

## VARUNA BHANDARI GUGNANI (Advocate & Mediator)



MRS. VARUNA BHANDARI GUGNANI

Advocate, Supreme Court of India

Mediator in Supreme Court Mediation Centre

Mediator in Punjab & Haryana High Court Mediation Centre

Mediator for Delhi Dispute Resolution Society, Department of Law, Justice and Legal Affairs, Government of NCT Delhi

## PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS:

- Member of Supreme Court Bar Association, New Delhi
- Member of Delhi High Court Bar Association, New Delhi
- Member of Punjab and Haryana High Court Bar Association, Chandigarh
- Life (Voting) Member of Indian Council of Arbitration ("ICA")
- Member, Association of Indian Mediators

## TRAINING & CONFERENCES

- September 2015: Singapore International Mediation Conference organized by Singapore Government at Mumbai, Maharashtra
- June 2015: Training on 'Legal Culture and Spiritualism' at Bangalore Ashram of The Art of Living Foundation.
- August 2015: Training on 'Knowing and Encouraging Mediation' at Regional Conference on Mediation at Judicial Academy Chandigarh.
- February 2015: Asia Pacific International Mediation Summit, New Delhi organized by American Bar Association
- January 2015: Training on 'Private Mediation' at Tis Hazari Court Complex, New Delhi
- September 2014: National Conference on Mediation held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- October 2014: Training at Chicago organized by The Chicago Bar Association and the International Academy of Mediators.
- February 2014: Advanced Mediation Training Program at Manesar organized by Supreme Court Legal Service Committee, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi
- 2013: Workshop-cum-Training on Mediation organized by Delhi Dispute Resolution Society (DDRS) at Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi
- 2010: 40 hours Training on Mediation program conducted by Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee, Supreme Court of India.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE AS MEDIATOR

- Submitted assignment on the topic "Mediation: A Revolution in Dispute Resolution" at Indian Law Institute, New Delhi in 2014
- Group Discussions and sensitization amongst the lawyers, litigants and other peoples about the Mediation.  
  
Developing basic structure and preparing basic knowledge about mediation Process in India where Mediation is at a very initial level
- Teaching and conducting meetings with Traders, Trade Unions and other organized and unorganized groups and sectors for encouraging them to adopt Mediation for their dispute resolution
- Teaching and promoting Mediation for settlement of Disputes amongst members of Resident Welfare Associations/Societies
- Promoting awareness about Mediation for settlement of Disputes in Insurance sector in India
- Creating awareness amongst the lawyers to encourage Mediation for Dispute Resolution
- Group Discussion with Co-Mediators for improving Mediation skill to overcome impasse.

## MEDITATION

- 5 years of Practice of Mediation
- Acting as Mediator at Supreme Court Mediation Centre, New Delhi (Court annexed Mediation)
- Acting as Mediator at Punjab and Haryana High Court Mediation Centre, Chandigarh (Court annexed Mediation)
- Acting as Mediator at Delhi Dispute Resolution Society (DDRS), Govt. of NCT Delhi (Pre-litigation Mediation)
- Successfully conducting Mediations as a Private Mediator and also hosting website ([www.mediationservices.in](http://www.mediationservices.in)) for providing Mediation Services across the country and cross-border.
- Have undergone training on concept and techniques of mediation conducted by Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee Supreme Court of India and have been awarded a certificate of successfully completion of this training.
- A Number of cases for mediation by the Supreme Court Mediation centre have been allotted and have been successfully resolved through mediation.
- Have settled more than 100 matters through Mediation while working as Mediator at Delhi Dispute Resolution Society (DDRS).

## CASE EXPERIENCE IN SETTLING DISPUTES THROUGH MEDIATION:

- Disputes in Insurance Sector
- Bank Loan Settlements
- Disputes relating to Civil Rights
- Commercial/Business Disputes
- Construction related disputes
- Consumer Fraud Cases
- Contract Disputes
- Disputes regarding Employment
- Disputes relating to Entertainment Sector

- Defamation Matters
- Media & Communications Disputes
- Disputes relating to Non-profit Organizations
- Disputes in Partnerships
- Personal injury
- Probate
- Trusts
- Medical malpractice

- Intellectual Property Disputes
- Landlord/Tenant Disputes
- Cases relating to Medical and other Professional Negligence
- Real Estate Disputes
- Torts
- Disputes regarding Trusts
- Matrimonial and other Family Disputes
- Minor Criminal Matters where settlement is permissible under the Criminal Law

## PRO-BONO SERVICES

Being a strong supporter of the ethical and ideological theory of Social Responsibility towards the Society we believe in providing Pro Bono services to the needy and under-privileged individuals and low income groups is an integral part of our Services.

Pro Bono initiative specially takes care of the emerging needs of the society and therefore it is aimed to bring about an overall positive impact on the communities, cultures and environments in which they operate in the society.

We believe in giving back to the society and therefore we find immense happiness in sharing our expertise and services with the under-privileged and socially and economically weaker section of the society.

