

Chambers

Asia-Pacific —

2021

The leading lawyers
and law firms in Asia-Pacific

Bangladesh



How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Corporate & Finance

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Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bhuiyan Sharif Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates
Kabir Nihad Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed & Associates
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Sattar Sameer Sattar & Co.
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Band 2
Alam Tanjib Tanjib Alam & Associates
Doulah Nasirud Doulah & Doulah *
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Band 3
Bari A.S.A. A.S & Associates
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Up-and-coming individuals
Khan Suhan Accord Chambers *
Mahbub Saqeb Mahbub & Company
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Accord Chambers

See profile on p.297

What the team is known for Emerging corporate practice, deft in assisting international and domestic clients with project financing, acquisi-

Intellectual Property
Leading Firms
Doulah & Doulah *
Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates *
Remfry & Son Ltd
Leading Individuals
Bhuiyan Kashem Remfry & Son Ltd
Doulah A.B.M. Shamsud Doulah & Doulah *
Hussain Mohd Moazzam Hossain & Associates (ORL) ◇
Siddiq Imran The Law Counsel (ORL) ◇

tions and development, particularly in the energy sector. Additionally experienced in advising clients regarding cross-border M&A and investments from a wide range of industries. Also well versed in employment issues, as well as the healthcare, insurance and telecommunications sectors.

Strengths A source notes: "Accord Chambers has performed in an exemplary way. The quality of the work is excellent and the responsiveness is very good."

Another interviewee comments that "their team assists with clear explanations and the exact amount of precision needed, and they are always there to support you."

Work highlights Advised Siemens Healthcare on regulatory matters in Bangladesh, including issues such as foreign exchange guidelines, the procurement of offshore services, and online transactions.

Notable practitioners

Suhan Khan (see p.296) is "very cooperative and accommodating, and readily accedes to clients' requests," according to an interviewee. He possesses particular expertise in assisting clients with M&A and joint ventures in various sectors, as well as matters relating to energy, infrastructure, technology and telecommunications.

Akhtar Imam & Associates

See profile on p.298

What the team is known for Well-regarded practice skilled in M&A, tax and compliance issues. Also provides banking and finance regulatory advice, and assists with joint ventures, liquidations and corporate restructuring. Key sectors of expertise include telecoms, pharmaceuticals and hospitality.

Notable practitioners

Rashna Imam (see p.295) is experienced in advising international entities on corporate matters in Bangladesh, alongside dispute resolution. She regularly acts for clients on foreign investment regulations, banking and employment.

Shipping
Leading Firms
Orr, Dignam & Co
Rahman's Chambers *

A.S & Associates

What the team is known for Well-reputed office with a broad offering, including expertise in tax structuring, loan facility agreements, corporate advisory and capital markets transactions, as well as employment. Also active in energy and construction matters, alongside technology and telecommunications regulatory issues. Provides assistance to both foreign and domestic clients, often working in conjunction with international law firms.

Strengths One client reports: "Their understanding of business regulations and provision of creative and out-of-the-box solutions is particularly impressive."

"The firm stands out in terms of its client service mindset and delivery on commitments," confirms another interviewee.

Work highlights Assisted Sheba Platform with its BDT260 million Pre-Series A equity fundraising exercise.

Notable practitioners

Managing partner **A.S.A. Bari** is described by an interviewee as "an exceptionally client-centric legal counsel." He is recognised for his capabilities in advising local and foreign corporates on a range of matters, including in relation to finance, projects and tax. According to his clients, **Ferdousur Rahman** "is extremely detail-oriented and delivers legal advice in a clear and professional manner." He is experienced in assisting international clients with cross-border transactions and is additionally knowledgeable in employment issues.

DFDL

See profile on p.311

What the team is known for Regional firm with a Bangladesh office, regularly advising foreign and domestic clients on cross-border transactions. Noted for its strong expertise in the projects, energy and infrastructure sectors, as well as on M&A deals. Draws on its network across the ASEAN region to handle international mandates.

Strengths One commentator confirms that "DFDL has a good practice in providing both local and international counsel."

Notable practitioners

Shahwar Nizam is a key point of contact for clients.

Doulah & Doulah**See profile on p.299**

What the team is known for Maintains its market-leading reputation for IP matters, regularly handling trade mark and patent prosecution and enforcement, whilst it also advises clients on banking and finance and M&A, as well as project finance and aviation finance. Active in the power and energy sectors, including renewable energy, advising both sponsors and lenders on numerous projects, including PPPs. A trusted adviser to a wide range of multinational clients across a variety of industry sectors.

Strengths One source comments: *"Their advice is succinct, to the point and well organised."*

Another interviewee reports: *"They are the go-to firm for IP protection."*

Work highlights Handled a transaction for Colgate-Palmolive regarding its portfolio of trade marks in Bangladesh.

Acted for Total Eren on its acquisition of a majority stake in a 50 MW solar power plant in Bangladesh.

Notable practitioners

A source says that **Nasirud Doulah** (see p.295) *"is easy to communicate with, and open and practical in exploring possible solutions to issues that are not straightforward."* He is respected for his capabilities in assisting international clients with M&A, project finance and PPP project development.

Amina Khatoon (see p.296) is respected for her experience in M&A. She regularly advises both domestic and international clients on cross-border transactions and investments, as well as project development in the renewable energy and infrastructure sectors. **Shamsud Doulah** (see p.295) is well regarded for his longstanding expertise in IP law, particularly regarding anti-counterfeiting. He is often instructed by leading international clients on actions in Bangladesh.

Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates**See profile on p.300**

What the team is known for Outstanding corporate and commercial practice which regularly advises clients on high-value cross-border transactions. Offers expertise in a wide range of M&A, capital markets, employment, insurance and tax matters, as well as banking regulatory matters. Especially active on project financing and development mandates. Advises both international and domestic clients from a variety of sectors. Also provides a range of both contentious and non-contentious IP services.

Strengths One source reports that *"they are efficient and really know what they are doing,"* and *"their associates and partners are all responsive."*

Work highlights Acted for Export-Import Bank of China on the financing of a 1,320 MW coal-based power project in Bangladesh, worth a total of USD1.98 billion.

Notable practitioners

Kamal Hossain is a senior figure who commands a longstanding reputation for excellence in the transactional space. He is especially knowledgeable about projects in the oil and gas industry, as well as banking and corporate matters. **Sharif Bhuiyan** is a leading corporate lawyer in the market. He is deeply experienced in advising international and local clients on cross-border M&A, capital markets and projects matters, among others.

Farooq and Associates

What the team is known for Noted team especially known for its involvement in the financing and development of energy and infrastructure projects, including renewable power. Experienced in assisting international corporates and financial institutions with a wide range of mandates, such as M&A, banking, land and tax issues. Also advises on investments in the e-commerce space.

Work highlights Advised Bank of China, China Construction Bank and China Development Bank on the USD1.78 billion debt financing of SS Power I, towards the development and operation of two 660 MW coal-fired power plants in Bangladesh.

