



THE INAUGURAL **ASIAN LEGAL BUSINESS**

# INDIA LAW AWARDS 2019

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

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## PART 1 - IMPORTANT DATES

### OPENING OF NOMINATIONS

23 October 2018

### DEADLINE OF NOMINATIONS

4 December 2018

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINALISTS

January 2019

### AWARDS CEREMONY - MUMBAI

28 February 2019

### AWARDS INQUIRIES

India Law Firms or In-House Teams:

Contact Lokesh Bogati at [lokesh.bogati@tr.com](mailto:lokesh.bogati@tr.com) or call (91) 22 6180 7075 for further details.

International Law Firms:

Contact Anna Lam at [anna.lam@tr.com](mailto:anna.lam@tr.com) or call (852) 2843 1672 for further details.

### SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES

Contact Amantha Chia at [amantha.chia@tr.com](mailto:amantha.chia@tr.com) or call (65) 6870 3917 for further details.

## PART 2 - SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

- All submissions, whether by self-recommendation or nomination, must be written in the ALB submission form. Otherwise, the same will not be accepted.
- The coverage period for the entries is 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018
- The contact persons provided in the submission form will be contacted by ALB, as may be necessary.
- No more than five hyperlinks may be incorporated in a submission form to support any information expressly stated therein.
- Every category requires the submission of an exact of three entries, except as specifically provided below.
- For frequently asked questions about the awards, please visit the [FAQ page](#).

## PART 3 - JUDGING CRITERIA

**Breadth** - the degree to which a work involved numerous jurisdictions, legal practice areas, parties and industries

**Complexity** - the degree to which a work and any issues involved require the crucial exercise of legal expertise, business acumen or innovative solutions

**Firm size** - total number of lawyers based in India

**Indian element** - refers to any of the following component of work: (a) one of the counsel representing a party is based in India; (b) one of the parties in interest is based in India; or (c) the subject matter of the transaction is closely connected to India

**Impact or significance** - the degree to which clients and other stakeholders, the bench and bar, an industry or the country may be affected

**Innovativeness** - the degree to which a work involves the application of a new concept or creative solution, process, service, program or the like to existing systems and processes, thus improving organisational capabilities and adding more value to output or making the deal work more efficient

**Work** - a transaction, case or matter, service, program, initiative or the like

## PART 4 - AWARD CATEGORIES

### DEAL CATEGORIES

- 1 **Debt Market Deal of the Year**
- 2 **Equity Market Deal of the Year**
- 3 **M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize/Premium)**

#### Specific Guidelines

- a. **Announcement/completion of deals** - Only deals that have been announced or completed between 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018 are eligible for submission. Deals that have been announced but are pending completion during this period may be submitted but will no longer be eligible for submission next year or when the same shall have been completed.
- b. **Deal size** - The following deal size requirements should be complied with:
  1. **Debt Market/Equity Market Deal of the Year:** Deal ≥ USD 500 million; and
  2. **M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize/Premium):** For the premium category, each deal must have a MFV of USD 1 billion; for the midsize category, each deal must have a MFV of USD 500 million but must not exceed USD 1 billion.
- c. **Number of deals** - An organisation may submit a total of three deals for each of the debt, equity and M&A categories, provided that no more than two deals are submitted for either Midsize or Premium category.
- d. **Indian element** - Every entry must have an Indian element as defined in Part 3.

#### Criteria

The judges will consider the following factors: breadth, complexity, innovativeness and impact or significance of deals.

### INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

- 1 **Dealmaker of the Year**
- 2 **Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year**
- 3 **In-House Lawyer of the Year**
- 4 **Managing Partner of the Year**
- 5 **Woman Lawyer of the Year**
- 6 **Young Lawyer of the Year**

#### Specific Guidelines

- a. **Number of nominees** - An organisation may put forward only one nominee for every category.
- b. **Nomination** - A third-party submission for any category may only be considered when the nominee's team has not nominated anyone of its members for the same category.

