

Ankur Raheja [LLB • FCS • MCA • B.Com (H)]

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CURRENT ROLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Lawyer and domain name consultant (<i>since February 2005</i>)➤ Owner at Cylaw Solutions, specializing in IT/IPR Laws (<i>since 2013</i>)➤ Domain Dispute Arbitrator with NIXI, MEITY (<i>Nov. 2014 till Nov. 2020</i>)➤ Domain URS Examiner with MFSD, Italy (<i>since September 2016</i>)➤ Domain Dispute Panelist with ADNDRC, Hong Kong (<i>since April 2016</i>)➤ Guest Faculty/Speaker for Domain/IT Law at ICSI, CBI & Conferences
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Masters in Computer Appl. from Maharishi Dayanand Univ. in 2007➤ Oracle Certification from Oracle University in 2004➤ Bachelors of Law from Delhi University in 2004➤ Company Secretary course from ICSI in 2001-02➤ Bachelor of Commerce (Honors) from Delhi University in 1998
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ As a Practicing Advocate with Bar Council of Delhi since Feb 2005➤ Fellow Member of Institute of Company Secretaries of India since April 2004

My credentials include law practice over 18 years backed by a strong academic background that includes a Master's degree in Computers, a Company Secretaryship and a Bachelor of Law, which provides me with an edge based on my in-depth understanding of the techno-legal domain.

Being in legal practice since 2005, I provide consultancy in matters relating to Domain Name Disputes, Trademarks and Cyber Laws including Cyber Law Compliance, Cyber Crime Advisory, Online IPR issues, Cyber Defamation, etc. I have also helped enforcement agencies in Cybercrime Investigation and Cyber Law awareness.

In 2014-2020, as a ".IN" Domain Dispute Panelist / Arbitrator at ".IN" Registry, I have presided over as a Sole Arbitrator in 29 INDRP matters. In 2016, I was placed as a URS Examiner with MSFD, Italy and a Domain Dispute Panelist with ADNDRC, Hong Kong. Particularly in the domain disputes field, I hold distinctive records in handling UDRP matters as a Lawyer, with wins against Kalyan Jewellers, Puma, Vogue, Bennett Coleman & Co, Naturals, and more. Otherwise, I also handle the Domain Dispute Complaints on behalf of the trademark/business owners.

I am a member of ISOC - Delhi Chapter and participated as a member of the ICANN's Working Group on the replacement of WHOIS policy with Registration Directory Service (RDS) and Review of all Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in all gTLDs. I attended the ICANN Meeting in 2016 in Hyderabad and ICANN75 in Malaysia in September 2022.

Since August 2021, working as an Editor for a UDRP digest issued by the Internet Commerce Association (ICA), USA. The same is issued on a weekly basis to the international community.

A. IPR & Domain Name Disputes

- Presided as an Arbitrator over 29 .IN Domain Dispute matters under INDRP policy in the matters involving Jaguarlandrover.co.in (Jan '15 - the first decision), Huntnews.in (Jul '16 - longest INDRP decision ever that runs into over 100 pages, plus annexures), Tickets.in (March 2020 - second RDNH decision under INDRP).
- The INDRP decisions in the matter of Tickets.in (Denied) and HuntNews.in (Transfer) require special mention as the decision was technically analyzed, when the Complainant and Respondent tried to provide different facts and manipulate the evidence respectively.
- I handle UDRP / INDRP matters frequently both for Complainants (*Trademark Owners*) and Respondents (*Domain Owners*). The recent Complaints handled were in the matter of IceMadeEasy.com; SpaceFalcon.com; Electotherm.in and more.
- Mediated numerous matters between the clients and the Trademark holders claiming rights to the Domain Names and successfully resolved matters amicably. Also helped clients **file for an injunction** within 10 days time against the transfer of Domain Name ordered in a UDRP decision in Indian courts, based upon the location of the Domain Registrars.
- Help clients with Trademark registrations on a regular basis and also advise as to the selection of brand names carefully after analyzing previous registered Trademarks and famous brands. Some of the most recent trademark registrations include Startup Cafe (wordmark), SEOKart (wordmark), DeskMoz (wordmark), BookMyColleges.com, V2Technosys (wordmark), Moneynomical (wordmark), Knowledge Cafe (wordmark) and more.

B. Other Cyberlaw Experience

- Advising in terms of various compliances under the Information Technology Act & Rules thereunder including Intermediary compliances, good security practices, drafting of website policies including Terms of Use, Disclaimer & Privacy Policy, the appointment of Grievance Officers, and so on.
- Carried cyber-crime investigations for clients including Cyber Defamation matters involving websites operated under false WHOIS information including tracking down of real owners through extensive online investigation. On occasions, it included working with local enforcement agencies and suspension of domain names.

C. Research Experience

- Online legal research and updates to website CyberLawTimes.com (more actively during 2006-11) including issue of monthly cyberlaw newsletter.
- Researched and represented the interest of Indian domain & hosting companies on the subject of uniform service tax treatment at par with companies operating from out of India, specifically in relation to reverse charges under Service Tax Law on Domain Names and Hosting, purchased from abroad in 2014.
- Even the preparation of a UDRP response involves a huge amount of legal research.

D. Other Legal Experience:

- Have experience in the legal field handling legal vetting and drafting of Corporate, Commercial and technology agreements, Memorandum of Understanding, Deeds, Trademark/Copyrights and Litigation, mainly for Technology Companies including Guava Softs Pvt Ltd / Email.biz.
- Represented clients in various other litigation matters at District Courts in cyber matters like Defamation, Blocking of Websites, Injunction and in Consumer Courts against DELL (reported by Economic Times - Delhi on 3 August 2009), High Technology Solutions (for use of Pirated SAP software), Panasonic, Hyundai, Citibank, Reliance Communications (including application U/s 340 Cr. PC), Living Media India, SIFY, etc.
- In 2006, won a consumer case against SIFY Broadband (Ankur Raheja V SIFY Broadband) for Technical Deficiency in Service, **published in Times Of India** (dated 5 December 2006 on Pg. 3), quoted as “it is for the first time technical deficiency in service... has been taken on record by a court”. Also covered by other leading newspapers Hindu, Telegraph, Today, PTI and numerous websites during Nov-Dec 2006. The said decision used to be a part of the course content at ASCL, Pune.
- Have taken sessions on IT/IPR Law at CBI Academy, WordCamp and other WordPress Meets and on Domain Name Disputes, at ICSI Regional Chapter (2021) and other domain name conferences.
- Addressed social issues linked to Cybercrime and consumer protection including helping the victims of fraud e-commerce websites and transactions, defamation, affected by Social Media posts, profile hacking/personation issues, etc.

E. Certificate Courses

- Attending an online course organized by ICANN - “Shaping the Internet: History and Futures” (2015).
- Completed Certification in Cyber Crime Investigation by ASCL (2009).
- And have completed more cyber law and IPR courses.

F. As a Volunteer:

- Volunteer at Art Of Living, India.
- ICANN working groups & related activities.

(Ankur Raheja)

Date: 20 November 2023

Place: Agra, India