



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Verma
Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

Independent Mediator & Arbitrator

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Justice Verma's career in law spans over four decades and combines extensive practice at the bar and distinguished service in Indian judiciary. In the year 2012, he retired as Judge of the Supreme Court of India and now acts as an independent mediator and arbitrator in domestic and international disputes as well as an expert on matters of Indian law before foreign courts and international tribunals. His legal opinion is regularly sought by leading national and international law firms and global corporations on complex legal situations relating to various areas of law such as arbitration, banking and finance, constitutional law, corporate law and governance, criminal law including extradition laws, insolvency, insurance, securities law, trusts and taxation etc. He has also acted as the inquiry authority and overseen internal investigations for several multinational corporations and banking and financial institutions.

Professional Experience

Bar & Bench

1972-2012

After completing his bachelor's degree in law and humanities, he was admitted to the bar in the year 1972 and started practicing predominantly before the High Court of Madhya Pradesh under the tutelage and mentorship of his father late Shri R.P. Verma, who was a distinguished lawyer of his time. As a lead counsel, he was often instructed by renowned law firms in complex and challenging disputes before the trial and appellate courts. He practiced as an advocate until his elevation as a Judge of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh in the year 1994. He was appointed as the Administrative Judge of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh in 2005. During this period, he also served as the Welfare Commissioner for the victims of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. In 2008, he was transferred to the High Court of Karnataka as the senior most judge on the bench and served as the Acting Chief Justice until his appointment as the Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court. Thereafter, from 2009 to 2012, he served as Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

As an appellate court judge from 1994 to 2012, he was involved in several hundred judgements both as a judge in three different High Courts and the Supreme Court of India in matters concerning administrative law, arbitration law, criminal law, constitutional law, insurance law, family law, company law, service law, taxation etc.

Post retirement, he has acted as an arbitrator and an expert witness in over 100 domestic and international arbitrations seated in India, Singapore, London and Paris under both *ad hoc* (UNCITRAL, Indian Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996) and institutional arbitration rules (ICC, LCIA, SIAC, ICA, DIAC, ICADR, etc.). As an arbitrator, he has rendered award in over 70 complex arbitrations under India law, English law, Singapore law etc. with claims in dispute valued in several billion dollars. He has considerable experience in disputes pertaining to Aviation, Construction & Projects, Energy (Natural Resources, Renewable and Non-Renewable), Oil & Gas, Real Estate, Infrastructure, Insurance & Reinsurance, International Trade and Commerce, Maritime/Shipping, Joint Ventures & Shareholders Agreements etc.

He has rendered expert opinions on multiple occasions before International Arbitral Tribunals, Courts in New York and Washington D.C., Senior Courts of England & Wales, INTERPOL, and also before the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague on behalf of a European State in an inter-state arbitration under Annex VII of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). He has also acted as Mediator & Conciliator in several high-stake commercial disputes.

Total Arbitrator Appointments: 134

- Sole Arbitrator: 31
- Chair/Presiding Arbitrator: 33
- Co-Arbitrator: 70

Professional Memberships/Empanelment

- Arbitration Centre, Karnataka High Court, Bangalore
- Bangalore International Mediation, Arbitration & Conciliation Centre (Vice Chairman & Executive Board- Arbitration)
- Centre for Arbitration & Consultancy Development
- Centre for Mediation and Conciliation, Bombay Chamber of Commerce
- Delhi International Arbitration Centre
- DIFC- LCIA Arbitration Centre, Dubai
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre- Panel of Arbitrators
- Indian Council of Arbitration, New Delhi
- International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi
- London Court of International Arbitration, London
- Pacific International Arbitration Centre, Vietnam
- SCOPE Forum of Conciliation and Arbitration, New Delhi

Other Appointments

- Ombudsman: Delhi & District Cricket Association (2020-Present)
- Chairman: Justice Deepak Verma Committee constituted by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh in a Public Interest Litigation (2018).
- Chairman: Three Member High Level Committee of the All India Tennis Association (AITA)- 2013.

