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THE HORIZON

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PROMOTING EASE OF DOING BUSINESS IN INDIA: AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR SETTING UP NEW INDUSTRIES

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**PROMOTING EASE OF DOING BUSINESS
IN INDIA: AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN
THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLASSIFICATION
SYSTEM FOR SETTING UP NEW
INDUSTRIES**

mondaq
Connecting knowledge & people

Sonal Verma
Partner - ESG

Abhijeet Kashyap
Associate

The Government of India has accepted the long-standing demand of industry to remove the dual compliance requirement of Environmental Clearance (EC) and Consent to Establish (CTE) for setting up new industries, as per notification no. Q-15012/2/2022-CPW-Part (1) /e-240741 issued on the 12th November 2024. Non-polluting white category industries will no longer be required to obtain CTE or Consent to Operate (CTO). Industries that have already obtained EC will no longer need to acquire CTE. This move aims to 4 reduce the compliance burden and prevent duplication of approvals. Notification to this effect has been issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974..Read more [Mondaq](#)

SUMMARY OF COP 29: BAKU, AZERBAIJAN A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF UNFCCC COP 29 OUTCOMES AND GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

SONAL VERMA, LL.M(UK), Ph.d(Law),
Partner - ESG

MAHIMA RAWAT, Assistant Manager - ESG

COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, marked a significant milestone in global climate action by setting ambitious goals for climate finance and finalising mechanisms for the carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. The conference established the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) to triple annual climate finance for developing nations to \$300 billion by 2035, while also emphasizing adaptation and Indigenous-led strategies. Despite these advancements, many criticized the commitments as insufficient, reflecting the challenges of balancing diverse global priorities. To read the complete article, can be read on [Mondaq](#) & [Lexology](#)



DECODING BRSR DISCLOSURES FOR FY 23-24 ONWARDS

SONAL VERMA, LL.M(UK), Ph.d(Law),
Partner - ESG

ANSHITA AGARWAL, Associate



1. EVOLUTION OF SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING IN INDIA

In recent times, the world has recognized the urgency of addressing climate change and embracing sustainable development. Companies are now carefully examined in the capital markets, where their social

standing is directly linked to financial performance. Investors in particular, are looking for environmental, social, and governance indicators to identify companies that are not only financially sound but also align with their ethical standards. The shift towards sustainable investment is becoming increasingly pronounced among investors. To The complete article can be read on [Mondaq](#)

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION (DPDP) RULE 2025 REGIME IN INDIA

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**CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE
PROPOSED DIGITAL PERSONAL
DATA PROTECTION (DPDP)
RULE 2025 REGIME IN INDIA**

LEXOLOGY

Sonal Verma
Partner - ESG

Abhijeet Kashyap
Associate

The evolution of data protection laws in India has been a dynamic and pivotal journey, reflecting the country's growing emphasis on safeguarding personal data in the digital age. This trajectory began with the recognition of the "Right to Privacy" as a fundamental right by the Supreme Court of India, particularly in the landmark judgment of Hon'ble Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India¹ in 2017. The Apex Court decision laid down essential principles concerning privacy and underscored the significance of protecting personal information in the context of increasing digitalization. The complete article can be read on [Mondaq & Lexology](#)

NOTABLE DEALS

Dhir & Dhir Associates advises IIFCL on sanctioning ₹3,500 crore to Indian Railway FinCorp

India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) is a wholly-owned Government of India enterprise established in 2006 to provide long-term financial assistance to infrastructure projects in India.



The Deal has been published on [Bar & Bench](#)



DEALS & MORE

Dhir & Dhir advises Tata Capital Limited on INR 250 Crore Financing to Ampln Energy Transition

Advised Tata Capital Limited as its legal counsel in connection of financial assistance aggregating to INR 250.00 Crore made available to Ampln Energy Transition Private Limited for funding capital expenditure and towards energy projects aggregating to capacity of 244 MW being implemented by AMP Solar Group.

ADVISED BY



Guranpreet Singh Sarna
Partner



Shikha Singh
Associate Partner



Kriti Jain
Associate

THE PODIUM

Maneesha Dhir, Managing Partner at Dhir & Dhir Associates, convened an insightful panel on “Cross Border Insolvency/Recognition Proceedings” at IWIRC@INSOL 25, Hong Kong, on March 20, 2025.

March 20th 2025

IWIRC@INSOL 25
Hong Kong

Cross Border Insolvency/Recognition Proceedings
March 20, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM CST

 Maneesha Dhir Moderator Dhir & Dhir Associates & Solicitors New Delhi, India	 Kathlene Burke Maples Group Dublin, Ireland	 Ming Dong JunHe Shanghai, China	 Dara Levinson Silveira Keller Benvenuti Kim San Francisco, United States	 Donna Wacker Clifford Chance Hong Kong, China
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The interactive session covered critical aspects and practical challenges associated with cross-border insolvency cases, highlighting global best practices and emerging trends.



