

Speakers Profile

- Mr J.B. Mohapatra, Chairperson, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance
- Mr Kamlesh C Varshney, Joint Secretary-TPL-I, CBDT, Ministry of Finance
- Mr Rasmi Ranjan Das, Joint Secretary (FT&TR)-I, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
- Mr Dinesh Kanabar, CEO, Dhruva Advisors LLP
- Mr Ajay Rotti, Partner, Dhruva Advisors LLP
- Mr Naveen Aggarwal, Partner and North India Tax Head, KPMG in India
- Mr Hariharan Gangadharan, Tax Partner, KPMG in India
- Ms Fatema Hunaid, Chartered Accountant, Bangalore
- Mr Lucas de Heer, International Tax Manager, Netflix
- Mr Amit Mishra - Vice President - Direct Taxation, GMR Group
- Mr Haroon Qureshi, Vice President - Taxes, Genpact
- Mr Sanjeev Agarwal, Head of Tax, Customs & Export Control for Automotive and Financial Services business, BMW Group India
- Mr Rahul Verma, Tax Head, Cipla Ltd.
- Mr Abhinav Sogani, Head of Tax, India Centre of Excellence - SKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited
- Mr M S Vasan, Senior Vice President, Hinduja Global



Mr J.B. Mohapatra, Chairperson, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance

Sh. J.B. Mohapatra started his career as an IRS officer in September, 1985. He is a post graduate in English Literature from Cuttack University. He has held several prestigious positions in various central Ministries as well as in Income Tax Department. A brief description of his various positions is as follows:

1987-1996 - Assistant Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax.

1996-2002 - Joint and Additional Commissioner of Income Tax at Kolkata and Mumbai.

2002-06 - Additional Director of Vigilance –Exercising Preventive and Reactive Vigilance jurisdiction over Government of India Group “A” and “B” Officers.

2006-2010 - Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals) Delhi.

2010-12 - Joint Secretary in Judges Inquiry Committee constituted by Upper House of Parliament under a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

2012-13 - Commissioner of Income Tax , Nagpur, Maharashtra.

2013 – 2018 - Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser in Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Department of Science and Technology and Department of Biotechnology.

May 2018 - Feb 2020 - Adviser to PSA (Principal Scientific Adviser) to Government of India under the Cabinet Secretariat.

Feb 2020 - May 2021 - Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Hyderabad.

June 2021 till date – Chairman, CBDT and holding additional charge of Member (Investigation).



Mr Kamlesh C Varshney, Joint Secretary-TPL-I, CBDT, Ministry of Finance

Kamlesh C Varshney is 1990 batch Indian Revenue Service Officer. He is MBA from Indian Institute of Management Lucknow and has also obtained his degree in Law. As an IRS officer he has worked in various capacity in tax administration. He was involved in rolling out APA program in India and was its first Commissioner. He has personally overseen and concluded more than 120 APAs in short span of time. He has also worked as Commissioner of Income Tax in Delhi in the area of international taxation and transfer pricing. He has worked in Indian finance ministry for more than 10 years in the areas of tax policy and foreign tax. Currently he is Joint Secretary Tax policy and Legislation. He was advisor to task force which drafted the new income tax law and submitted the report to the Finance Minister. In the past he has worked for five years with tax administration of Papua New Guinea upgrading their tax skills in domestic resource mobilization. He has been empanelled by UNDP as an expert for helping developing countries in tax administration. He is also visiting professor in many prestigious Indian institutes and academies.



Mr Rasmi Ranjan Das, Joint Secretary (FT&TR)-I, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance

Around 28 years of experience as Member of Indian Revenue Service (IRS) in policy making and implementing Direct Tax Laws in India.

Now Competent Authority of India for North America and Europe responsible for Tax Treaty Negotiation, finalisation of Bilateral APA and MAP resolution and Exchange of Information with countries of these region- Also part of the team that formulates rules, circulars and clarifications relating to International Taxation and Transfer Pricing.

Indian Delegate since 2016 to OECD's Task Force on Digital Economy (TFDE) and also member of TFDE bureau. Since 2018 Indian Delegate to Inclusive Framework (IF) - a group of more than 125 countries monitoring BEPS- and Member of its Steering Group- Was involved in finalisation of Interim Report(March,18) and Public Consultation Document (March and October,19) on taxation of Digital Economy. Now involved, as a delegate to Steering Group of IF, in building a consensus based solution to address tax challenges of digital economy to be delivered by 2020 to G-20.