Academic Interests & Publication

He regularly speaks in academic and industry conferences and has published articles covering various areas of law. He is also the co-author of the leading commentary on Indian Civil Procedure Code, Mulla, 19th Edition & Civil Procedure Code, Mulla, 17th Edition. He also serves as the Chairperson and member of the Advisory Board of several academic institutions and universities in India: Chairman- Fee Structure Committee, Symbiosis International University; Chairman- Fee Fixation Committee, Bharati Vidyapeeth University; Chairman- Pension Committee, St. Stephen's College, Delhi University; Member- Governing Council, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University; Member- Centre for Law & Good Governance, Shobhit University; Member- Executive Council, Kumaun University etc.

Languages

English & Hindi

Selected Works (Non-Exhaustive List)

Domestic and International Arbitrations (Sole Arbitrator, Chair/Presiding, Co-Arbitrator and Expert Witness)

1. Co-Arbitrator- Dispute between a major General Insurance company and one of Asia's largest Petrochemical conglomerate concerning a business interruption claim arising out of a Mega Package Insurance Policy valued at USD 2 billion.
2. Expert Report per the Request of the Italian Republic in an inter-state arbitration under Annex VII of the United National Convention on the law of the Sea (UNCLOS)- PCA Case No. 2015-28: The 'Enrica Lexie' Incident (*Italy v. India*)
3. Sole Arbitrator- USD 420 million dispute between a Hong Kong based trading major and a leading Indian e-commerce company concerning the breach of Brand and Technical License Agreement.
4. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between an Indian state-owned power generation corporation and a construction contractor (joint venture between two construction and engineering majors from Austria and India) concerning a 520 MW Hydropower project with claims value of over USD 225 million.

5. Co-Arbitrator- UNCITRAL arbitration concerning multiple disputes arising between an employer (Indian state-owned Oil & Gas company) and project management consultants (Swiss global engineering conglomerate) concerning the construction of a grassroots oil refinery - sum in dispute over USD 1 billion.
6. Sole Arbitrator- USD 168 million dispute between a leading national developer and a group of companies with substantial land holdings in Gurgaon, India relating to the abortive development of land for commercial purposes.
7. Co-Arbitrator- Two consolidated ICC arbitrations between a Slovenian heavy machinery manufacturer and an Indian engineering, construction and infrastructure major arising out of two Mechanical and Electrical Contracts- sum in dispute in the region of USD 25 million.
8. Co-Arbitrator- ICC arbitration between a consortium of two Japanese & Indian companies and a Public Sector Undertaking in India arising from a FIDIC Yellow Book-1999 modelled contract concerning engineering, procurement and construction of a 600 km rail track on lump sum basis- amount in dispute over USD 95 million.
9. Co-Arbitrator- ICC arbitration arising from a Joint Venture Agreement comprising a Japanese and Indian automotive parts manufacturer concerning the breach of confidentiality obligation stipulated in the contract.
10. Co-Arbitrator- SIAC arbitration arising from a Shareholders Agreement between a Mauritius based investment fund and an Indian construction major.
11. Expert Report in an SIAC arbitration between a major Private Equity Fund and a leading global manufacturer of PVC based products relating to the validity and enforceability of a put option deed under Indian laws.
12. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between one of the world's largest oilfield services company and an Indian Oil & Gas major concerning the exploration of India's first shale gas reserve- sum in dispute over USD 45 million.
13. Sole Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a Canadian oil field services company and an Indian state-owned hydrocarbon exploration and production company concerning a contract rendering specific oil field services for exploratory wells located in North East India- sum in dispute- USD 25 million.

