

Surname, First name	SUBRAMANIUM, GOPAL
Address	16 Sunder Nagar New Delhi 110003 (India)
Telephone	+91-11-24695121 – 24
Fax	+91-11-24695125
Email	contact@gopalsubramanium.org; gs@gschambers.org
Nationality/ Date of Birth	Indian / 17 July 1958

### **Educational/Professional Memberships**

- LLB, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi (1980)
- Doctor of Law (Honoris Causa), Central University of Orissa (2013)
- Director, London Court of International Arbitration (India)
- Vice President, Bar Association of India (2014-2016)
- Chairman, Bar Council of India (2010-2011)
- Member, Presidential Task Force on Human Trafficking, International Bar Association
- Member, National Trust, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India
- Advisor, National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi
- Visiting Professor, University of Delhi

#### **Current Position**

- Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India (designated in 1993)
- Arbitrator and Associate Member, 3 Verulam Buildings, Barristers, London
- Judge, Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre

# **Professional Experience**

In 1991-1992, Mr. Subramanium acted as counsel to the judicial commission headed by Justice J.S. Verma to inquire into security lapses leading to the assassination of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India. In 1993, he acted as prosecuting counsel for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the trial of persons accused of setting off a series of bomb blasts in Mumbai. He also appeared as the CBI's lead counsel in this matter until 2012, when appeals from the trial were heard by the Supreme Court. Mr. Subramanium has also acted as the Special Public Prosecutor in the case involving a terrorist attack on the Indian Parliament in 2001, in addition to having successfully defended (before the Supreme Court of India) the conviction of Ajmal Kasab, the sole surviving terrorist who carried out attacks on Mumbai in November 2008.

Mr. Subramanium served as **Additional Solicitor General of India (2005-2009)** and as **Solicitor General of India (2009-2011)**, during which period he was lead counsel for the Government of India in several matters of constitutional importance, such as the reservation for economically backward classes of persons (*Asoka Kumar Thakur v. Union of India*) and the powers of the Speaker of Parliament in contempt of privilege motions (*Raja Ram Pal v. Speaker*). He was also lead counsel for the

Government of India in 2010-2011 in litigation concerning irregularities in allocation of 2G radio-spectrum bandwidth to various private telecom operators. In 2011-2012, he acted as lead counsel for Novartis AG in Novartis' challenge before the Supreme Court to a denial to grant it an Indian patent for the cancer drug 'Glivec'. In 2013, Mr. Subramanium was appointed as a member of a Committee to Recommend Amendments to Criminal Laws (headed by Justice J. S. Verma), which recommended amendments to various Indian laws to ensure the safety and dignity of women and young children.

Mr. Subramanium has made many notable contributions to the legal field. As a Commissioner appointed by the Supreme Court of India in *Sheela Barse v. Union of India*, he submitted a detailed report on the unlawful detention of mentally ill persons in prisons in Assam. The report led to the setting-up of the Tezpur Mental Hospital. Further, appearing for the Union of India in *Bachpan Bachao Andolan v. Union of India*, Mr. Subramanium submitted a report titled "The Indian Child: India's Eternal Hope and Future", devising plans to curb the menaces of immoral trafficking, slavery and begging amongst children. He has assisted the Supreme Court of India as *Amicus Curiae* on several occasions, including the *Sohrabbudin Fake Encounter Case, BCCI v. Cricket Association of Bihar*, and in a matter pertaining to the upkeep and administration of the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple.

#### **Arbitration Experience**

Mr. Subramanium's arbitration experience includes appearing as lead counsel for Indian companies in ICC and domestic arbitrations. Additionally, Mr. Subramanium also deposes as an expert witness on Indian law before SIAC and other arbitral institutions. He served as a member of the arbitral tribunal presided over by Justice R.S. Pathak, former Chief Justice of India and Judge, International Court of Justice in an arbitration between *Transammonia AG and MMTC Limited*. Further, in 2013, he appeared, as an expert witness on Indian law in a SIAC arbitration before a panel comprising, *inter alios*, of Tan Sri Cecil Abraham and Alan Thambaiyah. In 2015, he acted as an expert witness on Indian law in an AAA/ICDR arbitration between two New York-based private equity funds and an international bank.

Mr. Subramanium has appeared in many landmark cases concerning the law of arbitration in India, including the *BALCO* case (2012), where the Supreme Court of India ruled on the applicability of Part I of the Indian Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996 to arbitrations held in a foreign seat, and awards arising therefrom, and *Sundaram Finance* (1999), which considered a court's powers to grant interim protection to parties pending arbitration. He has appeared in several matters before the Supreme Court and various High Courts concerning the arbitrability of disputes, the appointment of arbitrators, and challenges to arbitral awards including those arising out of defence contracts, EPC contracts and infrastructure contracts.

#### **Publications**

• Gopal Subramanium, 'Writs and Remedies' in Sujit Choudhry, Madhav Khosla and Pratap Bhanu Mehta (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution* (Oxford University Press 2016)

- Gopal Subramanium and S. Stuart Clark, 'Litigation and Civil Procedure' in Shaun Star (ed.), *Australia and India: A Comparative Overview of the Law and Legal Practice* (Universal Law Publishing 2016)
- B. N. Kirpal, Gopal Subramanium, Raju Ramachandran, Rajeev Dhawan and Ashok Desai (eds.), *Supreme But Not Infallible: Essays in Honour of the Supreme Court of India* (Oxford University Press 2004)

## Languages

English, Hindi, Tamil, Sanskrit