

April 2026 Vol XXIII - 23

In this Issue...

- Message from the Founder & Managing Partner
- Announcement: S.K.Singhi & Partners LLP adds Defence, Nuclear Energy & M&A Verticals
- Certificate Course in Defence Contract Drafting by Rashtriya Raksha University in collaboration with S.K.Singhi & Partners LLP
- LEXITS Corner
- Legal Quiz
- Social Events

In the News...

- Attempt To Settle Dispute Cannot Prevent Police From Taking Cognisance Of Crime: Supreme Court. [Read More](#)
- Auction Sale Confirmation Does Not Bar Judicial Scrutiny Of Valuation Of Reserve Price: Supreme Court. [Read More](#)
- "Digital Gold Platform Cannot Escape Law Merely By 'Cosmetic Garb' Of Transactions": Karnataka HC Refuses To Quash FIR Against JAR. [Read More](#)
- Quantity Of Contraband Not Relevant For Preventive Detention Under PITNDPS Act: Kerala High Court. [Read More](#)



S.K. SINGHI
Founder & Managing Partner

Welcome Readers,

It gives me pleasure to hand over the April 2026 edition of The EXHIBIT.

India today is a nation full of ambition. A young population of 1.4 billion, rapid urbanisation, and a growing middle class have turned the country into an aspirational society where dreams of mobility, equality, and justice are now daily expectations rather than distant ideals.

In this environment, the law has become more than just a regulator; it is the very structure supporting these aspirations.

Three decades after economic liberalisation, Indians increasingly see legal frameworks as enablers of opportunity. Entrepreneurs in startups and MSMEs depend on strong contract law, intellectual property protections, and IBC insolvency reforms to grow businesses without fear of arbitrary loss.

Foreign investors examine ease-of-doing-business rankings, encouraging successive governments to simplify regulations and digitalise courts through e-filing and virtual hearings. The outcome is a commercial legal ecosystem that supports the "Make in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" visions.

Simultaneously, social aspirations have democratised access to justice. The Constitution's guarantees of equality and dignity, once confined to textbooks, now drive everyday claims.

Women invoke the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act and workplace harassment laws; Dalit and Adivasi communities leverage the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act; and the queer community cites the 2018 Navtej Singh Johar judgment to assert dignity.

Public Interest Litigations have compelled action on issues ranging from air pollution in Delhi to the banning of manual scavenging. Law has become the language through which marginalised groups articulate their rightful place in a rising India.

The Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023 and upcoming online gaming regulations address citizens' need for privacy in a highly connected world. Climate litigation—evident in cases against coal plants and forest clearances—shows the increasing public demand for sustainable development.

Yet challenges persist: judicial delays, uneven access in rural areas, and occasional friction between the executive and judiciary test public faith. Still, rising legal literacy through social media, legal-tech startups, and affordable apps indicates a maturing society that refuses to accept injustice silently.

In an aspirational India, law is no longer just a distant tool of the state; it is the mirror in which citizens gauge their progress. As aspirations rise, the demand for a responsive, efficient, and equitable legal system will only grow. Strengthening it is not an option—it is essential for transforming dreams into lasting national achievements.

At SKS Partners & LLP, we strive to embrace modern values to provide relief to our clients in the aspirational Indian society seeking growth.

Happy Reading,

Best Wishes

S.K.Singhi & Partners LLP adds Defence, Nuclear Energy & M&A Verticals

Founded in 2009, the firm has consistently expanded into new legal service areas. Our ethos is built on integrity, innovation, and insight—providing practical, business-oriented legal solutions for the rapidly expanding sectors of the nation's economy.

The firm has entered into the most challenging and innovative sectors of Defence, Nuclear Energy, and Merger & Acquisitions, aligning with emerging trends in the Indian economy:

1. Defence Sector

Our firm offers legal support to Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), offset partners, and investors operating within India's highly regulated defence ecosystem. We handle strategic advisory, transactional work, regulatory compliance, dispute resolution, private participation, and FDI liberalisation.