Notable practitioners

M. Imtiaz Farooq is a key point of contact for clients.

The Legal Circle

What the team is known for Established practice providing a comprehensive range of corporate services to national and international clients, routinely advising foreign entities on their investments in Bangladesh. Core expertise in domestic and cross-border M&A and corporate finance, with additional strength in regulatory issues. Team demonstrates particular activity on matters in the power, infrastructure and oil and gas sectors, including related acquisitions and project development. Active on matters in the real estate, retail and technology sectors.

Strengths One source says: *"They are well versed in relation to the complexities of power and infrastructure matters in the local market, and the requirements of international entities."*

Another interviewee reports that its team members are *"a pleasure to deal with and calm and considered."*

Work highlights Assisted Kawasaki Heavy Industries with the negotiation of an EPC contract with Bangladesh Power Development Board for the construction of a 100 MW power plant.

Notable practitioners

Masud Khan is highly respected in the market, with expertise in aiding clients with complex cross-border M&A, private equity and financing deals. He is especially knowledgeable in matters concerning the technology and energy sectors.

Mahbub & Company

What the team is known for Notable corporate practice offering a broad service to both domestic and international clients. Experienced in assisting companies with employment issues in Bangladesh, in addition to M&A, corporate governance, tax and IP. Well versed in the technology sector, including in relation to start-up companies.

Strengths A client comments that *"their advice is very to the point, but also detailed, and given to us in a user-friendly format."*

Another interviewee notes: *"They are very good at explaining local processes. They are very efficient and communicate well."*

Work highlights Advised MF Consumers and Monsoon Holdings, which are subsidiaries of Multimode Group, on a BDT9.2 million exit from a healthcare technology company.

Notable practitioners

Saqeb Mahbub possesses a growing reputation for assisting both domestic and international corporates with cross-border transactions, as well as corporate governance and employment issues. *"His advice is very solid and he knows the system in Bangladesh,"* confirms an interviewee.

Orr, Dignam & Co

What the team is known for A distinguished shipping department advising on the full range of maritime matters, including with regard to vessel arrests and other routine concerns. Also noted for its expertise in maritime litigation, handling substantial cases involving multiple jurisdictions.

Strengths One market commentator describes the firm as *"a leading shipping practice."*

Notable practitioners

M. Hafizullah is a key point of contact for clients.

Rahman's Chambers**See profile on p.301**

What the team is known for Specialist shipping practice covering the full scope of maritime issues including ship arrests, marine insurance, bills of lading and admiralty. Also active on collision cases, often representing international P&I clubs and shipping companies. Additionally has a recognised practice in such areas as business formation, projects and energy, M&A and employment matters.

Strengths A client comments that *"they are very quick to come back to us with solutions and have been very helpful in giving advice on local laws, regulations and requirements."*

Another source reports: *"It is a highly efficient team which always offers timely support."*

Work highlights Represented London P&I Club and a shipowner in LMAA arbitration, in a payment to hire dispute involving a charterer.

Advised Pou Chen Group on various HR and labour compliance issues in Bangladesh.

Notable practitioners

Mohammed Forrukh Rahman (see p.296) is particularly recognised for his expertise in shipping matters, whilst he also assists clients with M&A and employment law. A client says: *"He gives very precise advice on how to deal with procedural issues and has an eye for detail, providing almost immediate responses."*

Remfry & Son Ltd

What the team is known for Highly regarded IP team covering the full scope of issues, including trade marks, patent and copyright matters. Offers a domain name management service, as well as handling complex litigations.

Notable practitioners

Kashem Bhuiyan is described by a market commentator as *"the catalyst in the practice"* at Remfry & Son. An IP specialist, he leads the firm's practice across a broad range of IP issues.

Sattar & Co.

What the team is known for Versatile practice with particular experience in advising multinational and international corporate clients on their interests in the Bangladesh market, including with regard to employment and energy law. Also experienced in assisting local banks and foreign lenders with cross-border M&A, as well as joint venture contracts. Particularly well placed to advise on TMT regulations in Bangladesh.

Strengths One source reports: *"Their work is comprehensive, very clearly communicated and consistently of a high quality."*

Another interviewee notes: *"They provide excellent support, even at the eleventh hour. Their willingness to work at all times is an impressive trait."*

Work highlights Advised Canadian Solar Energy Holdings Singapore on the PPA, implementation

agreement and other documents relating to its operation of a power plant in Bangladesh.

Notable practitioners

Sameer Sattar is frequently complimented for his expertise in corporate matters, routinely assisting clients in the technology, energy and financial sectors with a variety of issues. One source reports: *"He has tirelessly helped us to reach our goals and his straightforward approach is greatly valued."*

Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed & Associates

What the team is known for Highly regarded and established full-service practice, renowned for its capabilities in assisting clients with complex transactions. At the forefront of large corporate M&A and general commercial matters, where it is frequently instructed by banks. Also earns recognition for its work in the projects and infrastructure space.

Strengths One market commentator notes: *"They are very strong in corporate matters."*

Notable practitioners

Nihad Kabir is distinguished for her corporate practice, earning praise for her connections within Bangladesh's legal market. She possesses great experience in advising domestic and international companies on major transactions and infrastructure projects. **Syed Afzal Hasan Uddin** possesses extensive expertise in projects and project finance, in particular in the oil and gas industry. He also has further capabilities in the telecommunications sector, and in relation to banking and finance.

Tanjib Alam & Associates

What the team is known for Well-regarded corporate practice, frequently enlisted by leading domestic and international clients on cross-border mandates. Its expertise includes M&A, corporate restructuring, banking, employment and tax matters. Also active on project finance, as well as transactions in the TMT and finance sectors.

Strengths One client reports: *"Their advice is reliable and they are proactive in identifying risks, which helps us to prevent future issues."*

Work highlights Acted for Dhaka Stock Exchange on the acquisition of some of its shares by the Shanghai and Shenzhen Stock Exchanges.

Notable practitioners

Tanjib Alam assists both foreign and domestic companies with complex cross-border M&A and financings, as well as local employment issues. One client reports: *"He provides in-depth analysis, critically analysing any legal issue and coming up with solutions. He has the ability to simplify complicated legal problems."*

Vertex Chambers

What the team is known for Respected team adept at handling an array of corporate and finance matters, including those concerning M&A, private equity, venture capital and corporate disputes. Particularly noted for its tax expertise, as well as knowledge of the power sector. Advises clients in various disciplines, from pharmaceutical companies to NGOs.

Strengths One source confirms that *"the firm has*

a very good corporate practice."

Notable practitioners

Junayed Ahmed Chowdhury is a key point of contact for clients.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Ashrafal Hadi is regarded by a source as *"a lawyer who constantly thinks of ways to assist his client, coming up with out-of-the-box solutions."* He routinely assists international and domestic clients with M&A, projects and financings, acting in such sectors as telecommunications and energy.

Mohd Moazzam Hussain is recognised for his solid IP practice. He is particularly noted in the market for his experience in enforcement matters.

Shawn Novel *"consistently delivers and is responsive, hands on and knows his stuff,"* according to a source. He is well versed in assisting international clients with M&A, company incorporation, corporate restructuring and employment law, among others.

