>	Mahendra, Vikas
<u>Address</u>	Keystone Partners, 2 nd Floor, 35/2 Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560045
<u>Telephone</u>	+91 9742223707
<u>Fax</u>	+91 80 4113 5813
<u>Email</u>	vikas.mahendra@keystone.law
<u>Nationality/ Date of Birth</u>	Indian/28 March 1986

Educational/Professional Memberships

Advocate, India
Admitted as a Solicitor, England & Wales
Member, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators;
Reserve Panel of Arbitrators, SIAC; List of Arbitrators, HKIAC
LLM (EMLE) – 1st Rank, Best Thesis; B.A. LL.B [Hons.] (NLSIU) – Best All-Round Graduating Student

Current Position

Partner, Keystone Partners

Professional Experience

Vikas Mahendra is a specialist arbitration practitioner with extensive experience acting as counsel in investment treaty and commercial arbitrations, both ad hoc and institutional, in India, South-East Asia, Central America, Africa, Europe and UK conducted under the UNCITRAL, ICC, SIAC, LCIA and the ICA rules of arbitration and the Indian Arbitration and Conciliation Act. He has acted for several market leaders in disputes relating to construction of power plants, water treatment plants, coal handling facilities, highways, dams, urban metro-rail lines, multi-purpose developments etc. Before joining Keystone Partners, he worked for over six years in the arbitration and litigation department in Herbert Smith Freehills' London, Paris and Singapore offices. He is among the handful of arbitration practitioners from India chosen to receive training to act as an Arbitrator, as part of the ICC Asia Advanced Arbitration Academy.

Vikas is regularly invited to speak and moderate conferences on arbitration, alternate dispute resolution and online dispute resolution organised by institutions such as the ICC, LCIA, SIAC, MCIA, CIArb, NITI Aayog, and Agami. He is presently appointed to a Sub-Committee formed by the Department of Justice, Government of India to suggest measures to improve e-Court Services in India. He has previously assisted the High-Level Committee constituted by the Government of India to review institutionalization of arbitration in India. He is also regularly invited by NITI Aayog, the policy think-tank of the Government of India, to consult on a number of reform measures in the field of arbitration and dispute resolution.

Vikas is a Visiting Faculty at the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru where he regularly teaches a course on Practice of International Commercial Arbitration. He also regularly delivers Guest Lectures on arbitration related topics at various Universities both in India and outside. Vikas is also the Co-Founder of Centre for Online Resolution of Disputes (CORD) which aims to provide access to affordable resolution mechanisms using technological aids.

Arbitration Experience

International Arbitration

- Acted for a Chinese EPC Contractor in arbitration proceeding under the ICC rules in a dispute valued at over US\$ 2 billion arising out of the construction of a power plant in Central America.
- Acted for a global mining company in parallel but related arbitration proceedings under the ICC rules and the SIAC rules against Indonesian counterparties in disputes valued at over US\$ 1 billion arising out of the allocation and use of mining rights in Indonesia.
- Advising a major energy provider in connection with proposed Singapore seated SIAC arbitration proceedings against a public company listed in Australia.
- Representing a large renewable energy company in disputes initiated by its shareholders and investors in proceedings before the LCIA, India.
- Successfully represented a major equipment manufacturer in connection with disputes arising out of the

supply and installation of various machinery for a thermal power plant in Syria.

- Representing a Mauritius Company seeking to enforce an arbitral award of US\$ 120 million rendered in Mauritius, before the High Court of Bangalore
- Acted for a global mining company in arbitration proceedings under the ICC rules in a dispute valued at over US\$ 100 million arising out of the construction of a mining facility in West Africa.
- Acted for a major global bank in arbitration proceedings under the SIAC rules and subsequent enforcement actions in Singapore and Indonesia, arising out of disputes relating to non-payment under derivative transactions valued at over US\$ 50 million.
- Acted for a Singaporean commodity trading company in two arbitration proceedings under the SIAC rules cumulatively valued at over US\$ 10 million relating to the sale of coal.
- Acted for an Indonesian mining company in arbitration proceedings under the LCIA rules against a Chinese buyer in a dispute valued at over US\$ 5 million relating to the sale of coal.
- Acted for a German manufacturer in defending against multiple proceedings initiated in India seeking to restrain arbitration proceedings under the Swiss Arbitration Rules in Zurich.

Domestic Arbitration

- Acted for one faction of promoter shareholders in arbitration proceedings under the SIAC rules in a shareholder dispute valued at over INR 250 crores (c. US\$ 35 million).
- Acted for a major construction company in arbitration proceedings under the SIAC rules valued at over INR 800 crores arising out of the construction of a five-star hotel (c. US\$ 110 million).
- Acting for a major construction company in ad hoc arbitration proceedings valued at over INR 120 crore arising out of the construction of a nuclear facility (c. US\$ 20 million).
- Acting for an EPC contractor in ad hoc arbitration proceedings against a public-sector undertaking, valued at over INR 400 crore and INR 200 crore, arising out of the construction of a thermal power plant in Madhya Pradesh (c. US\$ 40 million).
- Acting for an EPC contractor in ad hoc arbitration proceedings against a public-sector undertaking, valued at over INR 400 crore, arising out of the construction of a thermal power plant in Karnataka (c. US\$ 70 million).
- Acting for a property developer in arbitration proceedings arising out of a joint development agreement relating to the development of a residential project in Bengaluru valued at over INR 150 crore (c. US\$ 25 million).
- Acting for a major construction company in ad hoc arbitration proceedings valued at over INR 150 crores (c. US\$ 25 million) arising out of the construction of a mixed development project.
- Acting for a major software developer in ad hoc arbitration proceedings arising out of a dispute relating to the development of a mobile application.
- Acting for a partner in a partnership firm in arbitration under the rules of the Bengaluru Arbitration Centre arising out of a dispute pertaining to the reconciliation of accounts.

Recognition

- Future Leader (Construction), Who's Who Legal (2021)
- Next Generation Partner, Legal 500 (2021)
- Future Star, Benchmark Litigation (2021)
- Winner, Young Achiever, Lawyer of the Year Award, IDEX Legal (2021)

Publications

- Co-author, 'Multi Party and Multi-Contract Arbitration', *Arbitration in India*, Wolters Kluwer (2021).
- Co-author, 'Interim Relief', *Arbitration in Singapore*, Sweet & Maxwell (2014).
- Regularly publish articles on arbitration related topics on Bar & Bench (India)
- Regularly publish blog posts on arbitration related topics on Kluwer Arbitration Blog.

Languages

English, Hindi, Kannada