

Hasit Seth

Year of Call: 1999

Practice Summary

Hasit is a dual-qualified counsel, arbitrator and mediator with close to three decades of law practice across India, the United States, and increasingly Eurasia and the Indian Ocean region. He has been admitted to the rolls of the Bar Council of India (Maharashtra & Goa) since 1999, New York State Bar since 2004, and the AIFC Court in Kazakhstan in 2024. He is a Fellow (FCIArb) and a faculty member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

His core practice sits at the intersection of international arbitration, commercial litigation, technology, and contracts. The sectors covered by his practice are construction, IP and patents, finance, trade, technology, cryptocurrency, artificial intelligence, securities, and commercial disputes. He appears regularly before the Supreme Court of India and the Bombay High Court. The Bombay High Court has appointed him as an arbitrator multiple time. As counsel, his notable arbitration matters include successfully defending an Indian chemical engineering company against a EUR 10 million claim brought by a Russian company and acting as first chair counsel in a USD 72 million PPP-BOT (DBFOT) road construction arbitration and a USD 12 million Mumbai Monorail construction arbitration.

As arbitrator, Hasit has been appointed as chair, sole arbitrator, and panel arbitrator by international arbitral institutions and courts. He has arbitrated disputes spanning construction, tunnelling, shipbuilding, commercial contracts, securities, housing, and partnerships. As mediator, he has many successful mediations to his credit, including the first dispute before the DIFC Courts' Mediation Service Centre, Dubai, where he holds listed mediator status. He is a Harvard Law School-trained negotiator.

Hasit is listed as an arbitrator, mediator or both with over thirty international arbitration and mediation institutions including: HKIAC (Hong Kong), SIAC (Singapore), DIAC (Dubai), VIAC (Vienna), WIPO (Geneva), AIAC (Bangkok), THAC (Bangkok), RAC (Moscow), KIAC (Kigali), SHIAC (Shanghai), MIAC (Maldives), PMAC of the European Unified Patent Court, Bombay High Court, Punjab & Haryana High Court, Kerala High Court, Gujarat International Maritime Arbitration Centre (GIMAC), IIAAC (New Delhi), DIFC Court's Mediation Service Centre, and Asian Development Bank's Workplace Mediation.

Hasit writes and teaches regularly on international arbitration and construction law. The Madras High Court has cited one of his articles in *Ramesh Flowers (P) Ltd. v Sumit Srimal* 2024 SCC OnLine Mad 4785.

Uniquely, Hasit is the sole inventor of two US patents, both licensed out, in cloud computing technologies: 1. US 9,160,681 - Spiral protocol for iterative service level agreement (SLA) execution in cloud migration.

2. US 8,949,654 - Parameterized dynamic model for cloud migration.

Previously, Hasit worked with two US law firms in Detroit and New York. His work there focussed on US patent prosecution and disputes. He was also the Asia Patent Manager for a large multi-national manufacturing company in the diversified industrial sector. He worked at a US company licensing out the patent portfolios of British Telecom, France Telecom, and Xerox. During his US years, he passed the United States Patent & Trademark Office's Patent Agent exam ("US Patent Bar") and the NCEES' Fundamentals of Engineering (Professional Engineer – Part 1) Exam.

He is the founder of the Centre for Trial & Arbitration Advocacy Research (CTAAR) that organises advocacy training programmes. Hasit is an ambassador for the Cross Examination Moot; an international student competition held in Paris that promotes cross-examination skills. He is a Senior Fellow (Visiting) at the School of Law, Dhirubhai Ambani University, India where he teaches construction law.

He is fluent in Hindi, Marathi, and Gujarati.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

First chair counsel in a Moscow-seated institutional arbitration (ICAC/MKAS) concerning a complex chemical machinery contract, successfully defending a claim of about EUR 10 million.

First chair counsel in a PPP-BOT-DBFOT road construction arbitration between owner and contractor, with a claim of about USD 72 million.

First chair counsel in a Mumbai Monorail construction arbitration concerning uncovered claims and extensions of time, valued at about USD 12 million.

Appointed by the Hon'ble Bombay High Court as arbitrator on a three-member panel in a railway tunnelling dispute valued at about USD 4 million.

Panel arbitrator in an Indian Ocean country-seated arbitration in a shipbuilding dispute.

Presiding Arbitrator in a large data-centre construction dispute, with a potential claim of about USD 8 million.

Sole Arbitrator in an automotive dealership dispute under the rules of Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA).

Mediator appointment by the Bombay High Court's Main Mediation Centre in a fintech payment-aggregator dispute with a bank (about USD 11 million) and a music-licensing dispute (about USD 23 million).

First listed Mediator of the DIFC Courts' Mediation Service Centre, having conducted the Centre's first mediation and its first successful settlement.

RECENT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Vienna International Arbitration Centre & CIArb India branch, “Emergency, Expedited and Accelerated Procedure: What practitioners need to know”, May 2026.

Asian Law Students’ Association (ALSA) International Mediation Competition (AIMC) Workshop, China, May 2026.

MAA (Moot Court Alumni Association)’s 20th Annual Generations in Arbitration Conference, Hong Kong, March 2026.

Global Arbitration Review’s GAR Live Mumbai 2025.

TechEx - Technology Transfer Hub at the Venture Centre, “Reducing and dealing with technology disputes”, May 2025.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Software Patents Worldwide, India Chapter, published by Wolters Kluwer (cyclical updates since 2008).

FIDIC Contracts: Indian Judicial Engagement in 2025, Dhirubhai Ambani University’s Thought Leadership Series, January 2026.

HKIAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre) 2024 Rules: Making Arbitration Better, Jus Mundi, September 2024.

Soft-Law Guidance From Arbitral Organisations for Conducting Arbitrations, SCC Online, 2023 SCC Online Blog Exp 73. In print journal Practical Lawyer, November 2023.

MEMBERSHIPS & POSITIONS

- Fellow (FCIArb), Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.
 - Member, American Bar Association.
 - APAC User Council Member, London Court of International Arbitration. (LCIA).
 - Member, International Construction Arbitrators Association (ICAA).
 - Member, International Law Association (est. 1873).
 - Member, Bombay Bar Association.
 - Fellow (FICA), Indian Council of Arbitration.
 - Member, Society of Construction Law (Overseas), UK, and Society of Construction Law, India.
 - Senior Fellow (Visiting), School of Law, Dhirubhai Ambani University, India.
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EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Program on Negotiation & Mediation, Harvard Law School, 2008.

- LL.M. (Intellectual Property), Franklin Pierce Law Center (now part of the University of New Hampshire, USA), 2001.
 - LL.M. (Commercial and Constitutional Laws) with Gold Medal, Mumbai University, 2000.
 - LL.B., Government Law College, Mumbai University, 1998.
 - B.Sc. (Computer Science), North Maharashtra University, 1996.
 - New York State Bar — Attorney, since 2004.
 - Bar Council of India (Maharashtra & Goa) — Advocate, since 1999.
 - AIFC Court, Kazakhstan — Registered Practitioner, since 2024.
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LANGUAGES

- English, Hindi, Marathi, and Gujarati.

Areas of Expertise

- International Arbitration
- Commercial
- Mediation
- Sport Media And Entertainment
- Technology Construction