Defence Procurement and Contracts: Our experts advise on the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP 2020) Request for Proposal (RFP) processes, capital acquisitions, and drafting or negotiating agreements such as supply contracts, licensing agreements, Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements, production contracts, training agreements, sourcing arrangements, and offset agreements.

FDI, Investment Structuring, and Licensing: Guidance on FDI policy (74% under the automatic route, up to 100% under the government route for modern technology), industrial licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (IDRA)/Arms Act, joint ventures (JVs), and entry strategies for foreign players.

Regulatory Compliance and Offsets: We advise on compliance with Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), export controls, and sector-specific approvals from the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

M&A, JVs, and Due Diligence: We also advise on structuring mergers, acquisitions, and JVs within the defence regulatory framework, including due diligence on national security sensitivities.

Dispute Resolution: Litigation strategies, pleadings, and representation before courts, arbitral tribunals, or MoD authorities in multi-jurisdictional disputes.

IP and Ancillary Support: Protecting defence-related intellectual property, technology transfer, and related commercial expansion.

The Defence vertical is led by Lt Gen Sanjay Verma (Retd), IIT Delhi, MPhil, Ex-DRDO Chair, PVSM. He retired as Director General (Capability Development) at the Ministry of Defence, responsible for enhancing the operational and logistical capabilities of the Indian Army.



2. Nuclear Sector

The nuclear sector in India is among the most tightly regulated, traditionally dominated by government entities such as the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL), and the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

However, the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Act, 2025 (SHANTI Act) has introduced major reforms: it repeals the Atomic Energy Act, 1962, and Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010; opens private sector participation including research, development, design, and innovation; allows FDI up to 49% under the automatic route in specified activities; establishes a Nuclear Damage Claims Commission; and permits patents for peaceful applications.



We provide targeted advisory to multinational companies, private investors, technology providers, and project developers. We provide:

Regulatory Compliance and Approvals: Licensing, safety standards (AERB), environmental clearances, IAEA safeguards compliance, and liaising with DAE, NPCIL, and other bodies under the new SHANTI Act framework.

Contracts and Liability Management: Drafting and negotiating complex contracts for nuclear power plants, supply chains, fuel, and operations; mitigating contractual liabilities; addressing strict liability regimes, insurance, and risk allocation post-SHANTI Act reforms.

Investment and Transactional Support: Structuring FDI, private participation, JVs, and financing for nuclear projects; advising on the shift toward greater private/foreign involvement while navigating national security and safety norms.

Policy, Training, and Risk Advisory: Training programs for clients on nuclear law, crisis management, policy advocacy, and alignment with international conventions

Disputes and Ancillary: Litigation, arbitration, and support on decommissioning, waste management, or related energy projects.

The Nuclear Energy vertical is led by Mr. Sujay Kumar Ghosh, a postgraduate in Chemical and Nuclear Engineering. He is a nuclear scientist and the former Head of the Directorate of Regulatory Inspections at the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, Government of India. He represented India at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria.

3. Merger & Acquisition (M&A) Sector

M&A is a core corporate practice area for our firm. Key services include:

End-to-End Transaction Support: Deal structuring (share/asset acquisitions, mergers, demergers, buyouts, takeovers), due diligence (financial, legal, regulatory, tax), valuation support, and post-merger integration.

Agreement Drafting and Negotiation: Sale and Purchase Agreements (SPA), Shareholders' Agreements (SHA), non-compete clauses, earn-outs, and other related documents.

Regulatory Approvals and Compliance: Clearances from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) under the Competition Act; SEBI regulations (for listed companies); sector-specific approvals (e.g., MoD/FDI in defence, DAE/SHANTI Act in nuclear, RBI/FEMA for foreign deals); and court or tribunal approvals for schemes of arrangement.

Cross-Border and Tax Optimisation: Inbound/outbound M&A, foreign investment structuring, tax considerations, and repatriation challenges.