From 2016 till Feb., 2019 part of the team responsible for Tax Policy and Legislation in India. Key policy initiatives in international tax during the period include drafting of statutory provisions relating to interest limitations (thin capitalisation), secondary adjustments, Significant Economic Presence (SEP) and rules relating to Country byCountry report and Master file.



Mr Dinesh Kanabar, CEO, Dhruva Advisors LLP

Dinesh winner of "**Asia Tax Practice Leader of the Year- 2020**", is a stalwart in the industry and has over the decades been recognised by his peers as amongst the top tax advisors in India. His ability to relate the business strategies of clients to the tax and regulatory environment has been recognised as unique and has played a critical role in developing solutions for clients.

Prior to founding Dhruva, he held a series of leadership positions across several large professional service organisations in India. He was the Deputy CEO of KPMG India, Chairman of KPMG's tax practice, Deputy CEO of RSM & Co and Head Tax and Regulatory at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)

He is a member of the National Executive Committee of FICCI and is currently a mentor of the FICCI Committee on Taxation. He has also worked with the Government of India on several policy committees. He was a member of the Rangachary Committee constituted by the Prime Minister of India to deal with tax reforms in the IT/ITES sector and for evolving Safe Harbour Rules.



Mr Ajay Rotti, Partner, Dhruva Advisors LLP

Ajay Rotti is a Partner with Dhruva and is based in Bengaluru

With more than 15 years of experience, Ajay is seasoned in corporate tax, transfer pricing and international tax areas; advising many multinational companies on direct taxes, regulatory issues, and representing them before the regulatory authorities. Ajay specializes in information technology (IT) and real estate sectors

He has advised various technology firms on setting up SEZ units and has also worked with SEZ developers on their strategy and approvals; advised realty funds on matters such as entry strategy, FDI in real estate, investment structuring and exit strategies

Ajay is a member the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and holds an Advanced Diploma in Management Accounting from the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, United Kingdom. He is a gold medalist in Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com)

He is a member of the Expert Committee on Direct taxes of the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce and a member of the Executive Committee of the International Fiscal Association - Bangalore Sub-chapter.



Mr Naveen Aggarwal, Partner and North India Tax Head, KPMG in India

Naveen is a Corporate and International Tax Partner and North India Tax Head with KPMG in India with over 27 years of professional experience.

He is also the Partner in Charge for the US-India Corridor, Tax Telecom Leader and leads the firm's Digital Taxation practice including various advisory, compliance and advocacy initiatives.

Naveen's experience covers a broad spectrum of clients and solutions in the Technology, Media & Telecommunications ('TMT'), Consumer Markets, Hospitality, Internet Commerce and manufacturing businesses in India

Naveen has advised several global and Indian multinational clients on issues related to corporate tax, cross border investment structuring, ETR and tax incentive advisory, business model review and restructuring, controversy management and advocacy matters.

He has rich experience assisting clients with complex tax disputes involving appellate and writ procedures, Competent Authority matters and Advance Rulings

On the regulatory front, Naveen has advised clients on FDI policy, Indian Exchange Control and sector specific regulations, like media, defence and telecom.

Naveen represents the firm on various industry chambers, including Tax Policy Forum of USISPF, Co-Chair for AMCHAM's Tax, Tariff & Regulatory Affairs Committee, BBG Delhi and a TiE Charter Member.

He is a regular speaker at various national and international forums on industry and tax areas, hosted industry webinars, and shared his technical views and insights extensively in professional journals, print and electronic media



Mr Hariharan Gangadharan, Tax Partner, KPMG in India

Hariharan Gangadharan (Hari) is a tax partner at KPMG in India. He leads the Department of Professional Practice (DPP)-Tax at KPMG in India and is based in Mumbai.

Hari brings over 17 years of experience in direct and International tax, including structuring of complex cross-border mergers and acquisitions, setting up of tax-efficient financing structures and structuring of international investments. He also has significant experience in developing and implementing litigation strategies for complex and high-stake tax matters, and a strong interest in tax jurisprudence and policy.

Previously, Hari was with Dhruva Advisors, and led their knowledge and solutions function. He led engagements on tax controversy support around global and Indian M&A transactions. He has also worked with PwC and DSK legal.

Hari has an L.L.M. degree from Columbia University School of Law, New York and graduated as a Harlan Fiske Stone scholar. He also holds a Masters of Business Law degree from the National Law School of India, and Bachelors' degrees in Law and Commerce from the University of Mumbai.