Imran Siddiq is recognised for his capabilities in handling IP issues, including infringement proceedings. A source finds him to be *"extremely responsive to all emails and telephone calls and very pleasant to work with, providing a high standard of work that is clearly presented."*

Dispute Resolution

Dispute Resolution
Leading Firms
Band 1
A Hossain & Associates
Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates *
Band 2
Akhtar Imam & Associates *
Amir & Amir Law Associates
The Law Counsel
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Hossain Kamal Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates
Islam Amir-Ul Amir & Amir Law Associates
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Hossain Ajmalul A Hossain & Associates
Mahmud Rakanuddin Rakanuddin Mahmud (ORL) ◇
Band 2
Amir Tania Amir & Amir Law Associates
Hossain Sara Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates
Imam Akhtar Akhtar Imam & Associates *
Rahman-Islam Anita Ghazi The Legal Circle (ORL) ◇
Band 3
Ariff A F Hassan A F Hassan Ariff & Associates (ORL) ◇
Imam Rashna Akhtar Imam & Associates *
Rahman Mohammed Forrukh Rahman's (ORL) ◇ *
Up-and-coming individuals
Khan Arefin Ashraf Stellar Chambers (ORL) ◇
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

A Hossain & Associates

What the team is known for Widely acknowledged as one of the leading litigation firms in the country. Highly experienced in representing both domestic and international clients, and also well regarded for its arbitration expertise. Regularly instructed on cases in the shipping, energy and telecommunications sectors.

Notable practitioners

Ajmalul Hossain QC possesses a longstanding reputation as an expert in commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution. He is routinely active on cross-border disputes, with expertise in a range of public law, judicial review and international trade matters.

Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates

See profile on p.300

What the team is known for Accomplished team which advises clients on both domestic and international arbitration, as well as the enforcement of arbitral awards. Often handles disputes in the oil and gas and construction sectors, as well as employment and tax cases. Possesses expertise in public interest and human rights cases. Acts for leading domestic corporates, as well as foreign entities.

Strengths *"Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates provides thorough and in-depth opinions within a short time period,"* attests a source.

Another interviewee says that the firm is *"a good candidate for looking after constitutional matters."*

Work highlights Represented Cobra Instalaciones y Servicios in ICC arbitration relating to

a dispute with a state-owned company over the construction of transmission lines and substations on a turnkey basis.

Notable practitioners

Kamal Hossain is a revered figure for his great experience in dispute resolution. His expertise extends to international arbitration, as well as local administrative and constitutional matters. **Sara Hossain** is a prominent name for human rights and public interest litigation, including pro bono matters. She also has expertise in administrative and constitutional disputes, as well as family and employment law matters.

Band 2

Akhtar Imam & Associates

See profile on p.298

What the team is known for Maintains expertise in company litigation, judicial review and arbitration. Well versed in handling winding-up applications and shareholder disputes, as well as in challenging orders of government and statutory bodies. Arbitration capabilities cover both regional and national claims, assisting with arbitration clauses, enforceability of awards and choice of forum. Telecommunications and oil and gas are key sectors of expertise.

Notable practitioners

Akhtar Imam (see p.295) is *"a leading senior counsel who is very respected in the courts, and he has a strong reputation in litigation,"* notes a market commentator. He is regularly active on commercial litigation as well as arbitration. **Rashna Imam** (see p.295) is especially noted for her expertise

in human rights and public interest litigation. She is experienced in assisting clients with both litigation and arbitration, including international proceedings.

Amir & Amir Law Associates

What the team is known for Established practice offering comprehensive litigation and arbitration services to both domestic and international corporations. Its team has expertise in a wide range of areas, including banking litigation, IP, shipping and environmental law. Especially represents financial institutions, as well as companies from other sectors such as technology, shipping and cement.

Work highlights Acted for several clients in litigation, such as Janata Bank, Ryosho Techno Singapore and Taiheyo Cement.

Notable practitioners

Amir-UI Islam is considered by a market commentator to be “a top-tier litigator who is highly respected for his knowledge of the law and his submissions.” His expertise includes IP, banking and maritime litigation. **Tania Amir** is known for her experience in supporting clients in commercial litigation across a broad range of areas. She often acts on behalf of international clients from a range of sectors including banking, shipping and cement.

The Law Counsel

What the team is known for Advises on a broad variety of disputes, including shareholder cases, IP litigation, medical negligence and insurance claims. Also proficient in employment and tax disputes, as well as public interest cases. Often acts on constitutional and administrative cases. Maintains an impressive roster of clients in a range of sectors, including technology, insurance and finance.

Work highlights Representing RELX India in an ongoing payment dispute with one of its local distributors, in relation to an agreement for shipments not made under a letter of credit.

Notable practitioners

Imran Siddiq and Ehsan Siddiq are key points of contact.

Other Ranked Lawyers

As a former attorney general, **A F Hassan Ariff** is well recognised for his expertise in litigation, with market sources describing him as “a very senior counsel who has a very good practice.” He also handles arbitration and mediation, with expertise in construction, tax, employment and administrative matters.

Arefin Ashraf Khan is “clear with his advice and

explains the process in easy terms,” appreciates a client. He earns respect for his able handling of commercial dispute resolution for international clients, with expertise in land, employment, company and energy disputes.

Rokanuddin Mahmud is described by sources as “one of the finest lawyers in dispute resolution.” He commands great respect for his extensive knowledge, especially in terms of constitutional law matters.

Mohammed Forrukh Rahman (see p.296) “has excellent and wide exposure in his profession, and is impressive in handling legal issues with aplomb,” summarises an interviewee. He is particularly praised for his knowledge and experience in arbitration, and he has expertise in bankruptcy, construction, energy and shipping cases.

Anita Ghazi Rahman-Islam is experienced in a broad range of topics in dispute resolution, including judicial review, procurement and public interest cases. She has experience in relation to tax, company and telecommunications disputes, among others.

Leaders' Profiles in Bangladesh

DOULAH, A.B.M. Shamsud

Doulah & Doulah, Dhaka

+88 019 1148 2175

sdoulah@doulah.com

Featured in Intellectual Property (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Preeminent practice in commercial and intellectual property litigation and alternative dispute resolution including arbitration, mediation and conciliation. Specializes on foreign judgment and arbitral award enforcement in Bangladesh Courts. So far enforced twenty-seven foreign judgments. Recent achievements include winning lawsuit for Stevedoring Services of America on a private port dispute. Recently acted in two ICC arbitration for Gulf Air. Other major clients include Microsoft, Saipem, China Harbour etc. He also has specialized practice on documentary credit related disputes and settlements acting for a large number of foreign banks and institutions. Recent reported cases in the fields of intellectual property includes granting parallel import the status of “Usage” in determining the valid use of trademark in Bangladesh jurisdiction. Acted in anti-dumping suits before United States Courts for anti dumping evaluation of import of catfish and shrimp in the United States. Currently representing Industrial & Commercial Bank of China in a large value dispute in Bangladesh Courts.

Publications: International Arbitration (GLG), Attachment of Assets, and Enforcement of Money Judgments (Juris Publishing), Major International Laws for the Protection of IP Rights.