14. Co-Arbitrator- ICA arbitration between a Singapore based trading major and the largest state-owned trading corporation in India concerning supply of imported steam coal of Indonesian origin to India- sum in dispute in the region of USD 40 million.
15. Co-Arbitrator- USD 430 million dispute between the Russian Federation and an Indian company, both partners in a Joint Venture formed to develop India's first Titanium Dioxide Plant and a Special Economic Zone in the State of Odisha, India.
16. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a leading Chinese Construction and Engineering company and an Indian Aluminium major concerning the construction of a captive power plant- sum in dispute in the region of USD 20 million.
17. Co-Arbitrator- USD 60 million dispute between a leading Indian cooling solutions provider and a Chinese Power Engineering contractor concerning the construction of five mechanical draft cooling towers for a 5 * 660 MW Power Plant.
18. Co-Arbitrator- USD 2 billion dispute between a Russian state-owned industrial conglomerate and an Indian state-owned energy major concerning the construction of a Mega Power Plant in India.
19. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration emanating from an EPC Contract between a leading construction contractor in India and the National Highways Authority in a dispute concerning delay and price escalation-sum in dispute in the region of USD 30 million.
20. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Two consolidated arbitrations between a state-owned gas line transmission company and a consortium of a leading Indian and Iranian EPC contractor concerning the construction of high-pressure natural gas pipeline.
21. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Dispute concerning an insurance policy between a public sector general insurance company and one of the largest Indian manufacturer and exporter of cotton specialty yarns and cotton sewing threads.
22. Co-Arbitrator- Two consolidated arbitrations between a leading Indian infrastructure conglomerate and two state governments and the National Highways Authority concerning two major expressway construction projects based on BOT in Negative Grant (Premium) basis- sum in dispute in the region of USD 115 million.
23. Co-Arbitrator- Dispute between a national construction, property development, railway tracks & bridges and civil services company and a company engaged in the implementation of a thermal power plant.

24. Co-Arbitrator- LCIA arbitration concerning a supply contract between a leading German mechanical and plant engineering company and an Indian company engaged in the business of producing non-ferrous alloys.
25. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a leading turnkey service provider and a concessionaire handling Coal and Bulk Cargo of a major port trust concerning the supply, design, erection and commissioning of stacker and stacker cum reclaimer; and conveyor system.
26. Co-Arbitrator- Two Ad hoc arbitrations in multiple disputes between the Indian subsidiary of a Canadian construction consulting major and an Indian infrastructure company concerning a contract for consultancy services.
27. Co-Arbitrator- Dispute between a leading Singapore based international luxury hotel management and operations company and a leading Indian retail mall developer- sum in dispute in the region of USD 100 million.
28. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator – Ad hoc arbitration between a mining lessee and the mine development company concerning the breach of mining contract- sum in dispute in the region of USD 130 million.
29. Co-Arbitrator- Two consolidated arbitrations between a France based global energy management company and a leading Indian renewable energy major concerning two solar power plants.
30. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Two consolidated arbitrations concerning a Production Sharing Agreement between India's biggest energy conglomerate and a leading upstream oil and gas company.
31. Co-Arbitrator- ICC arbitration concerning a project for setting up of a sinter plant between India's largest steel producer and a consortium of Indian and German engineering and construction contractor.
32. Sole Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a multinational shipping corporation and an Indian public sector undertaking pertaining to termination of a shipping contract- sum in dispute in the region of USD 50 million.
33. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration – dispute concerning supply of coke ash for smelting plants- sum in dispute in the region of USD 85 million.

34. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a mining lessee and the mine development company arising after the deallocation of coal blocks by Supreme Court of India and pertaining to the breach of mining contract- sum in dispute in the region of USD 110 million.
35. Sole Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration in multiple disputes pertaining to breach of contract granting advertising rights in various airports across India.
36. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a construction major and a state entity concerning the construction and development of a national highway in the eastern region of India- sum in dispute in the region of USD 50 million.
37. Co-Arbitrator- Two consolidated ad hoc arbitrations between a public sector undertaking and a conglomerate with business interests in power generation and finance, concerning the construction of a 1350MW aggregate capacity thermal power plant- sum in dispute USD 170 million.
38. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration concerning the construction of a 1350MW aggregate capacity thermal power plant- sum in dispute in the region of USD 170 million.
39. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a leading Indian thermal power producing company and the Indian subsidiary of a German multinational conglomerate concerning design, engineering, manufacturing, inspection and supply of electrical balance for a 1200MW thermal power plant.
40. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration concerning a contract for exploration and production of Coal Bed Methane between a multinational exploration company and the Union of India - sum in dispute in the region of USD 234 million.
41. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between an Indian infrastructure major and the National Highways Authority pertaining to construction and inter-linking of a highway- sum in dispute in the region of USD 53 million plus interest.
42. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration pertaining to a Build, Operate & Transfer (BOT) highway Project- total sum in dispute in the region of USD 118 million.
43. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration concerning the construction of 2*270MW thermal power plant.
44. Co-Arbitrator- Two consolidated M&A arbitrations involving multiple parties - sum in dispute in the region of USD 320 million.

