

<u>I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024</u> And <u>I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2024</u> In Company Petition (IB) No. 12/KB/2021

IN THE MATTER OF:

LAL BEHARI SINGH

... Operational Creditors.

Versus

CARNATION INDUSTRIES LIMITED

... Corporate Debtor.

And

I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024

An Application under Section 60(5) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with Rule 11 of the National Company Law Tribunal Rules, 2016.

IN THE MATTER OF:

DHANSAGAR DEALERS PRIVATE LIMITED

... Applicant.

Versus

MR. ANUBRATA GANGOLY, RP of Carnation Industries Limited (In CIRP)

... Respondent No. 1.

And

ICICI BANK

... Respondent No. 2.

And



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I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2024

An application under Section 30(6) and 31(1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with Regulation 39(4) of IBBI (Insolvency Regulations Process of Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016 for approval of the Resolution Plan.

IN THE MATTER OF:

ANUBRATA GANGOLY, Resolution Professional (RP) of Carnation Industries Limited (Corporate Debtor)

... Applicant/ Resolution Professional.

Date of Pronouncement: June 05, 2024.

CORAM:

SMT. BIDISHA BANERJEE, HON'BLE MEMBER (JUDICIAL) SHRI D. ARVIND, HON'BLE MEMBER (TECHNICAL)

APPEARANCE:

For the Applicant		
in I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024:	Ms. Manju Bhuteria, Adv. Ms. Tanvi Luhariwala, Adv. Ms. R. Dhanuka, Adv. Ms. Ruchika Dalmia, Adv.	
For the Resolution Professional		
in I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024		
and		
I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2024:	Ms. Labanyasree Sinha, Adv.	

Mr. Anubrata Gangoly, RP.

<u>ORDER</u>



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Per: Bidisha Banerjee, Member (Judicial)

1. The Court congregated through a hydride mode.

I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024

Issues:

2. The issue has cropped up for consideration whether, after approval of the resolution plan and issuance of the Letter of Intent (LoI), an unsuccessful resolution applicant can question the conduct of the Committee of Creditors and challenge the plan of the successful resolution applicant.

Fact in a nutshell:

3. In the instant application preferred under Section 60(5) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (for brevity "I&B Code"), the Applicant, **Dhansagar Dealers Private Limited**, is an unsuccessful resolution applicant, challenging the resolution plan of the successful resolution applicant as the same has been illegally and arbitrarily voted upon and approved by the Committee of Creditor (CoC). Thus, the applicant has prayed to consider its enhanced/ revised plan and direct the respondents to opt for a challenge mechanism procedure to enable the applicant and the other resolution applicants to improve their plans.



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Applicant's Contentions:

4. The Learned Counsel Ms. Manju Bhuteria appearing on behalf of the Applicant would submit that the applicant has submitted its Expression of Interest (EoI) along with other relevant documents on 10.01.2024 which were duly accepted by the RP on 22.01.2024. The final list of the PRAs was issued on 07.02.2024. The applicant on 15.04.2024 duly submitted its Resolution Plan.

5. She further submits that at the 12th CoC meeting on 18.04.2024, in the presence of the authorized representatives of the applicant, the resolution plan was opened and placed before the CoC. The member of the CoC asked whether the applicant could make a one-time payment to the creditors. In response to the query, the authorized representative informed them that if the same is permissible in law, then the applicant would be agreeable to make such payment. Thereafter, the authorized representative was requested to leave the meeting and sit outside. After waiting a long, the authorized representative was neither called into the meeting for further discussions nor asked for any query or clarification by the respondents.

6. The applicant contends that as no communication was received by the applicant, on 22.04.2024, the applicant issued an email to the Resolution Professional (RP) requesting the RP to allow the applicant to revise its plan. In reply, the RP on 23.04.2024, through email asked the specific provisions of law under the Code and relevant regulations to enable the applicant to look into the applicant's request.



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7. It is further contended that on 24.04.2024, the applicant issued an email stating the object of the I&B Code is the maximization of the value of the assets which allows the resolution applicant to revise the plan for the stakeholders' interest. In reply, the RP stated that "However, do let me know, if there is any specific mention in IBC or its Regulations, allowing an applicant to revise its plan after the COC has voted and approved a plan, the voting results circulated and LOI issued to the successful applicant."

8. The Applicant claims that prior to the email dated 25.04.2024, the Applicant did not have any knowledge of the approval of the plan and thus, the Applicant issued an email on 25.04.2024, raising concerns regarding the transparency and how the plan was approved and voted upon sans allowing the applicant to revise its plan. On 26.04.2024, the RP replied to the applicant that no provision in the Code which would allow *post-facto* modification of the plan.

9. Further, the Applicant on 27.04.2024, issued an email asking for the evolution matrix with the respective scores of the resolution applicants, voting result done by the CoC, and a copy of the plan as approved by the CoC which was denied by the RP to provide by calling the contentions of the applicant as baseless and false on 29.04.2024.

10. It is asserted that the applicant is agreeable to enhance its offer from Rs. 1,54,74,522/- to Rs. 1,90,00,000/-.



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Reply by the Respondent (RP):

11. Per contra, Learned Counsel Ms. Labanyasree Sinha appearing for the Resolution Professional submits that the RP received two resolution plans within the stipulated timelines, one from the successful resolution applicant and another from the applicant herein. Both the plans were duly deliberated upon and discussed a long and simultaneously put for voting at the 12th CoC meeting on 18.04.2024. The CoC has approved the plan submitted by the SRA by 100% voting on 20.04.2024. Under the I&B Code and CIRP Regulations, there is no requirement for the RP to inform the unsuccessful resolution applicant of the outcome of the voting.