Personal: LLB (University of Dhaka), MA (Calcutta University) and MLS (University of Hawaii)

DOULAH, Nasirud

Doulah & Doulah, Dhaka

+88 017 1150 6015

ndoulah@doulah.com

Featured in Corporate & Finance (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Extensive experience in M&A, banking, PPP project development, finance and capital market working with global law firms and businesses. Participated in thirty-two PPP, sixty-eight power and forty-three global M&A deals so far. Concurrent clients include IFC, IsDB, EIB, Finnfund etc. in finance, and Microsoft, GE, Excelerate-Energy, Gates-Foundation etc. in corporate sector. Acted for IFC in Maheshkhali LNG Terminal Development. Advising GE in developing a 1250 MW IPP with BPDB under PPP. Represented Shenzhen Stock Exchange in acquiring Dhaka Stock Exchange, CSI/Powerchina in acquisition of First Dhaka Elevated Expressway and Zhenhua in acquiring three gas fields. Acted for China Exim Bank in financing Khulna 375 MW Gas IPP and Kalapara 2x662 Coal IPP. China Development Bank in financing a toll road and EDC in financing two aircraft acquisition. Represented ONGC, OIL, POSCO and Daewoo in recent PSC awards. Acted for Sinosure for risk assessment of three coal fired IPPs. Acted in feasibility study of two Chinese Economic Zones.

Publications: PPP Guidebook(Cakmak), Legal Aspects of Doing Business(CILS), Project Finance(GTDT), Corporate Governance(WorldBank), Foreign Tax & Trade Briefs, Commercial Laws of the World(WestLaw)

Personal: BSc. Engg. (BUET), LLB (University of London), MBA-Finance (IBA).

Member of Thomas Jefferson School of Law Tax, and AML research teams

IMAM, Akhtar

Akhtar Imam & Associates, Dhaka

+8801711526454

akhtar.imam@akhtarimam.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Having enjoyed a successful practice at the English bar for ten years, Akhtar returned to Bangladesh and founded the firm in 1980. He became a Senior Advocate (equivalent of Queen's Counsel in England) of the Supreme Court in 2001 and is regarded as an authority on company litigation, judicial review, international commercial arbitration, labour, employment, corporate and finance. He has handled complex shareholder-management disputes, landmark constitutional law cases as lead counsel and amicus curiae, international commercial arbitrations under the ICC, UNCITRAL, IATA, etc. rules as counsel and arbitrator and landmark M&As in the telecom sector. He has advised global giants like Facebook, British American Tobacco Bangladesh, Visa Inc and General Electric, banks like the Bangladesh Bank (central bank of Bangladesh) and Pubali Bank Limited (the largest private commercial bank), Grameenphone (the largest mobile telecom operator), Biman Bangladesh Airlines (the national flag carrier airline) and Pran Group (food and beverage giant). MNCs (Singer Bangladesh) and Bangladesh concern of international NGOs (Marie Stopes Bangladesh) have benefitted from his leadership and strategic guidance as Director and Chairman of the Board respectively.

Professional Memberships: Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
Personal: B.A., M.A., LLB, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh Barrister-at-Law LLM, Kings College London, UK

IMAM, Rashna

Akhtar Imam & Associates, Dhaka

+8801714136071

rashna.imam@akhtarimam.com

Featured in Corporate & Finance (Bangladesh), Dispute Resolution (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Rashna's specialisations include corporate and finance, foreign investment and dispute resolution. She recently advised Visa on establishing a liaison office and payments systems, British American Tobacco Bangladesh on the scope of trade promotional activities in view of anti-tobacco laws, DFID Bangladesh on establishing a Credit Information Bureau for microfinance and Ernst & Young on foreign exchange control laws. She regularly represents her clients before the Supreme Court in judicial review proceedings against decisions of public bodies, in company litigation and in commercial arbitrations under different rules of arbitration (ICC, UNCITRAL, GAFTA, etc). Her stellar public interest work earned her two fellowships: Asia 21 Young Leader (2018) and Global Programme for Women's Leadership (2019). Her landmark cases include PILs that led to reform of the Organ Donation and Transplantation Act 1999, formulation of guidelines to prevent medically unnecessary C-sections and emergency medical services for road accident victims. Before joining the firm, Rashna gained expertise as a corporate associate at Baker & McKen-

zie (London Office) through advising Arcelor Mittal and Schneider Electric on M&A and post-acquisition integration.
Professional Memberships: Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
Personal: BCL, University of Oxford LLB (Hons) and LLM (International and Commercial Law), University of Buckingham

KHAN, Suhan

Accord Chambers, Dhaka
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Featured in Corporate & Finance (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Admiralty & Shipping (contentious), Arbitration & Dispute Resolution (special focus on commercial & construction disputes) Corporate, Transactional and Merger & Acquisition Commercial litigation Construction & Infrastructure Energy, Power, Petroleum & Petrochemical Foreign Investment Structuring & Regulatory Compliance Labour & Employment

Career: Suhan Khan was called to the Bar of England and Wales and is currently practising in Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Suhan is the Managing Partner of ACCORD CHAMBERS, Bangladesh's leading law firm. Suhan acts as the legal counsel for the American Chamber of Commerce, multiple US-based corporations, several MNCs & INGOs, leading oil, gas, power & energy corporations in China, Singapore, UAE and Bangladesh, major insurance underwriters in Malaysia and Hong Kong

as well as the largest conglomerates of Bangladesh. He is frequently instructed by top tier international law firms located in the UK, Singapore, Hong Kong, UAE, China, South Korea and India.

Professional Memberships: Member, Supreme Court Bar Association Member, Dhaka Bar Association Called to the Bar of England & Wales

Publications: Suhan Khan, Mamun Chowdhury, 'Structuring and financing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Bangladesh' (2020) ABLJ May/June 2020 Issue <https://www.vantageasia.com/bangladesh-fdi-structuring-financing/>; Suhan Khan, 'Covid-19: An event of force majeure or frustration affecting contractual obligations?' The Daily Star (Dhaka, April 26, 2020) <https://www.thedailystar.net/law-our-rights/news/covid-19-event-force-majeure-or-frustration-affecting-contractual-obligations-1896670>;

KHATOON, Amina

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Featured in Corporate & Finance (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Extensive experience in corporate law including compliance, restructure, M&A, tax and employment matters working with large local and international conglomerates. Possesses a market leading practice in real estate arena. Concurrent clients include GE, JC Penney, Mitsubishi, IFC, IDB, Finnfund, Microsoft, Gap, Wall-mart etc. Special-

izes in corporate and real estate due diligence matters attributed to PPP, M&A, power, energy, public listing projects and FCPA exercises. Highly praised for renewable and non-renewable power project development capabilities. Have been acting for Sinenergy, SunEdison and Scatec Solar for development of three solar IPPs respectively, for Powerchina in Barisal 375MW coal fired IPP and for BPDB in developing a 2x660 MW coal fired IPP at Maheshkhali. Acted as Sponsors counsel in Evergreen's USD137m listing in Hong Kong Exchange. Also acted for IFC in development of Maheshkhali LNG Terminal and Shenzhen Stock Exchange and Shanghai Stock Exchange in acquisition of Dhaka Stock Exchange. Acting for Tecnoenergy in developing three gas compression station funded by ADB. Acting for a large number of EPCs in different large scale constructions.
Publications: Doing Business in Bangladesh (Thomson Reuters), Project Finance (GTDT), Commercial Laws of the World (West Law), Corporate Governance (World Bank)

RAHMAN, Mohammed Forrukh

Rahman's Chambers, Dhaka
 008802-9852821; 0088-01755574256
 head@rahmansc.com

Featured in Corporate & Finance (Bangladesh), Dispute Resolution (Bangladesh)

Practice Areas: Area of expertise: Corporate & Finance, Shipping and Dispute Resolution etc. Recently Acted as a lead counsel for Unitex LP Gas Lim-

ited involving design, supply of equipment, project management, supervision, erection and commissioning of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) terminal plant and bottling facilities at Chittagong; advised different companies at different stages of the project starting from due diligence of land, taxation and company matter leading to bidding, unsolicited proposal, negotiation of contract based on PPP model; argued before Hon'ble court and finally were able to assist client in recovering its possession in a sensational matter, widely covered in news media, involving eviction of property located in a prime location of Dhaka between Moosa Bin Shamsher vs. Ayub Ali & Others reported in 2 LNJ (2013) 18 etc.

