



DR. AMAR PATNAIK

Of-Counsel

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EXPERTISE

- Company Law and Corporate Governance
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy Law
- Environmental Law and Regulation
- Technology Law and Digital Governance
- Data Protection and Privacy Law
- Regulatory Compliance in Banking, Finance and Fintech laws

EDUCATION

- Ph.D in Institutional Economics, Masters in Public Management from Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 2010.
- MBA (Finance), Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar in 2002.
- B.Sc., St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi.
- Advanced Management Development Program at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in 2015.
- LL.B, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.

BRIEF PROFILE

Dr. Amar Patnaik is Of-Counsel at C&S Partners and has served as a parliamentarian, bureaucrat and made significant contributions across multiple domains of governance and policy. He is a gold medalist in Physics from Delhi University and a Harvard-educated public administrator. He spent nearly three decades in the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, serving as Principal Accountant General across four Indian states Odisha, Kerala, Sikkim, and West Bengal. During his civil service career, he led landmark audits that exposed major financial irregularities, including the Bihar Fodder Scam and mining sector violations in Odisha totalling ₹60,000 crores in penalties.

Following his retirement in 2018, Dr. Patnaik transitioned into public life as a Rajya Sabha Member representing the Biju Janata Dal, where he established himself as an active parliamentary voice through over 1,350 interventions, maintaining a 96% attendance record, and serving on key committees including Finance and Environment. He has authored two books on institutional governance and pandemic management, published over 80 op-eds in national publications, and received the Sansad Ratna Award and SKOCH Challenger Parliamentarian of the Year Award. Dr. Patnaik also regularly advises on areas such as company law, insolvency, environmental regulation, and technology governance, leveraging his extensive experience at the intersection of public administration, parliamentary affairs, and legal practice.

NOTABLE EXPERIENCE, ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS:

- **Giesecke & Devrient India Private Limited:** Advised a leading Manufacturing and Technology conglomerate with a detailed analysis of the RBI's tender evaluation process for Currency Verification and Processing Systems
 - **Hitachi Astemo Powertrain Systems Pvt. Ltd:** Represented the company before various legal forums to assist in recovery of money stolen from the company by their own employees.
 - **Public Auditor (Hydropower Sikkim / Odisha):** Conducted the first-ever public audit of hydropower projects in Sikkim and highlighted the irregularities in allotment of land and apartments to high-ranking officials in Odisha.
 - **Director, Agricultural Marketing & Co-operatives (Odisha):** Designed sustainable livelihood models, led policy reforms in agricultural marketing, and implemented programmes to strengthen cooperative systems.
 - **Advisor to Odisha Finance Department:** Played a key role in structural-adjustment processes coordinated with World Bank support, advising on fiscal and reform measures.
 - **Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) June 2019–2024 (Biju Janata Dal):** Nominated to Rajya Sabha and subsequently served in multiple parliamentary and party leadership roles.
 - **Parliamentary Party Leadership (BJD):** Served as General Secretary of the BJD Parliamentary Party, National Spokesperson, and Head of the Party's IT Wing.
 - **Parliamentary Committee Memberships:** Served as Member of the Standing Committee on Finance; Committee on Subordinate Legislation; Committee on Environment, Forests & Climate Change; Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Personal Data Protection Bill; and Ad-hoc Committee on Child Pornography.
 - **Budget & Legislative Debates:** Spoken in every Union Budget discussion since 2019 and participated in major legislative debates including the abrogation of Article 370, the Triple Talaq Bill, the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, and amendments to the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code and Competition Act.
 - **Awards & Recognition:** Recipient of the Sansad Ratna Award and the SKOCH Challenger Parliamentarian of the Year Award (2022).
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- **Author & Columnist:** Published 80+ op-eds in leading national dailies and digital platforms; author of Institutional Change & Power Asymmetry in the Context of Rural India (doctoral research) and Pandemic Disruptions and Odisha's Lessons in Governance.
 - **Fodder Scam Investigation:** Served as a key member of the audit team investigating the Bihar Fodder Scam, which led to the conviction of the then Chief Minister.
 - **Mining Sector Violations:** Played a pivotal role in exposing violations in the mining sector in Odisha, resulting in penalties exceeding ₹60,000 crores.
 - **Hydropower Project Audits:** Conducted the first-ever public audit of hydropower projects in Sikkim, uncovering critical irregularities.
 - **Land and Apartment Allotments:** Identified irregularities in the allotment of land and apartments to high-ranking officials in Odisha.
 - **Sectoral Performance Audits:** Led performance and value-for-money audits across critical sectors including health, urban development, environment, and infrastructure.
 - **International Audit Assignments:** Conducted audits for the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome and Kabul, the United Nations-African Union mission in Darfur, and performance audits of ICT expenditures across UN peacekeeping missions in New York.
 - **Agricultural Development:** Served as Director of Agricultural Marketing and Co-operatives in Odisha, designing sustainable livelihood models and leading policy reforms.
 - **World Bank Coordination:** Worked closely with the Finance Department of the Odisha government, playing a critical role in structural adjustment processes supported by the World Bank.

PUBLICATIONS:

- Authored opinion article titled "Flight safety 2.0: Online booking platforms must guard the privacy of our personal data", published in LiveMint on 20 May 2025.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Food and fertilizer subsidies should be climate-adapted and aimed better", published in LiveMint on 26 March 2024.
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PUBLICATIONS:

- Authored opinion article titled "Focus on reducing poverty instead of boosting GDP", published in The New Indian Express on 27 June 2023.
 - Authored opinion article titled "No federal override in India's data protection law", published in The New Indian Express on 29 March 2023.
 - Authored opinion article titled "CAG-Rajasthan Treasury Wrangle: Balance state's control over finances with CAG's mandate for accountability, transparency", published in Money control on 10 March 2023.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Getting the decarbonisation strategy right", published in The Financial Express on 3 April 2023.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Tackling regulatory opacity", published in The Financial Express on 06 March 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Environmental federalism crucial for climate action", published in The New Indian Express on 29 March 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Political consensus key to simultaneous polls", published in Hindustan Times on 03 April 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Can right to education become right to quality education?", published in Hindustan Times on 29 April 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Getting to a new level in India's online gaming sector", published in The Hindu on 07 May 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Curb deepfake velocity, vulnerability and viciousness", published in Mint on 14 May 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "Digital jurisprudence in India, in an AI era", published in The Hindu on 03 July 2024.
 - Authored opinion article titled "A sacrosanct IBC is unrealistic", published in The Financial Express on 30 July 2024.
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