

# Mithun V Thanks

Partner General Corporate



Mithun V Thanks is a Partner with the firm, specialises in Mergers & Acquisitions and Private Equity, along with a strong background in the General Corporate practice.

Over the years, Mithun has worked on several marquee transactions, across sectors and has substantial experience in advising high profile clients on foreign investment laws and their joint ventures, strategic acquisitions, India entry and exit strategies, integration work streams, pre-litigation/ arbitration strategic advisory, general corporate advisory etc. Among others, some of his anchor clients over the last decade include *McCormick and Company Inc.*, *British American Tobacco*, *UPS Inc.*, *Jan De Nul Group*, *Goldman Sachs*, *Blackstone Group and Partners Group*.

Mithun has worked across and is vastly experienced in key sectors including Ed Tech, Education, Fin Tech, FMCG, Food and Beverage, Logistics, Manufacturing (Industrial and Consumer Products), Pharmaceuticals, Real Estate (multiple asset classes including business support captive units for MNC clients), Renewable Energy and Retail and Franchising.

Mithun is very well regarded by his clients, many of whom have worked with him over several years now. He is recognized as "consistently providing clear, commercially practical advice, in a very prompt and responsive matter- no matter the time of day" and as someone who "makes a special effort to get to know his clients and understand their business in-depth, which helps him provide strategic inputs as well." His referees also credit him as a seasoned practitioner who "has a deep knowledge of the law, holds a very precise pen on documentation and has worked closely with our teams to provide business-oriented solutions to complex problems. He is intelligent, friendly, accessible and fun to work with!"

As part of his university support initiatives, Mithun provides career guidance and mentorship sessions to students at multiple law schools and he is also a co-opted member of the Academic Council of the Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Mumbai and the KIIT School of Law, Bhubaneswar.

Having graduated from the National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata in 2005, Mithun worked with: (a) Luthra & Luthra Law Offices, Mumbai; (b) Herbert Smith LLP, London; and (c) J Sagar Associates, Mumbai, where he was elevated as a partner, prior to joining SAM. He is enrolled with the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa and is also admitted as a Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England & Wales. He is also a member of the International Bar Association.

#### Location

Mumbai

#### Education

 B.A. LL.B, (Hons.), The National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata (2005)

#### **Practices**

- General Corporate
- Private Equity

### **Professional Membership**

- Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa
- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England & Wales
- Member of the International Bar Association
- Member of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association

#### Awards & Recognitions

 Recognised for Private Equity by Chambers & Partners Asia Pacific, 2024





## **Select Experience Statement**

- British American Tobacco plc on the structuring and implementation (including obtaining regulatory approvals) in relation to the strategic divestment of 3.5% of its historic stake in ITC Limited by way of a transfer on the exchanges, valued at approximately USD 2.1 billion. The deal is the largest block trade in Indian equity capital markets history to cross in the block window and the third largest block trade ever in India.
- Partners Group AG in their acquisition of a controlling stake in the Sunsure Group, a leading operator in the commercial and industrial renewables and decarbonization solutions sector, for an aggregate consideration of US\$ 400 million.
- JFE Shoji Group in relation to their strategic minority investment in Arfin India Limited by way of preferential allotment and regarding the structuring and implementation of an exclusive agency and distributorship agreement between JFE Shoji and Arfin.
- CIVC Partners, L.P. in relation to the 100% acquisition of Datavail Corporation, by way
  of a reverse triangular merger.
- Zero North A/S regarding the combination of Zero North and Alpha Ori Technology
  Holdings Pte. Ltd. by way of a share exchange/swap, which resulted in the creation of a
  leading maritime optimization company offering sustainable shipping solutions, and a
  new powerhouse in the digital transformation of shipping,
- A client consortium of HHLR Management Pte. Ltd and Alta Capital Management LLP, in their structured acquisition of two warehousing assets operating in the NCR from Morgan Stanley Real Estate Fund.
- Goldman Sachs on its minority investment in Biocon Biologics Limited, a subsidiary of Biocon Limited, one of India's largest manufacturers of biosimilars and other pharmaceutical products, for an aggregate consideration of US\$ 150 million.
- Embassy Group on the merger of the Embassy Group companies into Indiabulls Real
  Estate Limited, creating one of India's largest real estate development platforms and
  result in the merged entity being one of the largest market players among listed
  companies in the real estate sector in India with an equity value of approximately INR
  9,400 crores.
- Blackstone Group in connection with contribution of its investments in several portfolio companies to India's second ever publicly listed real estate investment trust (REIT) in India i.e., Mindspace Business Parks REIT.
- McCormick Group in its sale of 26% shares of Eastern Condiments Private Limited along
  with 41.8% shares held by the promoters of Eastern Condiments to the Orkla Group
  who acquired the stake through its wholly owned Indian subsidiary, MTR Foods Private
  Limited, in a deal with an aggregate value of US\$ 275 million.
- *McCormick Group* in the sale and transfer of intellectual property assets relating to the iconic "Kohinoor" brand and sub-brands to Adani Wilmar Limited.
- UPS Inc. and its affiliates in connection with acquisition, from the Jet Airways Group, of:

   (a) 40% of share capital of UPS Jetair Express Private Limited; and (b) 100% share capital of Transmodal Services Private Limited.

## Awards & Recognitions

- Among IBLJ's A-List of India's Top 100 Lawyers, 2022 and 2023
- Leading Lawyers for Corporate and M&A by Legal Era 2023
- Leading Individual for Corporate and M&A by The Legal 500 2023 and 2024
- Among the Top 100 Individual Lawyers in the Forbes India Legal Power List, 2020 to 2022
- Among India's 50 'Rising Stars by Asian Legal Business, 2021
- Recognized as a "Notable Practitioner" for M&A and Private Equity by IFLR 1000 Financial and Corporate, consecutively from 2018 through to 2023.
- Among 20 Emerging Leaders selected from across the country at the RSG Grow India Awards, 2019
- 40 Under 40 Rising Star by Legal Era, 2020
- Profiled in the inaugural and prestigious "Emerging
   Leaders" list of 20 lawyers, from across the country, who stood out as the people leading the Indian legal profession forward, in the RSG India Report, 2019, with the research supported by Allen & Overy.



- Citi Ventures as Indian legal counsel for the series D investment by Citi Ventures (and other investors) in Hiveloop Technology Private Limited (i.e., owner and operator of the Udaan B2B e-commerce platform, an Indian start-up that was the fastest to achieve the coveted unicorn status) as part of the largest capital infusion in an online B2B e-commerce platform in India.
- Sanofi Group in relation to all aspects of the structuring and implementation of the strategic separation from the existing Sanofi portfolio of the identified: (a) central nervous system products to Cipla Limited; and (b) cardiovascular products to Emcure Pharmaceuticals Limited
- Goldman Sachs in its acquisition of the majority stake in the Student Housing Business
  of the Manipal Group, the first private equity investment in the organised student
  housing space, in India and on the subsequent acquisition by Warburg Pincus and its
  affiliates of the stake held in Goodhost by Housing Development Finance Corporation
  Limited.