Maneesha Dhir, Managing Partner at Dhir & Dhir Associates, chaired a session on “Innovative approaches in Insolvency: ADR, Mediation and Hybrid Resolution Mechanisms” on the side-lines of the INSOL International Mumbai Seminar 2025, held on 8th February 2025 at The Four Seasons Hotel, Mumbai.



Dr. Sonal Verma, LL.M (UK), Ph.d (Law), Partner (ESG) & Global Leader (Markets & Strategy) at Dhir & Dhir Associates, spoke at the TEDx held at RGNLU, Punjab. Engaging with a dynamic audience, exchanging perspectives with esteemed speakers, and sharing insights on navigating global markets and strategy made this an unforgettable experience.



Dr. Sonal Verma delved into the historical evolution of ESG principles, tracing their roots from compliance-driven reporting to their current role as a driver of sustainable business practices. He highlighted how global climate challenges have reshaped the ESG agenda, pushing organisations to move beyond box-ticking exercises and embrace meaningful, measurable impact.

The talk emphasised the role of innovation, stakeholder collaboration, and transparent reporting in addressing climate risks while unlocking new opportunities for growth and resilience.



Dr. Sonal Verma, in line with his previous enlightening sessions was invited by TEDx AIIMS Raipur to share his views on the theme of “Building and advocating sustainable cities.”



Dr. Sonal Verma addressed the evolving ESG landscape, emphasizing the growing importance of sustainability, ethical governance, and regulatory compliance in the alkali industry. He highlighted how businesses must align with global ESG standards to remain competitive and responsible in today’s dynamic regulatory environment.



Mr. Guranpreet Singh Sarna, Partner at Dhir & Dhir Associates, contributed his thoughts on India **INC. 2.0 - The Great Indian Regulatory Drive**.



Dr. Sonal Verma, Partner ESG Practice, was amongst the distinguished panellists who spoke on **The Smarter GC - Are you in the race?** He represented the firm at the Mumbai & Bangalore event.



In line with the knowledge sharing initiatives, Dr. Sonal Verma was invited on the panel of the Mumbai Sustainability conclave on implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: Role of Universities, Industries & Organisations, organised by O.P. Jindal Global University




Naveli Reshamwala, Associate Partner at Dhir & Dhir Associates, had been invited as a judge for the Semi-Final Panel at the 3rd Virtual International Client Counselling Competition (VICCC) 2025, organized by hashtag#MediateGuru!

This prestigious event, scheduled from 17th to 19th January 2025, brought together the brightest minds in client counseling from across the globe, offering a unique platform to refine skills and engage with thought leaders in the legal and ADR landscape.

We are Honoured to have

HON'BLE JUDGES
FOR SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS OF

3rd Virtual International Client Counselling Competition 2025



MS. NAVELI RESHAMWALLA
Associate Partner at
Dhir & Dhir Associates



MR. ANKIT KONWAR
Principal Associate at
Hammurabi &
Solomon Partners

12TH JAN Last date to Register your Team

17th Jan to 19th Jan 2025

www.mediateguru.com/viccc

Virtual, Zoom

[f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [in](#) /MediateGuru

RANKINGS

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ALOK DHIR
Founder & Managing Partner

Chambers
TOP RANKED
Asia-Pacific
2025

**RESTRUCTURING/
INSOLVENCY**

1 Band 1

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2025

**RESTRUCTURING/INSOLVENCY
DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

ALOK DHIR
Founder and
Managing Partner
Dhir & Dhir Associates
Partners

HALL OF FAME

Restructuring
and Insolvency

Legal500

ASIA PACIFIC
2025

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BANKING & FINANCE

**BANKRUPTCY,
INSOLVENCY &
RESTRUCTURING**

ESG & ENVIRONMENT

INDIA BUSINESS
LAW JOURNAL

**AWARD WINNING
LAW FIRM**

***** 2025 *****

LAW
ASIA

RANKINGS

INDIA • CITY FOCUS:
MUMBAI

Legal500
ASIA PACIFIC
2025

Banking & Finance

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LEADING FIRM

Legal500
ASIA PACIFIC
2025

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Restructuring & Insolvency
Dispute Resolution: Litigation
Real Estate & Construction
Corporate and M&A
TMT
Banking and Finance


GURANPREET SINGH SARNA
Partner

NEXT GENERATION PARTNER

Real Estate & Construction

Legal500
ASIA PACIFIC
2025

 **Dhir & Dhir**
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We appreciated Guranpreet Singh Sarna, Shikha Singh, and their team's knowledge of relevant related laws and their prompt advice availability.

