



INDIALAW

Automobile

Leading Automobile Law Firm in India for Regulatory, CCI, and IP Matters

PRACTICE PROFILE • MAY 2026

Overview

Our firm offers comprehensive legal services to clients across the automobile sector, including OEMs, component manufacturers, EV companies, mobility service providers, and auto-tech startups. We assist clients in navigating regulatory challenges, operational matters, and complex cross-border transactions. We understand the unique challenges and complexities that businesses in this industry face, and we are committed to delivering tailored legal advice to help our clients navigate the ever-evolving legal landscape.

Our Services

1. Regulatory Compliance

- **Emission Standards:** We assist manufacturers in ensuring compliance with the latest emission standards set by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and other relevant authorities.
- **Safety Regulations:** We guide clients through the stringent safety regulations mandated by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), helping them avoid penalties and ensure consumer safety.
- **Labor Laws:** We provide expert advice on labor laws, ensuring that our clients maintain a harmonious and compliant workforce.

2. Competition Law

- **Anti-Competitive Practices:** We represent clients before the Competition Commission of India (CCI) in matters related to anti-competitive practices, including resale price maintenance (RPM) and exclusive dealing.
- **Compliance Programs:** We develop and implement competition law compliance programs to help clients avoid legal pitfalls and ensure fair market practices.

3. Intellectual Property

- **Trademark Registration:** We assist in registering and protecting trademarks, safeguarding brand identities and preventing unauthorized use.
- **Copyrights:** We provide advice on protecting copyrights for software, designs, and other creative works related to the automobile industry.

4. Dispute Resolution

- **Litigation:** We represent clients in courts and tribunals, handling a wide range of disputes, including product liability cases, consumer disputes, contractual disputes, and intellectual property infringements.
- **Arbitration and Mediation:** We offer alternative dispute resolution services, including arbitration and mediation, to resolve conflicts efficiently and cost-effectively.

5. Environmental Regulations

- **Eco-Friendly Practices:** We advise clients on adopting eco-friendly practices and technologies to meet environmental standards and reduce their carbon footprint.
- **Permit Acquisition:** We assist in obtaining necessary environmental permits and ensuring compliance with pollution control regulations.

Our Approach

Our team of experienced lawyers and legal professionals brings a deep understanding of the automobile sector, combining industry-specific knowledge with robust legal expertise. We work closely with our clients to understand their unique needs and challenges, providing proactive and strategic legal advice tailored to their specific circumstances.

Key Highlights

Why Choose Us?

- **Industry Expertise:** Our dedicated team specializes in the automobile sector, ensuring that we are well-versed in the latest industry trends and regulatory changes.

- **Comprehensive Solutions:** We offer a full suite of legal services, from regulatory compliance to dispute resolution, providing our clients with a one-stop solution for all their legal needs.
- **Client-Centric Approach:** We prioritize our clients' needs, delivering personalized and responsive legal services that align with their business objectives.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** We maintain strong relationships with industry associations, regulatory bodies, and other stakeholders, ensuring that our clients have access to the latest information and resources.

Key Professionals



Shiju P V
Managing Partner



Rahul Sundaram
Partner

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What does an automobile sector legal practice cover in India?

It covers regulatory compliance with emission and safety norms, competition law advisory, IP protection for designs and technology, supply chain contracting, EV policy guidance, and dispute resolution for OEMs, component makers, and auto-tech companies.

Q2 When should an automobile company engage legal counsel in India?

Engage counsel early, especially before launching a new vehicle model, entering supply agreements, expanding into EVs, or facing a CCI inquiry. Regulatory timelines in India are tight, and retroactive compliance is far more costly than proactive planning.

Q3 Which Indian regulators and statutes govern the automobile industry?

MoRTH administers the Motor Vehicles Act and safety standards. The CPCB enforces emission norms under the Environment Protection Act. CCI oversees anti-competitive conduct. The BIS sets quality standards, and state transport authorities handle registration and permits.

Q4 What timelines and cost drivers should auto companies plan for?

Type approval and homologation can take three to six months. CCI investigations may run twelve to eighteen months or longer. Key cost drivers include the number of vehicle variants needing certification, jurisdictions involved, and complexity of supply chain documentation.

Q5 What documents are needed to begin legal work for an auto company?

We typically need the company's incorporation documents, existing supply and dealer agreements, product compliance certificates, trademark registrations, ongoing litigation details, and any correspondence with regulators such as MoRTH, CPCB, or CCI.

Q6 What common legal mistakes do automobile businesses make in India?

A frequent pitfall is imposing resale price maintenance on dealers without competition law review, which can trigger CCI penalties. Others include neglecting to register IP for vehicle designs early and underestimating state level transport and labour compliance requirements.