





- Corporate structuring and governance
- Loan documentation and security creation
- Charge registration and compliance
- Corporate restructuring and stressed asset resolution
- Insolvency and bankruptcy processes

In this context, Company Secretaries in Practice have emerged as highly competent professionals with specialised expertise in corporate law, banking law, insolvency, restructuring, compliance, and adjudicatory procedures.

#### **B.) Existing Recognition of Company Secretaries:**

Company Secretaries are already authorised under various statutes to represent stakeholders before several judicial and quasi-judicial forums, including:

- National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) under Section 432 of the Companies Act, 2013;
- Proceedings under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 under Section 207 of the IBC;
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) under section 35 of The Competition Act, 2002;
- Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT under Section 23C, Explanation (b) of The Depositories Act, 1996);
- RERA Authorities and Appellate Tribunals under section 56 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016;
- Various tax, regulatory and adjudicatory authorities.

This statutory recognition clearly reflects legislative confidence in the professional competence and ethical standards of Company Secretaries.

In view of the above, it is suggested that Company Secretaries in Practice may be included as authorised representatives under Section 23 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993. Such a progressive measure will strengthen the debt recovery ecosystem by enhancing professional participation, improving access to justice, and supporting efficient adjudication.

We request your kind consideration of this request. We would also be grateful for an opportunity to present this matter in detail at a time convenient to you.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

**(CS Pawan G. Chandak)**

President

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India