45. Co-arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration concerning the breach of an Investment Agreement for subscription of preferential shares between a Venture Capital Fund and a leading Indian private sector power producer- sum in dispute in the region of USD 115 million.
46. Co-arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration in a dispute pertaining to the setting up of Transloading facilities at deep draft location of a major port in India- sum in dispute USD 227 million.
47. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration in a dispute between a construction and engineering behemoth and a public sector body pertaining to construction of a major commercial project in the heart of New Delhi.
48. Co-Arbitrator- ICC arbitration concerning a dispute pertaining to the design, supply and installation of an inter-country electricity transmission and trade project.
49. Sole Arbitrator- DIAC arbitration in a dispute pertaining to supply contract concerning India's largest DAP Plant.
50. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration concerning a dispute of sensitive nature and national importance pertaining to the manufacture and supply of security threads used in currency notes and securities.
51. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator – Ad hoc arbitration between a Special Purpose Vehicle tasked with execution of works in hydro-power project and India's largest power generation conglomerate, a Maharatna Government of India Undertaking.
52. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a Joint Venture and State Authority in relation to contract for affixation of High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) under the Motor Vehicles Act, in the State of Madhya Pradesh, India.
53. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc Arbitration in relation to dispute between a Private Corporation and State Transport Authority in relation to contract for affixation of High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) under the Motor Vehicles Act, in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India.
54. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Dispute between a construction major and a Municipal Authority in relation to construction of sewerage system and allied works.
55. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration arising out of a lease deed and Term Sheet executed between one of the world's leading independent commodity trading & logistics houses and a leading real estate developer-cum-land owner in India- sum in dispute in the region of USD 22 million plus interest.

56. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a water engineering company, specializing in execution of turnkey contracts, and India's largest power generation conglomerate, a Maharatna Government of India Undertaking, in relation to contract for supply and installation of dry fly ash conveying transportation system package for a Super Thermal Power Station.
57. Co-Arbitrator- USD 1.2 billion dispute between a Consortium of leading highway developers from Spain and India and the National Highways Authority of India, emanating from a Concession Agreement concerning project delay and prolongation claims.
58. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between Consortium of private companies and the Government of NCT of Delhi, India in relation to Concession Agreement for provision of services relating to issue of Smart Optical Cards based Vehicle Registration Certificates for a project on Build Own Operate ("BOO") basis.
59. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc Arbitration in relation to dispute arising out of Concession Agreement for project highway on Build Operate Transfer ("BOT") Annuity basis, between a Special Purpose Vehicle and the National Highways Authority of India.
60. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc Arbitration in relation to disputes between a company engaged in the business of investments and incorporated under the Companies Ordinance of the British Virgin Islands, and an Indian Iron & Steel major, arising out of Term Sheet, Shareholders Agreement and Share Purchase & Share Subscription Agreement.
61. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc Arbitration in relation to dispute arising out of Concession Agreement for project highway on Design, Build, Finance, Operate, Transfer ("DBFOT") basis between a Special Purpose Vehicle and the National Highways Authority of India, in the State of UP and Uttarakhand, India- sum in dispute in the region of USD 400 million.
62. Co-Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration pursuant to dispute arising out of Operation, Management and Development Agreement with regard to one of the biggest and busiest Airports in India.
63. Sole Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration between a power & gas major and a Maharatna Government of India Undertaking, in relation to contract for laying of pipelines and associated works for City Gas Distribution Project.
64. Sole Arbitrator- Ad hoc Arbitration in relation to disputes between two private companies emanating from a contract for construction of a group housing project in the State of Madhya Pradesh, India.

65. Chair/Presiding Arbitrator- Ad hoc arbitration in relation to disputes between a Civil Engineering Construction company and a limited liability company incorporated under Accelerated Road Development Programme to execute design, engineering, construction, commission, operation and maintenance of a road project.

66. Sole Arbitrator- Ad hoc Arbitration between an Engineering, Procurement & Construction major and India's second largest downstream oil company in relation to contract of composite works for laying LPG Pipeline (Onshore & Offshore).