Legal 500 Research


SHIKHA SINGH
Associate Partner

LEADING ASSOCIATE

Banking & Finance

Legal500
ASIA PACIFIC
2025

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YEARS

We appreciated Guranpreet Singh Sarna, Shikha Singh, and their team's knowledge of relevant related laws and their prompt advice availability.

Legal 500 Research

PODCASTS ESG DECIBELS



**Bridging AI, Ethics, and Sustainability
– A Visionary Joins ESG Decibel**

**PODCASTS
FOR YOU.**

MAYA SHERMAN
Senior Technology & Innovation Advisor
Embassy of Israel in India

SONAL VERMA
Partner
ESG Advisory

**ESG Decibels
Season 4 Ep 1**



Follow our Podcasts



“AI FOR GOOD: BRIDGING ETHICS, CLIMATE, AND TECHNOLOGY”

We are honored to welcome Maya Sherman to the new season of the ESG Decibel Podcast! As an AI Expert & Project Co-Lead at the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) and Senior Technology & Innovation Advisor at the Embassy of Israel in India, Maya brings a wealth of knowledge at the intersection of AI, ethics, and sustainability. An UN-backed climate innovation champion, a Scientific Council Member at the Israeli Association for Ethics in AI, and an Expert Board Member of Fidutam, Maya’s work is shaping the

responsible technology landscape globally. Join us for an insightful conversation as we explore how AI can drive ethical innovation, sustainability, and a better future for all! Her contributions to AI-driven policymaking and climate-focused tech solutions are reshaping industries worldwide. This episode promises to be a deep dive into the transformative power of AI in addressing global challenges.



**Powering India's Green Future:
Pioneering Energy Efficiency & Decarbonization**

PODCASTS FOR YOU.

SAURABH DIDDI
Director
Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
Ministry of Power, GoI

SONAL VERMA
Partner
ESG Advisory

**ESG Decibels
Season 4 Ep 1**



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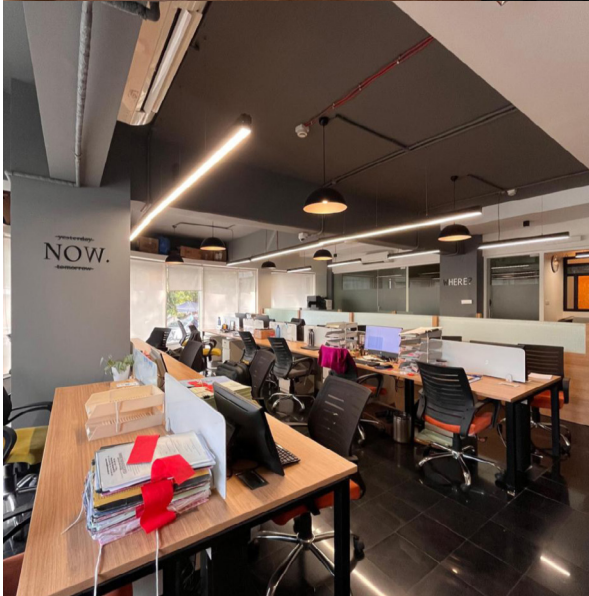


“POWERING INDIA’S GREEN FUTURE: PIONEERING ENERGY EFFICIENCY & DECARBONIZATION”

We are thrilled to welcome Mr. Saurabh Diddi to the ESG Decibel Podcast Series. As the Director of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) under the Ministry of Power, Government of India, Mr. Diddi brings over 20 years of leadership and expertise in energy policy, carbon reduction, and decarbonization. With credentials as a Certified Energy Auditor (CEA), MBA, and B. Tech in Mechanical Engineering, he

has successfully implemented innovative programs like the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, the Zero Carbon Building Programme, and the National Carbon Market. Under his leadership, India has seen a significant shift towards energy efficiency, resulting in investments of over US\$12 billion and energy savings of ~69.5 billion units. Mr. Diddi’s work continues to drive India’s transition to a more sustainable and low-carbon future, forging partnerships with key stakeholders and positioning India as a global leader in energy efficiency and climate action.

“UNVEILING LAW & ELEGANCE: A GLIMPSE INTO OUR NEW MUMBAI OFFICE”





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Dhir & Dhir Associates is a leading full-service law firm in India serving as a single-window legal and regulatory advisor globally. It has offices in New Delhi and Mumbai. The firm's areas of practice include Restructuring and Insolvency, Corporate/Commercial Advisory and M&A, Real Estate, Banking and Finance, Dispute Resolution, Capital Markets, Infrastructure & Energy, Environmental, Social & Governance, IPR, Technology, Media & Telecommunications, Employment Law and Consumer Law.

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