- c. Residence - A candidate must be a resident of India.
- d. Dealmaker of the Year - The deals submitted must show the candidate's expertise in deal making across various deal types.
- e. Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year - The key works must show the candidate's expertise in at least two modes of dispute resolution.
- f. Managing Partner of the Year - This is open to all managing partners or senior partners whose function is primarily that of a managing partner.
- g. Woman Lawyer of the Year - This is open to all woman lawyers, whether from a public or private entity.
- h. Young Lawyer of the Year - Only lawyers, whether from a law firm or in-house team, who are no more than 40 years of age as of 31 December 2018 are eligible for submission.

#### Criteria

The judges will consider the following factors: the entrants' or nominees' leadership, professional accomplishments (in terms of the breadth, complexity, innovativeness and significance) and social contribution.

#### IN-HOUSE CATEGORIES

- 1 Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year**
- 2 Energy and Resources In-House Team of the Year**
- 3 Innovative In-House Team of the Year**
- 4 Technology, Media and Telecommunications In-House Team of the Year**
- 5 Transportation and Logistics In-House Team of the Year**
- 6 India In-House Team of the Year**

#### Specific Guidelines

- a. Physical office - All in-house teams with physical office in India are qualified to join the awards.
- b. Composition of in-house team - To join the submissions for any in-house category, the team should consist of at least two in-house lawyers.
- c. Innovative In-House Team of the Year - This is open to in-house teams that have applied a new concept or creative solution, process, service, program or the like to existing systems and processes, thus improving organizational capabilities and adding more value to output. An in-house team may submit a maximum of three innovative works for this category.
- d. India In-House Team of the Year - This is open to all in-house teams, regardless of industry. The works submitted must exhibit an exemplary spectrum of an in-house team's capabilities and achievements.

#### Criteria

The judges will consider the following factors: the entrants' or nominees' professional accomplishments (in terms of the breadth, complexity, innovativeness and impact or significance), innovation, development and social contribution.

#### FIRM CATEGORIES

- 1 Banking and Financial Services Law Firm of the Year**
- 2 Boutique Law Firm of the Year**
- 3 Criminal Law Firm of the Year**
- 4 Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year**

- 5 Energy and Resources Law Firm of the Year**
- 6 India Deal Firm of the Year**
- 7 India Practice, Asian Law Firm of the Year**
- 8 Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- 9 International Law Firm of the Year**
- 10 Restructuring and Insolvency Law Firm of the Year**
- 11 Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year**
- 12 India Law Firm of the Year**

#### Specific Guidelines

- a. Physical office - All law firms holding an office in India are qualified to submit for any of the categories, except for India Practice, Asian Law Firm of the Year and International Law Firm of the Year.
- b. Deal size - No minimum financial value is required of deals submitted in any firm category.
- c. Boutique Law Firm of the Year - This category is open to law firms that specialize in limited areas of legal practice with no more than 15 partners.
- d. Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year - The key works must show the firm's expertise in at least two modes of dispute resolution.
- e. India Practice, Asian Law Firm of the Year - This category is open for submissions to law firms that are headquartered in Asia. Each key work submitted for this category must have demonstrate an "Indian element" as defined above.
- f. International Law Firm of the Year - Law firms headquartered outside of Asia are qualified to submit for International Law Firm of the Year. The category requires the submission of 5 key works and each key work submitted must demonstrate an "Indian element" as defined above.
- g. India Law Firm of the Year - This is open to all law firms headquartered in India. The category requires the submission of 10 key works showing the firm's expertise in various areas of legal practice, the firm's initiatives for the engagement and development of its people, its CSR strategy and its most significant contribution to the legal community.

#### Criteria

The judges will consider the following factors: entrants' or nominees' professional accomplishments (in terms of the breadth, complexity, innovativeness and impact or significance), innovation, development and social contribution.

#### PART 5 - JUDGING PANEL

The panel of judges will be composed of at least 30 reputable members from the legal academe, in-house teams, law firms, legal associations and non-profit organisations in the region. Each judge will evaluate only the categories assigned to him/her and with which he/she does not have any conflict of interest.

The judges will rank the nominees according to the abovementioned parameters and only the top finalists will be included in the shortlist.

In the final round of evaluation, the finalist with the highest score in every category wins the award.