



INDIALAW

Competition / Anti-Trust

Leading Competition and Anti-Trust Law Firm in India for CCI Matters

PRACTICE PROFILE • MAY 2026

Overview

We provide comprehensive legal advisory and dispute resolution services to businesses navigating India's complex competition law landscape. Our Competition Dispute practice combines specialized regulatory knowledge with strategic litigation expertise to help clients effectively manage investigations, enforcement actions, and complex disputes before the Competition Commission of India (CCI) and appellate forums. With deep understanding of the Competition Act, 2002, and ongoing regulatory developments, we offer tailored solutions to Indian and multinational clients across sectors—from defending against anti-competitive allegations to securing merger approvals and developing competition compliance programs.

Our Services

Antitrust Investigations & Enforcement Defence

- Response to dawn raids, information requests, and director general investigations
- Representation in CCI investigations and inquiries related to anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominance
- Defence against cartel allegations, including leniency applications and settlement negotiations
- Handling of cease and desist proceedings and penalty adjudications
- Appeals before the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) and Supreme Court

Merger Control & Combinations

- Strategic assessment of notifiability under merger control thresholds
- Preparation and filing of Form I (simplified) and Form II (detailed) notifications
- Representation during Phase I and Phase II merger review proceedings
- Negotiation of structural and behavioural remedies to address competition concerns
- Implementation of gun-jumping compliance protocols during transaction planning
- Advisory on transaction timing and closing conditions related to merger control
- Coordination with global merger filings in multi-jurisdictional transactions

Competition Compliance & Risk Management

- Development of tailored competition compliance programs and policies
- Conducting competition audits and risk assessments
- Implementation of dawn raid response protocols and training
- Guidance on vertical restraints, distribution agreements, and pricing practices
- Advisory on information exchange, industry associations, and competitor collaborations
- Compliance with dominance-related obligations for market leaders
- Training programs for management, sales teams, and in-house legal departments

Sector-Specific Competition Advisory

- Industry-focused competition advice for regulated sectors such as:
 - Digital Markets & Technology (platform regulation, data access, algorithmic pricing)
 - Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare (patent settlements, licensing practices, distribution arrangements)
 - Financial Services (banking, insurance, payment systems, fintech)
 - Energy & Infrastructure (bidding processes, essential facilities, regulatory overlaps)
 - Telecommunications & Media (spectrum allocation, interconnection, content distribution)
 - Retail & E-commerce (vertical integration, MFN clauses, selective distribution)
- Manufacturing & Industrial Goods (standardization, R&D collaborations, joint ventures)

Competition Policy & Regulatory Affairs

- Engagement with policy consultations and competition law amendments
- Representation before parliamentary committees and working groups
- Advisory on emerging competition policy developments (digital markets, sustainability initiatives)

- Analysis of sector regulator interfaces with competition law
- Support with market studies and competition advocacy initiatives
- Monitoring of enforcement trends and policy shifts in Indian competition landscape
- Interface with regulators on behalf of industry associations and business chambers

Key Professionals



Rahul Sundaram

Partner



Dinesh Gupta

Partner

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What does a competition and anti-trust practice cover in India?

It covers defence in cartel and abuse of dominance investigations before the CCI, merger control filings under the Competition Act 2002, leniency applications, penalty appeals before NCLAT and the Supreme Court, and ongoing compliance advisory on pricing, distribution, and information exchange practices.

Q2 When should a business engage competition law counsel in India?

Ideally before a trigger event. Engage counsel when planning M&A transactions that may cross notifiability thresholds, when you receive a CCI notice or information request, during a dawn raid, or when structuring distribution agreements, joint ventures, or competitor collaborations that carry anti-trust risk.

Q3 Which statute and regulator govern anti-trust matters in India?

The Competition Act, 2002 is the primary statute. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) investigates anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominance, and reviews combinations. Appeals lie to the NCLAT and then to the Supreme Court. The CCI's Director General conducts detailed investigations.

Q4 How long does a typical CCI merger review or investigation take?

A Phase I merger review under Form I typically concludes within 30 working days. Phase II reviews under Form II can take up to 150 days. Anti-trust investigations vary widely; a Director General investigation may run 12 to 24 months depending on complexity, number of parties, and evidence volume.

Q5 What documents are needed to file a merger notification with the CCI?

You will need the transaction documents, audited financials of all parties, market share data for overlapping segments, details of horizontal and vertical overlaps, a description of the relevant market, and board resolutions authorising the filing. Form II filings require substantially more granular competitive analysis.

Q6 What is a common mistake companies make in Indian competition compliance?

Gun jumping, meaning implementing a notifiable transaction before receiving CCI approval. This can attract penalties up to one percent of the combined turnover or assets. Companies also underestimate risks of information exchange at trade association meetings, which the CCI has treated as evidence of cartelisation.