

Ashok Dhingra Senior Partner

Ashok Dhingra Associates | Attorneys at Law Phone: +91 124 4278303 | 4078303 | 4375303 Mobile: +91 9810710303 Email: <u>ashok@adalegal.com</u>

Practice Group Leader:

White-Collar Crimes, Investigations and Regulatory Group

Ashok is Attorney having more than 44 years of experience. He has unique advantage of working on both sides of table. Ashok has worked for more than 22 years with Indian Customs including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI); and over 15 years with member firms of Big4 Consulting firms like Arthur Andersen which merged with Ernst & Young in India, KPMG and law firms Khaitan & Co. and J. Sagar Associates (JSA) before setting up Ashok Dhingra Associates (ADA) in 2014 along with Sonia Gupta.

Ashok has assisted clients in conducting audit and investigations under FCPA, UK Bribery Act and Prevention of Corruption Act, investigations of wrong doing or fraud or ethical violations by management or employees of Multinational Companies. He also assisted clients in options to deal with non-compliances and making self-disclosure to the authorities.

He advises clients in relation to data security, privacy, retention, encryption and movement across jurisdictions.

Ashok has assisted clients in investigation and adjudication under Prevention of Money Laundering Act and Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act. He also regularly advises clients in raid or investigations by Tax, Trade and Regulatory authorities like DRI; Director General Goods and Services Tax Intelligence; Enforcement Directorate; and Serious Fraud Investigation Office; undertakes briefing and debriefing of employees and assistance in taking position on key issues of investigations by authorities to close cases.

Ashok also advises clients on key issues of exchange controls under Foreign Exchange Management Act and assists in compounding of offences by making an application to Reserve Bank of India and arguing at the time of hearing.

He assists clients in Customs and Trade laws; Goods and Service Tax (GST) & erstwhile Indirect Tax Laws including investigation by Special Valuation Branch (SVB) of Customs to determine arms' length price in case of transactions with Associated Enterprises; classification and rate of Duty under the Customs Tariff and GST; valuation of local supply of goods and services; availability of input tax credit; applicability of exemption notifications; export of services; etc.

Ashok advises clients on Export/ Import Policy and Sanctions under Foreign Trade Policy. He has extensive experience and regularly advises clients on Export/ Import Control of restricted goods and technologies and dual-use items under the SCOMET List. He also advises clients on supply chain

for sourcing and distribution of goods in a Tax efficient and compliant manner. Ashok advises clients on safety and compliance requirements for movement of hazardous and notified goods.

He assists clients in taking approval for setting up and exit of units under 100% Export Oriented Scheme, Special Economic Zones and Free Trade Warehousing Zones Scheme.

He regularly appears before departmental adjudication and appellate authorities; Appellate Tribunals; High Courts and Supreme Court in Tax and Trade matters as arguing counsel.

Ashok also assists clients in making application before Settlement Commission for settlement of cases and arguing at the time of hearing. He also assists clients in filing application and arguing at the time hearing before Authority for Advance Ruling seeking ruling on key issues.

Ashok assists clients before Director General of Trade Remedies during investigation, mid-term review and sun-set review for levy of Anti-Dumping Duty, Safeguard Duty and Countervailing Duty. In case of an adverse order he assists clients in filing appeal before Appellate Tribunal at first stage and before Supreme Court at second stage.

He has written several articles on key issues under Tax, Foreign Trade Policy, GST, Ease of Doing Business and regulatory environment in India, which have been well appreciated. Ashok is also a regular speaker in national and international conferences on diverse contemporary issues.