Career: Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn, London; LL.M. (International Dispute Resolution) (Uni of Lond); PGDipLaw (Maritime) (Uni of Lond); PG CertLaw (Commercial & Corporate) (Uni of Lond); LLB (Uni of Lond); Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Professional Memberships: Panel Arbitrator, SAARC Arbitration Council Fellow, Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (FHKI Arb) Member, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators, Singapore (MSI Arb) Member, Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SMCA) Associate Member, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London (ACI Arb) Panel Mediator, Bangladesh International Arbitration Centre CEDR Accredited Mediator, London, UK.

ACCORD CHAMBERS

www.accordchambers.com tel: +88 01711244627 email: assistance@accordchambers.com

Managing Partner: Suhan Khan

Senior Partner: Mamun Chowdhury

Number of Partners: 4 Number of lawyers: 16

Languages: English, Bangla

Firm Overview:

ACCORD CHAMBERS is one of Bangladesh's leading full-service law firms based in Dhaka, which offers "complete legal solutions" to its domestic and international clients and addresses all concerns in the corporate and commercial context. The firm advises not only on mainstream legal affairs, including arbitration and litigation but also on investments, transactions, business strategies and operations from the perspective of Bangladeshi laws and regulations. ACCORD CHAMBERS has been at the forefront of not only some of the major transactions and deals but also multiple large-scale projects of national importance. It has also successfully represented clients not only in contentious shipping matters and commercial litigations inside Bangladesh but also beyond borders in several international arbitrations.

Main Areas of Practice:

Petroleum, Power & Energy:

- Advised in the construction of Bangladesh's first private sector bitumen plant worth US\$200 million extending over 63 acres of land
- Advising Bangladesh's largest private oil & gas company for a US\$ 2 billion petrochemical complex plant project including complete project documentation and negotiation
- Advising on a US\$ 1 billion mega-oil refinery project involving the country's largest syndicated loan
- Currently engaged with due diligence for multiple independent power projects (IPP) and advising foreign investors on project land acquisition & regulatory compliance
- Advising China's leading power and energy company and construction company with investments in the power, petroleum and petrochemical projects

Construction & Infrastructure:

- Advising in relation to the construction of a jetty and multi-purpose commercial seaport
- Advising a telecom tower company on agreements with the mobile phone operators and telecom regulators
- Negotiated and drafted multiple contracts for the construction of cement grinding units in Bangladesh by Danish and German engineering companies
- Advising a Dubai-based company for the construction of an integrated cement plant in the United Arab Emirates
- Advising a construction company in a railway project of Bangladesh Railway in joint venture with an international rail construction contractor
- Advising a Korean contractor company with legal and regulatory compliance in Bangladesh pertaining to a construction contract for airport development works
- Drafted agreements with Dhaka City Corporation for public roads and roundabout maintenance project inside Dhaka city
- Advised for the construction of a state-of-the-art specialised hospital

- Advising Bangladesh's largest real estate and township company for the last 15 years and undertaking legal vetting for land purchase, acquisition and township projects

M&A and Transactional:

- Advised a US corporation in the acquisition of a leading Bangladeshi tech company
- Currently facilitating a Swedish joint venture (JV) project. Undertook investment structuring, drafted Joint Venture Agreement, incorporated JVC etc.
- Advised in the acquisition of a 54.5 MW power plant including due diligence and project documentation
- Advising prospective foreign investors for investments in multiple IPP power projects
- Advised two Netherlands based venture capital firms with its investments in Bangladeshi start-ups
- Advising a Dubai based investments advisory firm on securities laws and regulatory frameworks of Bangladesh
- Undertook complete negotiation for the buyer's side in the acquisition of a Ready-Made Garment (RMG) factory originally owned by a Japanese subsidiary

Arbitration:

- Successfully represented French contractors as lead counsels in ICC international arbitration seated in Singapore arising out of a construction dispute
- Successfully defended Bangladeshi conglomerates in three separate international arbitrations before GAFTA, London arising out of commercial and maritime disputes
- Representing a Bangladeshi hospital in a construction dispute arbitration
- Representing a Bangladeshi dredging company in a dispute arising out of government dredging project
- Representing a Russian state-owned company in arbitration proceedings arising in connection with nuclear power plant
- Representing a global commodities supplier in the enforcement of arbitration award

PRACTICE AREAS

Admiralty & Shipping
Arbitration & Dispute Resolution
Civil & Commercial Litigation
Construction & Infrastructure
Employment & Labour
Foreign Investment & Management
Intellectual Property & Trademark
General Corporate & Company
Licensing & Regulatory Compliance
Merger, Acquisition & Transactional
Petroleum, Power & Energy
Project Finance
Real Estate & Property
Tax, VAT & Customs
Telecommunications & Technology
Securities & Capital markets

OFFICES

BANGLADESH

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Tel: +88 09678 167167
Fax: +88 02 22222 61175
Email: suhan.khan@accordchambers.com
Website: www.accordchambers.com

Contentious Shipping and Commercial Litigations:

- Representing a Singaporean oil co. & Malaysian insurance co. in civil litigation arising out of complex oil supply disputes
- Successfully defended a global marine fuel reseller in admiralty suit in Bangladesh
- Representing a middle-eastern oil company in admiralty suit culminating in settlement
- Defending a Swiss corporation in shipping dispute litigation with a Chinese company
- Representing a Japanese company in a trade dispute with its Bangladeshi counterparts

Employment & Labour:

- Represented a multinational tobacco company in litigations before the Labour Court
- Drafted employee manual, employment terms and appointment letter for a French multi-national construction contractor
- Advised a USAID chief of party on employee separation and settlement packages for Bangladesh
- Drafted Employee Handbook for Bangladeshi subsidiary of a multi-national real estate company
- Representing a multi-national company with litigations arising out of dismissal and termination of its employees
- Frequently advising foreign corporations on non-contentious employment law matters including drafting standard employment contracts and services rules



ACCORD CHAMBERS
COMPLETE LEGAL SOLUTIONS
www.accordchambers.com

AKHTAR IMAM & ASSOCIATES

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Senior Partner: Akhtar Imam

Managing Partner: Rashna Imam

Partner: Reshad Imam

Number of Partners: 3 Number of non-partners: 11

Languages: *English, Bengali and Hindi*

Firm Overview:

Founded in 1980, Akhtar Imam & Associates is one of the leading, full-service law firms in Bangladesh. Akhtar Imam, the founder and Senior Partner, is a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court and regarded as one of the best legal minds in Bangladesh. The firm is best known for its expertise in company and commercial law, litigation, commercial arbitration, foreign investment, labour and employment, banking, finance and securities laws. The firm's clients' benefit from its extensive networks created and industry knowledge acquired over 40 years. The partners have led landmark constitutional law and company law cases and advised on multi-million-dollar M&As. They regularly drive law and policy reform through public interest litigation, advocacy and engagement with stakeholders at all levels of the Government, NGOs and private sector.