Ms Fatema Hunaid, Chartered Accountant, Bangalore

Fatema has over 20 years of experience in transfer pricing consulting and is named as one of the Women Leaders in Tax in India 2020 - 5 years in a row by International Tax Review in its guides featuring leading women tax advisors worldwide. Her professional transfer pricing consulting experience includes advising multinational enterprises at every stage of the transfer pricing value, implementation assistance, price setting and inter-company agreement reviews, global transfer pricing projects, defence before the Indian revenue /appellate authorities, building transfer pricing documentation, transfer pricing due diligence etc.



Mr Lucas de Heer, International Tax Manager, Netflix

Lucas de Heer works as an international tax manager at Netflix. Part of his work focuses on tax policy and analyzing the impact of changes in the international tax framework. He has worked as a tax policy advisor at the Dutch Ministry of Finance, where he was a delegate to numerous OECD working groups including the Taskforce on the Digital Economy. He also teaches at the Vrije University Amsterdam and regularly contributes to national and international tax journals.



Mr Amit Mishra - Vice President - Direct Taxation, GMR Group

Mr. Amit Mishra is a Chartered Accountant with around 15 years of experience in Corporate and International Taxation. He is currently working as Vice President - Direct Taxation in GMR Group and looking after the Corporate tax matters of the group.

Prior to joining GMR Group, he has worked with major consultancy firms like PwC and Desai-Haribhakti & Associates. During his stint as a consultant, he has worked extensively as a consultant with companies in sectors like digital, infrastructure, shipping, manufacturing, IT/ITES, Pharma, Retail etc.

Mr. Amit Mishra also holds a degree in Master of Commerce from Calcutta University. His areas of expertise is Corporate tax compliance management, handling tax litigations, in-bound and out-bound advisory, advising on day to day transactions, and international taxation.

Mr. Amit Mishra has, from time to time, been associated with various industrial and professional bodies in various capacities. He is a prolific speaker, having participated in many seminars, conferences and training programmes as Speaker, Panelist and/or Paper Writer.



Mr Haroon Qureshi, Vice President - Taxes, Genpact

Haroon Qureshi is an Indian Chartered Accountant by profession with over 30 years experience in tax, accounting and regulatory matters. His work experience includes reputed companies like SRF group and GE Capital, and he is currently with Genpact group as APAC Tax Leader. His responsibilities include corporate and international tax, indirect tax, transfer pricing and regulatory matters. Apart from India, he also handles taxes for countries in Asia Pacific region like China, Japan, Australia, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore.



Mr Sanjeev Agarwal, Head of Tax, Customs & Export Control for Automotive and Financial Services business, BMW Group India

Sanjeev is a Chartered Accountant having an experience of more than 2 decades. He started his career with big 4 consulting firm (EY) and later moved to Industry where he has been instrumental in various fields of Finance, International Tax, Treasury and Compliances.

Sanjeev is working with BMW Group India since last 14 years and has performed different roles in Finance domain. Currently he is working as Head of Tax, Customs & Export Control for Automotive and Financial Services business.



Mr Rahul Verma, Tax Head, Cipla Ltd.

Rahul Verma is CA, CS and LLB(DU) with over 20 years of work experience in matters related to Direct, In-direct taxation, Transfer-pricing and business structuring in varied industry viz Pharmaceuticals, IT/ITES, Tyres and Consumer Electronics. He has experience in M&A in the aforesaid industries. He has handled APA, MAP and tax litigation besides developing and automating reporting systems for tax. He has done projects on ETR optimization, minimizing tax cost in global supply chain, internal corporate restructuring and M&A structuring. He has done transfer-pricing assignments for entrepreneur AEs post acquisition and formation of JVs. Prior to Working at CIPLA Ltd he worked with NIIT Technologies, Apollo Tyres and Intex Technologies Ltd.



Mr Abhinav Sogani, Head of Tax, India Centre of Excellence - SKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited.

Abhinav graduated with an Honors degree in Commerce. He completed his CA in 2002 and started his tax career with KPMG in India where he worked for around 5 years. Since 2011, Abhinav has been working with Volkswagen Group. In his current role, he Heads the Tax function under the Centre of Excellence arrangement covering various VW Group companies. He is responsible for Transfer Pricing, including BEPS related compliances in India.

Mr M S Vasan, Senior Vice President, Hinduja Global