Specialised/Hostile Deals: Corporate restructuring, private equity/venture capital exits, public takeovers, and disputes arising from M&A (e.g., through arbitration or courts).

The M&A vertical is headed by Shri Malay Mukherjee, a former Chief Executive Officer at IFCI Ltd. and Non-Executive Chairman at Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd., Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd., and UB Finance Plc. Also served as Executive Director at Central Bank of India and Non-Executive Director at Union Bank of Colombo Plc.





गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS



S<K>S
S.K.SINGHI & PARTNERS

RASHTRIYA RAKSHA UNIVERSITY

(An Institution of National Importance)

Pioneering National Security and Police University of India

School of Criminal Law and Military Law (SCLML)

In collaboration with

S.K. SINGHI and PARTNERS

Certificate Course in **Defence Contract Drafting**

S.K.Singhi & Partners is proud to collaborate with Rashtriya Raksha University to present a Certificate Course in Defence Contract Drafting, a first-of-its-kind online programme designed for legal professionals, advocates, government officers, and students seeking specialised expertise in one of India's most consequential and growing practice areas.

Over 14 days of weekend sessions, participants will gain hands-on training in the full lifecycle of defence contracting, from foundational drafting principles and negotiation strategy to select clauses unique to defence procurement, including classified information provisions, INCO terms, nuclear contracts, and cross-border enforcement frameworks. The course offers a structured three-level contract review methodology, practical exercises anchored in real-world scenarios, and internship opportunities for law students.

Fees start at INR 2,000 (inclusive of GST). Certificates awarded on successful completion.
For registrations and queries: ap21.sclml@rru.ac.in



RASHTRIYA RAKSHA UNIVERSITY



LEXITS

An Initiative of
S.K.Singhi & Partners LLP



LEXITS CORNER

LEXITS: Revolutionising Legal Dispute Resolution – An Innovative Initiative by S.K. Singhi & Partners LLP

By LEXITS Desk at New Delhi Office

In a landmark move to modernise India's justice delivery system, S.K. Singhi & Partners LLP, one of the country's leading full-service law firms, launched LEXITS in January 2025. Unveiled in New Delhi and inaugurated by Attorney General of India R. Venkataramani, this transformative platform—formally known as the Centre for Legal Disputes Management & Strategy—represents a significant shift from traditional litigation to expert-driven pre-litigation strategies.

Founded in 2009 by Founder & Managing Partner S.K. Singhi, the firm has a strong presence in Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, and an associate office in Dubai. With over 60 advocates and a diverse team of chartered accountants and company secretaries, S.K. Singhi & Partners serves Fortune 100 companies, multinational corporations, high-net-worth individuals, and sovereign entities.

Its expertise includes corporate law, arbitration, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property, FDI, and cross-border disputes. LEXITS builds on this foundation as an ****E-Global Legal Platform****, offering a single digital hub for legal, regulatory, and business advisory services.

At its core, LEXITS provides litigants with predictive analysis and actionable insights. Supported by a distinguished Board of Patrons made up of over 35 former Supreme Court and High Court judges, along with an Advisory Board of senior advocates, ex-government officials, arbitrators, and mediators, the initiative offers clear assessments of potential outcomes, costs, timelines, and risks.

Clients receive strategic pre-litigation guidance that encourages alternative dispute resolution, settlement negotiations, and informed decision-making—helping them avoid lengthy courtroom battles.

“Today wasn't just the unveiling of LEXITS, but a milestone toward a collective journey for justice and legal innovation for everyone who believes in informed decision-making,” remarked S.K. Singhi at the launch. The platform's philosophy rests on four pillars: Impact, Innovation, Insight, and Inclusion. It separates litigation from pre-litigation engagement, encouraging parties to “talk and settle rather than engage to fight.”