Main Areas of Practice:

Advertising Laws:

The firm advises companies on advertising laws, focusing on tobacco products and fast moving consumer goods (FMCG). Recently, it advised Marico Bangladesh Limited, which is among the top three FMCG MNCs in Bangladesh, on advertising laws and consumer offers. It advised British American Tobacco Bangladesh on permissible scope of trade promotional activities.

Anti-Corruption & Bribery:

The firm regularly advises companies on anti-bribery laws in Bangladesh, including gifts, entertainment, hospitality, potential consequences of violations, etc. It advised Visa on the consistency of its internal anti-bribery policy with the laws of Bangladesh.

Arbitration:

The firm regularly handles complex commercial arbitrations, domestic and international, under, among others, the ICC, IATA, UNCITRAL, GAFTA and FOSEA Rules and the Arbitration Act 2001 (Bangladesh). Its lawyers act as both counsel and arbitrator. It has extensive experience in handling litigation arising out of arbitration (for interim relief, enforcement of arbitral award, setting aside of arbitral awards and appointment of arbitrators). It is currently representing the GSA of Gulf Air in enforcement proceedings filed by Gulf Air to enforce an ICC award.

Banking, Finance, Microfinance and Securities:

The firm specialises in bank loan and security documentation, loan syndication, restructuring, dishonor of cheque and broad spectrum of banking litigation. It has extensive regulatory experience on payment systems regulations, mobile financial services, money laundering and terrorist financing prevention laws. It provides strategic guidance to leading financial institutions through board membership. It recently advised an entity of Visa Inc. on payment systems and mobile financial services and DFID, Bangladesh on the legal framework for establishment of a Credit Information Bureau for Microfinance in Bangladesh. The Partners regularly represent the Bangladesh Bank and Pubali Bank before the Supreme Court.

Corporate and Commercial:

The firm specialises in M&A (domestic and cross-border), JVs, re-structuring, corporate taxation, capitalising businesses through debt and equity transactions, corporate governance, shareholder agreements, commercial contracts, company incorporation and company secretarial services. Its lawyers are leading experts on all aspects of company litigation: amendment of objects clauses, winding up, shareholder-management disputes, minority protection, rectification of share register, reduction of share capital and sanction of mergers. It recently advised Marico Bangladesh Limited on the implications of the latest amendment of the Companies Act 1994 and the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) on reform of the Companies Act 1994.

Education:

The firm regularly advises private educational institutions including leading English medium schools on appropriate legal structure, registration, licensing, regulatory compliance, management disputes, day-to-day management issues, employment contracts, etc. It has successfully challenged the Government's decision to shut down Lakehead Grammar School in judicial review proceedings before the Supreme Court.

Foreign Investment:

The firm specialises in advising foreign companies on foreign exchange control, regulatory and tax matters, company formation, establishment and closure of branch, liaison and representative offices, registered office and directorial services, VAT, TIN, trade license, Import & Export Registration Certificate, permission from Bangladesh Investment Development Authority, work permit, etc. It advised Ernst & Young, India on closure of its branch office in Bangladesh, formation of a fully owned subsidiary company, all related foreign exchange control and regulatory matters. Recently, it advised an entity of Visa Inc. in establishing a liaison office in Bangladesh.

Labour/Employment:

The firm advises on a broad range of issues including regulatory compliance, employment contracts, disputes, profit-sharing schemes, employee share

OFFICES

BANGLADESH

DHAKA: Apt # D1, House # 19, Road # 4, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212

DHAKA: High Court Room # 119, Supreme Court Bar Association Building, Ramna, Dhaka-1000

schemes, benefits, personal data protection, termination, redundancies, etc. Its lawyers regularly appear before the labour tribunals and the Supreme Court in labour disputes. During the covid-19 pandemic, it advised a broad spectrum of clients on legal modes of severance and termination benefits under the Labour Act 2006. The firm successfully defended Biman Bangladesh Airlines in judicial review proceedings filed by thousands of employees challenging its Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) of USD 50 million.

Litigation:

The firm has leading expertise in company litigation, judicial review of decisions of public authorities (writ petitions), litigation arising out of arbitration, banking litigation and public interest litigation. The partners have acted as lead counsels and amicus curiae in landmark cases before the Supreme Court. Its lawyers regularly appear before the full range of courts and tribunals for local conglomerates, MNCs, Bangladesh Bank, large private banks, financial institutions, eminent businessmen, etc. It recently advised Facebook on potential litigation relating to the extent to which the operations of Facebook in Bangladesh may fall within regulatory purview. It has led landmark cases at the Supreme Court level to enforce health rights.

Power:

The firm regularly handles litigation challenging the decisions of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) and makes representations to BERC on behalf of clients, drafts and negotiates complex EPC contracts, JVs on rental power projects, power purchase agreements and advises on licensing matters.

Telecommunications:

The firm has significant telecom regulatory expertise, has advised a foreign company on proposed acquisition of passive telecom infrastructure of the second largest telecom company in Bangladesh, advised a local telecom company on acquisition of its shares by Egyptian telecom giant, Orascom, represented telecom clients in arbitrations arising out of complex contractual disputes, and in Supreme Court proceedings on frequency allocation disputes against the regulator.

DOULAH & DOULAH

www.doulah.net **tel:** +880 2 900 3153 **fax:** +880 2 801 6442 **email:** enquiry@doulah.com

Senior Partners: ABM Badrud Doulah, ABM Shamsud Doulah

Number of lawyers: 29

Languages: Bengali, English

Firm Overview:

Established in 1965 D&D is a leading law firm in Bangladesh under registration number 27074. Representing the world's largest business houses and working with the biggest international law firms, the firm possesses top-ranked transactional capabilities complemented by a strong litigation practice with a large client-base including over 100 of the Fortune 500 companies.

Main Areas of Practice:

Admiralty, Aviation & Shipping:

D&D offers one of the strongest shipping practices and advises on both contentious and non-contentious matters. In 2014 the firm acted in 14 admiralty lawsuits. It also represents the biggest airlines and major aircraft leasing companies including both ILFC and GE Capital. Recent transactions include wet leasing by Air Atlanta in Biman.

Banking & Finance:

The firm offers true banking expertise with stressed finance practice complemented by strong security documentation capabilities. The banking regulatory platform of Bangladesh was finalised by D&D partners under FSRP project. D&D completed FX transactions for RBS, JP Morgan and Merrill Lynch. It worked for CommerzBank in a number of commodity derivative transactions. D&D is now working for IFC in the first regasification terminal project in Bangladesh. Other cross border financing clients include Akabank, IFC, OPIC, ICICI, KFW, IDB, China Exim Bank and Finnfund etc.