We provide pro bono services to following categories of individuals and organizations:

- 1) Needy and under-privileged individuals;
- 2) Individuals belonging to low income groups;
- 3) Non-Profit-Organizations working towards the upliftment of women and children;
- 4) Non-Profit-Organizations working towards the upliftment of socially and economically weaker section of society;
- 5) Religious and other Social organizations working for the society especially towards health and education;
- 6) Matters referred by Courts and Tribunals, to the parties/litigants who are unable to reach the Mediation Centers established in the Courts because of their financial and other compulsions.

## ARBITRATION

- Life Member of Indian Council of Arbitration
- Oswal Sugar Vs. Ijaz Bothers (International Arbitration) Represented Indian Clients in the International Arbitration against Pakistani business group Ijaz Brother.
- Reliance Telecom Ltd. Vs. Union of India: Represented Union of India against Reliance Telecom Ltd. Before Hon'ble Dr. Justice A.R. Lakshmanan (Retd.) Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
- Department of Telecommunication, Union of India Vs. Tata tele Services Ltd.: Represented Union of India against Tata Tele Services Ltd. Before Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Verma Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
- Represented Union of India in various matters while acting as Senior Arbitration Panel Counsel for the Government of India

## LITIGATION

- Empanelled as Counsel for the Union of India in the Supreme Court of India since 1999 till December 2014. Have appeared for the Union of India in a number of prestigious matters.
- Empanelled on the panel of senior counsels for defending PSEB in Supreme Court and NCDRC.
- Empanelled as Panel counsel for State of Haryana in Supreme Court, Delhi High Court, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal and National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission from 2000 till 2005.
- Have been handling cases of Delhi Police in Supreme Court of India and High Court of Delhi.
- Handling cases in different High Courts all over India.
- Worked as Legal Advisor to Escorts Limited, Faridabad from 1990-1996.
- Worked from 1996 to January 1999 in the Chamber of Justice K.P Bhandari, Senior Advocate (Former Advocate General, Punjab, Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court and a Former Chairman of Law Commission, Punjab).
- Appeared in a number of Public Interest Litigations (PIL) before Supreme Court of India which includes following amongst other:

### ACID ATTACK MATTER

Writ Petition (Crl.) No. 129 OF 2006

Laxmi Vs. Union Of India & Ors.

### RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE EDUCATION

Writ Petition (C) No. 95 Of 2010

Society for Un-aided Private Schools of Rajasthan

VS. U.O.I. & Anr.

### TOBACCO CONTROL MATTER:

Writ Petition (Civil) No. 549 Of 2008

Health For Millions Tr. Legal Advisor Vs. Union Of India & Ors.

RIGHT TO FOOD MATTER:

Writ Petition No. 196/2001

PUCL Vs. Union Of India & Ors.

Writ Petition (Civil) No. 583 Of 2003

Safai Karamchari Andolan And Ors. Vs. Union Of India And Ors.

Writ Petition (C) No.1022/1989

All India Judges Asson. & Ors Vs. Union Of India & Ors

## AREA OF SPECILISATION

- Corporate Law,
- Women and Children Laws
- Sexual Harassment Laws,
- Constitutional Law,
- Administrative Law,
- Industrial Law,
- Commercial Law,
- Land Acquisition Law,
- Writ Petition and Arbitration proceedings,
- Coal Mines Provident Fund,
- Criminal Laws,
- Service Law,
- CEGAT, Excise and Taxation, Etc.

## EXPERIENCE

- 25 years of Practice of Law
- Having Independent Practice in the Supreme Court of India, Delhi High Court, National Commission for Women, Delhi Commission for Women, Central Administration Tribunal, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, MRTTP Commission and CEGAT. Handling Civil Matters, Constitutional Cases, Taxation, Intellectual Property, Arbitration, Service Matters, Land Acquisition and Company & Commercial Matters.
- Being Empanelled on the "B" Panel of Advocates appear for Union of India in Supreme Court brief and appear with Attorney General of India Solicitor General of India and other Additional Solicitor General of India, Apart from Union of India have an independent practice in Supreme Court And have briefed and appeared with a number of Senior Counsels.
- Appearing in the High Court of Delhi in a number of suits, writs, company petitions.
- Appearing in National Commission for Women, Delhi Commission for Women and other authorities for the cause of women and girl child.
- Appearing in MRTTP Courts, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Delhi State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Central Administrative Tribunal, CEGAT, Company Law Board, BIFR, AIFR.
- Appearing in Punjab & Haryana High Court and other High Courts across the country.

## EDUCATION

- B.A. Kurukshetra University
- LL.B. from Delhi University - 1990
- Enrolled as an Advocate by Delhi Bar Council - 1990
- PG Diploma in Alternate Dispute Resolution from Indian Law Institute, New Delhi - 2014

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Marital Status: Married
- Nationality: Indian
- Date of Birth: 19.02.1967
- Place of Birth: New Delhi
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(VARUNA BHANDARI GUGNANI)