For global investors and corporations eyeing India, LEXITS offers seamless support in market entry strategies, M&A structuring, compliance, and cross-border dispute resolution. This aligns with the firm's International Desk (launched in 2023) and Legal Outreach Division (2024), boosting its reputation with awards such as the Go Global Awards and Legal 500 recognitions. Recently, new verticals in Defence and Nuclear Outreach have also been launched to keep pace with changing times.

By minimising unnecessary litigation, reducing costs, and expediting resolutions, LEXITS is not just a service—it is a movement toward a more efficient, accessible, and client-focused legal ecosystem in India. As the platform gains momentum, it promises to redefine justice delivery, making expert legal strategies available to businesses and individuals alike.

Visit lexits.in to explore how this innovative initiative can transform your legal journey.

“At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice, he is the worst.”

SKS LEGAL QUIZ

We welcome young law college students to participate in this Quiz.

The winners shall be offered priority apprenticeship at any of our offices at Kolkata, New Delhi and Mumbai. For replies please click on this link :

Question 1. Who is known as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution?

- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) B. R. Ambedkar
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru
- d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Question 2. Which Article of the Indian Constitution guarantees Equality before Law?

- a) Article 12
- b) Article 19
- c) Article 14
- d) Article 21

Question 3. The concept of Rule of Law was propounded by:

- a) Montesquieu
- b) A. V. Dicey
- c) K. C. Davis
- d) Ivor Jennings

Question 4. Which of the following is a ground for judicial review of administrative action?

- a) Mala fide
- b) Ultra vires
- c) Abuse of discretion
- d) All of these

Question 5. The doctrine Delegatus non potest delegare means:

- a) Delegation is mandatory
- b) A delegate cannot further delegate
- c) Delegation is unconstitutional
- d) Delegation is unlimited

Question 6. Which section of Indian Penal Code defines theft?

- a) Section 299
- b) Section 300
- c) Section 378
- d) Section 420

Question 7. The essential element of a crime is:

- a) Mens rea
- b) Actus reus
- c) Both a) and b)
- d) None of these

Question 8. Which case established the principle of strict liability?

- a) Donoghue v. Stevenson
- b) Rylands v. Fletcher
- c) Brown v. Board of Education
- d) Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India

Question 9. The law relating to partnership in India is governed by:

- a) Companies Act, 2013
- b) Contract Act, 1872
- c) Partnership Act, 1932
- d) Sale of Goods Act, 1930

Question 10. Maximum number of partners in a partnership firm is:

- a) 10
- b) 20
- c) 50
- d) Unlimited

Social Events



Senior Partner Akshay Singhi along with team S.K.Singhi & Partners LLP attending the Inter Pacific Bar Association Conference, 2026 at New Delhi

CONTACT DETAILS

KOLKATA: Raja Chambers 1st Floor, 4, Kiran Shankar Roy Road, Kolkata - 700 001
P: +91 33 2231 8652, E: kolkata@skspartners.law

NEW DELHI: D-75, Lower Ground Floor, East of Kailash, New Delhi - 110 065
P: +91 11 2642 5568, E: delhi@skspartners.law

MUMBAI: 134A, Level 13, Mittal Court A Wing, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021
P: +91 22 4971 8652, E: mumbai@skspartners.law

CHENNAI: S-87, 2nd Floor, Phase 3, Spencer Plaza, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002
P: +91 44 4850 0558, E: chennai@skspartners.law

Disclaimer This publication has been prepared for general guidance on matters of interest only, and does not constitute professional advice. You should not act upon the information contained in this publication without obtaining specific professional advice. No representation or warranty (express or implied) is given as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this publication, and, to the extent permitted by law, SKS, its members, employees and agents accept no liability, and disclaim all responsibility, for the consequences of you or anyone else acting, or refraining to act, in reliance on the information contained in this publication or for any decision based on it. Without prior permission of SKS, this publication may not be quoted in whole or in part or otherwise referred to in any documents. In case you have any suggestions or do not wish to receive our newsletter, please email us at : theexhibitfeedback@skspartners.law (All rights reserved)