Capital Market & Venture Capital:

D&D is one of the few local firms that possess capital market expertise. It represents major institutional investors including Morgan Stanley, CitiGroup, CLSA, Credit Suisse and ABN Amro. At the moment the firm is working on the pledging of a big Bangladeshi listed security portfolio for LGT Bank.

Corporate, Private Equity & M&A:

D&D offers market leading practice under this area. Major restructuring clients include Nokia, LG, GE etc. D&D has completed over 20 M&A transactions and 12 private equity investment in 2014 with clients like AIG, Accenture, GlaxoSmithKline, Mitsubishi, Huawei, A&E, Microsoft etc. The firm has successfully represented Shanghai and Shenzhen Stock Exchanges in acquiring Dhaka Stock Exchange.

Infrastructure, PPP & Construction:

Extensive experience in all kinds of infrastructures is the speciality at D&D. The firm was appointed by both of the construction and dredging contract awardees for the Jamuna Bridge. Currently, the firm is working on Dhaka Water Sector Development Project for Groupe Cobra and on New Mooring Container Terminal for P&O following Kuantas Cox's Bazaar Airport Project.

Intellectual Property:

D&D's IP practice is regarded as the strongest, offering both protection and enforcement services for trademarks, patents, designs and copyrights. D&D first implemented the concept of a well known mark, for Nokia, in Bangladesh. It also has big scale enforcement capabilities which were established when it worked for Sony against over 200 counterfeiters in Bangladesh.

Litigation & Arbitration:

Complemented by a strong litigation practice D&D offers effective dispute resolution capabilities. The firm is working in two large volume litigations for Cargill and Intelsat. It has been retained by the insurance company in the Niko blowout litigations and arbitrations. The firm is also conducting an ICC arbitration for Gulf Air. The firm acted in two of the largest anti-dumping suits in US courts.

Power & Energy:

D&D possesses unparalleled expertise in power and oil/gas/coal exploration projects. So far it has structured 72 power projects for clients like GE, Blakstone, AES, Golar etc. Financing clients include OPIC, IDB, ICICI, Finnfund, CEXIM etc. and M&A clients include AES, El Paso etc. Represented Zhenhua in acquiring three gas fields from Chevron and Ophir in acquiring Santos PSC. Advised ONGC, OIL, Daewoo, POSCO etc. in PSC's with respect to gas exploration.

PRACTICE AREAS

Admiralty, Aviation & Shipping
Banking & Finance
Corporate, Capital Markets & M&A
Employment & Labour
Energy & Power
Infrastructure & Construction
Intellectual Property
Litigation & Arbitration
Taxation & Telecommunication

OFFICES

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Taxation & Employment:

These are integral parts of D&D's corporate practice representing clients from tribunal to appellate division of Supreme Court. It is working in a constitutional writ for MAS and UPS. The firm successfully represented El Paso for a tax exemption. With an in-depth employment practice, the firm has just completed a pension fund creation for Children's Place. It also advises clients such as BAT, GE, GAP, Wal-mart, EWM, VF, HP etc in employment matters.

Telecommunications & FinTech:

The telecommunications practice at D&D is one of the finest. It is working for SPI on procurement and launching of the first satellite for Bangladesh. It also worked with NERA on the auction of 3G licences. Concurrent major projects include setting up a global mobile banking platform for Belgacom. M&A clients include Huawei and Vimpelcom. The firm has also advised in large number of fintech matters for clients like Microsoft, Ant Financial, Gates Foundation etc.

DOULAH & DOULAH | ADVOCATES
ATTORNEYS
IP AGENTS
NOTARIES

DR KAMAL HOSSAIN & ASSOCIATES

www.khossain.com tel: +880 2 955 2946 fax: +880 2 956 4953

Number of partners: 4 Number of associates worldwide: 14

Languages: *Bengali, English*

Firm Overview:

The firm, established in 1980, is one of the largest law firms in Bangladesh. It provides a comprehensive range of legal services for both national and international clients. Its strength lies not only in the breadth of individual expertise available, but also in over 30 years of institutional experience in advice and representation in key practice areas, which include admiralty and shipping, arbitration, aviation, banking and financial regulation, commercial and corporate law, international trade, constitutional and administrative law, employment law, energy, human rights law, property law, intellectual property, revenue law, taxation and telecommunications. The firm actively encourages and supports its members in providing pro bono services and representation in public interest and human rights litigation.

Main Areas of Practice:

Admiralty & Aviation:

The firm handles the full range of shipping matters, including claims arising out of collision, limitation of liability, claims for loss of or damage to cargo, claims for supply of necessities and bunkers, charterparty disputes and salvage. The firm also advises on aviation matters relating to aircraft purchase, financing and leasing and on liabilities of carriers.

Arbitration:

Members of the firm act as arbitrators, conciliators and mediators locally as well as internationally. The firm also provides advice to national and international clients in all kinds of large scale business disputes. The principal of the firm, Dr Kamal Hossain, has acted as arbitrator and Chairman in various ICSID, UNCITRAL and ICC Arbitral Tribunals. The firm also represents clients in securing interim relief from courts in Bangladesh and also challenging arbitration awards in accordance with the municipal law.

Banking & Finance, Capital Markets:

The firm provides advisory services to several major multinational banks, insurance companies and financial institutions on a diverse range of matters, including central bank regulations, negotiation and preparation of documents for local and foreign loans, structuring and issuance of securities, capital market transactions, negotiation of leasing transactions and foreign trade and other domestic and international financial and banking transactions. The firm has advised and assisted multinational banking companies in their amalgamation, acquisition, reorganising and restructuring process and their internal management and employment issues.

Constitutional & Administrative:

Constitutional and administrative law and the enforcement of fundamental rights occupy a central position in the collective expertise offered by the firm. Dr Kamal Hossain, who chaired the Constitution Drafting Committee, is considered to be the country's leading expert on constitutional and administrative law. The firm has a successful track record in challenging the actions of administrative and regulatory authorities. It also has extensive experience in judicial review of administrative decisions concerning assessment and payment of customs duty and VAT.

Corporate:

The firm has considerable experience in corporate and commercial law, including experience in advisory work, drafting of documents and litigation. It handles a range of general corporate work including setting-up joint venture or foreign owned enterprises, cross-border M&A, negotiation of shareholders' agreements, preparation and drafting of commercial contracts, compliance with corporate legislation, business laws and laws relating to foreign investments in Bangladesh.

Oil, Gas & Energy:

The firm has a reputation for its exceptional expertise and experience in the energy sector in Bangladesh. It advises on both up-stream and down-stream aspects of the energy sector and has worked on transmission and distribution projects. It advises both foreign and local companies considering entry into the Bangladesh energy market. The firm works with oil and gas clients on a broad range of matters, including oil and gas production sharing agreements, domestic and international asset acquisitions and dispositions, project financing, operating agreements, oil and gas regulatory issues, joint venture and participation transactions, general commercial advice. The firm assists in contracts drafting, environmental due diligence, tax planning and analysis, resolution of corporate governance issues, dispute resolution and litigation. The firm has acted for various independent power producers.

