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**FoxMandal signs up Sir Gavin Lightman**

Nina Goswami and Steve Hoare

17-Mar-2008

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Indian firm FoxMandal Little has scooped former High Court judge Sir Gavin Lightman as a consultant.

Lightman, who is an associate member of chambers Serle Court, said he would offer consultancy on arbitration and insolvency issues, as well as training lawyers in India.

"Indian law firms have an important role to play in legal and business life, not only for the world, but also for this country," said Lightman.

requires private funding," he said.

Lightman flew to meet new FoxMandal colleagues in India last Thursday (13 March) following a scathing attack on conditional fee agreements (CFAs) at a Norton Rose conference on litigation funding.

He condemned CFAs as "a half-cocked form of private funding" brought in by the Government, which are "deficient, if not fatally flawed, due to an unprincipled conflict of interest on the part of the lawyer" where in some cases settlement would be better for the client, but not the lawyer's pocket. Lightman sees litigation funding as an answer to provide better access to justice. "Recently the courts have begun to recognise... that litigation is a business which, like other businesses,

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