

SRIRAM PANCHU

General Biography

Mr. Sriram Panchu, a Senior Advocate and Mediator is the President of Mediators India, a National Association of Indian Mediators. He serves on the Board of the National Legal Services Authority, India and the Board of the International Mediation Institute (IMI). He founded the Indian Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution in 2001 and set up India's first court-annexed mediation centre in 2005, serving as the first Honorary Organising Secretary of the Madras High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre. He became the Founder and Vice-President of the Association of Indian Mediators in 2012. In 2013-14, he was part of the Advisory Panel on Mediation, Law Commission of India and has been instrumental in making mediation a part of India's legal system. He has been nominated to 'The International Who's Who Legal' of Commercial Mediation. He is a certified mediator on the panel of the Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMI).

Mr. Panchu has also undertaken public interest litigations pertaining to consumer rights, good governance and curbing of corruption. He was previously the Editor of the Mediation Journal of the International Bar Association and a member of the Advisory Panel of the Asian Journal of Mediation.

Educational Qualifications

Mr. Panchu received his BA (Hons.) degree and LLB degree from Bombay University.

Mediation Experience

Mr. Panchu has mediated a large number of complex and high-value disputes across the range of commercial, corporate and contractual disputes in different parts of India and abroad. He has been appointed by the Supreme Court of India to mediate highly complex, sensitive disputes, including the recent Ayodhya dispute.

He is at ease with facilitative and evaluative styles of mediation. He also combines mediation and arbitration and has developed innovative methods. His style of mediation is interest-centric, with a keen focus on the legal strengths and weaknesses of the parties in a dispute.

ADR Training

- A Fellow at the Salzburg Seminar in 1991.
- Attended training in mediation conducted by the ICADR and Pepperdine University, USA in 1996.

- From 2000 to 2001, conducted research in the field of mediation.

ADR Teaching & Mentoring

Mr. Panchu has mentored hundreds of mediators and has been a member of the training faculty of prestigious mediation courses while being actively involved in the formulation of curriculum and teaching manuals for mediation training in India. He has also been involved in the development of organisational charters and model procedures for High Court mediation centres across India. He has also taught in the New York, University School of Law.

Publications

- His first book “Settle for More” (East-West Books (Madras) Pvt. Ltd., 2007) introduced mediation to the Indian audience.
- His second publication “Mediation: Practice & Law” (Butterworths, LexisNexis, 2011) is the standard manual in India.
- Contributed to the Indian chapter in Getting the Deal Through, published in October 2012.
- His chapter on mediation in Halsbury’s Laws of India awaits publication.