Tax:

The firm has legal expertise in income tax, capital gains tax, corporate tax, tax holidays, customs and VAT matters.

Telecommunications:

The firm provides regulatory advice on telecom, IT, e-commerce and media. It has advised and represented telecom operators in license applications and renewals, interconnection agreements, frequency allocations, equipment leasing agreements, regulatory issues and judicial review of regulatory decisions.

PRACTICE AREAS

Corporate
Judicial Review & Administrative
Banking & Finance, Capital Markets
Energy
Shipping, Admiralty & Aviation
Arbitration
Tax
Telecommunications
Intellectual Property

OFFICES

BANGLADESH

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Intellectual Property:

The firm regularly advises and acts on a wide range of intellectual property matters, including registration, infringement, passing off, licensing and litigation

Clients:

Clients come from all of the major jurisdictions, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, jurisdictions in Europe, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, Thailand, India, Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia and others.

RAHMAN'S CHAMBERS

www.rahmansc.com tel: +880 2 985 2821 email: info@rahmansc.com

Head of Chambers: Mohammed Forrukh Rahman

Divisional Head: Narita Navin Khan

Number of Department Heads/Deputy Heads: 7 Senior Associates: 8 Associates: 8

Languages: Bengali, English, Hindi

Firm Overview:

Based in Bangladesh, with offices in two cities, Rahman's Chambers is one of the largest and most nationally diversified law firm. Following a family tradition that dates back to 1920s, Rahman's Chambers was founded by Mr Mohammed Forrukh Rahman in 2006. The Chambers serves a number of MNCs, foreign investors and overseas and local companies and high net worth individuals. It provides one stop legal service for business related clients with expert lawyers heading different departments.

The Chambers has total 26 practice areas, which fall under nine departments. The departments are further divided into five divisions for functional benefits as follows:

- Shipping (Shipping & Commercial Departments)
- Construction and Investment (Construction and Investment Department)
- Corporate and Finance (Corporate, Taxes & Finance Departments)
- Dispute Resolution (Dispute Resolution Department)
- International (International & IT Department)

Main Areas of Practice:

Shipping Division:

- Advised S.I. Chowdhury and Co. Ltd regarding recovery of outstanding dues involving towing, submerging, operation of assets, tug boat services of vessels, piloting etc.
- Acted for agent and Ivory P & I and recovered agency claim arising out of damaged quay against owners of M.V. Ocean Diamond.
- Jointly with MFB Solicitors, London advised GARD and MT Burgan on a collision between MT Burgan and MV X-Press Mahananda at Chittagong.
- Acted for a leading P & I Club and the owner of vessel in a complex dispute involving damage of bulk cargo in Chattogram outer encourage.
- Acted behalf of leading P & I Club and the owner of vessel on a multiple collision matter at Chattogram anchorage and successfully resolved the dispute out of court protecting the client's best interest.

Contacts: Mohammed Forrukh Rahman, Khandaker Mashfique Ahmed

Construction & Investment Division:

- Worked jointly with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Private Limited in a project involving upgrading several power sector agreement templates for Power Cell under Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Bangladesh.
- Acted as a lead counsel for Unitex LP Gas Limited involving design, supply of equipment, project management, supervision, erection and commissioning of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) terminal plant and bottling facilities at Chittagong.
- Provided due diligence in both Chittagong Export Processing Zone (EPZ) and Mongla Special Economic Zone (SEZ) and on upcoming economic zones such as Karnaphuli Export Processing Zone, Adamjee Export Processing Zone etc for a major Japanese company for establishment of a Tobacco company in Bangladesh.
- Provided due diligence and consultancy on a PPP based major 1320 (2 x 660) MW coal-fired power project at Rampal between National Ther-

mal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).

- Successfully completed very first arbitration under BIAC rule involving investment in EPZ for a Japanese investor.
- Successful commenced of post arbitral award enforcement suit involving a complex construction arbitration.
- Incorporated local subsidiary for US based Ralph Lauren Corp. namely, "Ralph Lauren Sourcing Ltd" in Bangladesh.
- Assisted in setting up business and with immigration formalities of employees for TBEA CO., LTD., China Communications Construction Company Limited (CCCC), Shakti Pumps (India) Ltd., etc.

Contacts: Mohammed Forrukh Rahman, Amir Hossain Sarker

Corporate & Finance Division:

- Conducted Due Diligence involving M&A of SDS International Limited.
- Involved in a complex restructuring transaction of a major fishing company involving Maruha Nichiro Corporation, A.K. Khan & Company Ltd. & Pacific Traders Limited.
- Assisted a major Malaysian Digital IT/ Internet Content Provider company by filing a Winding Up petition against local creditors and successfully recovered dues
- Conducted Due Diligence for CCCC for industrial lease of a land located at the bank of Karnaphuli river for the purpose of operational & maintenance of dredgers.

Contacts: Narita Navin Khan, Salah Uddin Reza Sohel

Dispute Resolution Division:

- Advised and dealt with a complex dispute and claim involving accidental death of a worker of a Taiwanese client at a garments industry by taking steps as per labour law and before the labour court.
- Represented Philips Lighting Bangladesh Limited before different customs appellate authorities in a number of Customs Appeals involving Valuation and HS Code related disputes of imported

PRACTICE AREAS - DEPARTMENTS

Commercial
Construction
Corporate
Dispute Resolution
International
Information Technology
Investment
Shipping
Taxes & Finances

OFFICES

BANGLADESH

DHAKA (HEADQUARTERS): Ataturk Tower Suite 5B, 4th Floor, 22, Kemal Ataturk Avenue Banani Commercial Area

DHAKA (GULSHAN): Crystal Palace, 3rd Floor (Regus) House #SE(D) 22, Road No. 140, Gulshan South Avenue, Gulshan 1

DHAKA (KAKRAIL): Eastern Commercial Complex, Suit # 1/11, 1st Floor 73, Kakrail, 1000

DHAKA (SUPREME COURT): Shahid A.K.M. Siddique Hall -2, SCBA Building, Ramna, 1000

CHITTAGONG: Sayma, Vhander Market, 6th Floor, Room No - 5, 309, Sheikh Mujib Road, Agrabad, Dooblemoring

goods.

- Successfully completed four arbitration and also commenced execution proceedings for Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) in the area of Banking and were successfully able to persuade the tribunal to pass awards in our Client's favor involving the recovery of outstanding dues.
- Commenced execution proceedings for Knight Frank Development Ltd. in the area of real estate.
- Assisted a major Japanese client in resolving a complex litigation arising from labour disputes.

Contacts: Mohammad Forrukh Rahman

International Division:

- Conducted due diligence involving fiscal incentives available within SAARC countries under bilateral/multilateral treaties between Bangladesh, India and other SAARC countries for export and import of few specified items for Sesa Care.
- Advised Ralph Lauren, a Fortune 500 MNC, TEBIAN (TBEA) China on double taxation, investment treaty and public international law matters involving Bangladesh.
- Advised and assisted in resolving disputes for a MNC against Department of Environment involving environment clearance, sound pollution, dust production and Building plan approval
- Advised a Cyprus based company IQ Option Europe and IQ Option International on several aspects involving IT and e-commerce.

Contact: Mohammed Forrukh Rahman