12. Further, it is submitted that the applicant herein requested to revise its plan. However, the proposal for revision of its plan had never been disclosed. Further, there are no provisions under the I&B Code, Regulations as well as the RFRP allowing such *post-facto* modification of a plan when the plan submitted by a resolution applicant has been approved unanimously.

13. Further, the Respondent submits that the instant application has been preferred after the hearing of the resolution plan by this Adjudicating Authority when the confidential aspects of the plan such as plan value, payouts to the creditors, and acquisition structure were submitted before this Bench. If the CoC's decision truly aggrieved the applicant, the instant application may be preferred even after receiving the EMD and Band Guarantee from the RP.

14. Further, it is asserted that approval and rejection of any plan comes within the ambit of "commercial wisdom", thus, interference with



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that is not allowable in law. No mechanism under the I&B Code gives an unsuccessful resolution applicant to challenge the score as per the evaluation matrix. A resolution plan can only be challenged on the ground enshrined under Section 31(3)(i) of the Code and no other ground. Further, once the CoC approves a plan, it is a binding contract *inter-se* the CoC, the corporate debtor and all creditors. Even if there is a better plan in terms of value, after the approval of a resolution plan unanimously, it will not be open for the CoC to consider.

15. We have heard the Learned Counsels for both parties and duly considered their submissions.

Analysis and Findings:

16. It is evident from the minutes of the 12th CoC meeting convened on 18.04.2024, that the resolution plans of the applicant and SRA were placed and discussed and the authorized representatives were called in at appropriate times for clarifications and explanations. Both the plans were put in for e-voting. It is further evident from the e-voting result on 20.04.2024, that the plan submitted by the SRA has been approved by the CoC by 100% voting share.

17. As per section 30(6) of the I&B Code, the Resolution Professional <u>shall</u> submit the resolution plan as approved by the CoC to the Adjudicating Authority. Thus, any modifications or revisions of any plan after the approval of the plan by the CoC, even if undertaken as per directions of the CoC, shall not be entertained unless the CoC grants the subsequent approval.



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18. Further, in the context of challenging the approval of the resolution plan, we would refer to the judgment rendered by the Hon'ble NCLAT in *PNC Infratech Ltd. Vs. Deepak Maini* reported in 2022 SCC OnLine NCLAT 4120: (2022) ibclaw.in 612 NCLAT, wherein it was held that:

"39. <u>Further, there is no such mechanism under the</u> <u>Code that gives the right to the Unsuccessful</u> <u>Resolution Applicant to challenge the score</u> <u>granted as per the evaluation matrix prepared by</u> <u>the CoC and the Resolution Professional as per</u> <u>the provisions of CIRP Regulations.</u>

xxx xxx XXX It is unequivocal, in preferring the Appeal by the aggrieved person under the above provision more particularly sub-section (3)(i) of Section 31 thereof specifically provides that the approved which *Resolution Plan can be questioned / challenged on the* ground that the plan is in contravention of the provisions. This Tribunal in clear terms observes and holds that there is no contravention in approving the Resolution Plan either by the CoC or by the Adjudicating Authority. The plan approved is in accordance with law and there is no material irregularity and cannot go into the technical issues with regard to evaluation and score matrix which is in the exclusive domain of the CoC."

(Emphasis Added)

19. Further in *Interups Inc v. Kuldeep Kumar Bassi*, in **Company Appeal (AT) (Insolvency) No. 1079 of 2020**, the Hon'ble NCLAT observed that:

"RP issued Form G initially on 01.10.2018, revised on 14th December 2018. EoI was received from 12



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Resolution Applicants, out of which 11 were found eligible. Last date for receipt of Resolution plan was 08th March 2019. Only one resolution plan was received from successful Resolution Applicant, whereas Appellant has asked for EOI on 12th June 2020 when application seeking approval of Resolution Plan was already filed by RP on 10th July, 2019 under section 31 of Code after 'Committee of Creditors' (CoC) Approval on 28th June 2019 with 79.3% voting share. All this reflect that Appellant wanted to enter fray nearly one year after CoC approval of Resolution Plan; it neither qualifies as Resolution Applicant nor as prospective Resolution Applicant or successful or unsuccessful Resolution Applicant and hence cannot be termed as aggrieved party. Appellant may be termed as an outsider standing on the sidelines. Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process is time bound, value maximization has also to be in timebound manner. All this lead us to sum up that Appellant is neither an aggrieved party in the process of CIRP nor he has a locus standi to file the appeal. Hence, Appeal is held to be not maintainable and Appellant has no locus to maintain it. The Appeal is accordingly dismissed."

(Emphasis Added)

20. Further, the Hon'ble NCLAT in Steel Strips Wheels Ltd. v. Shri Avil Menezes, Resolution Professional of AMW Autocomponent Ltd.
& Ors. reported at 2022 SCC OnLine NCLAT 150: (2022) ibclaw.in 297 NCLAT held that:

> "24. Learned Counsel for the Respondent No.3 has also emphasised that the commercial wisdom of the CoC cannot be questioned by the Appellant. The present is



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not a case where issue of commercial wisdom of the CoC regarding approval or disapproval of the plan is under consideration. <u>In exercise of Case commercial</u> <u>wisdom, CoC has already approved the plan of the</u> <u>Appellant in its meeting dated 26.08.2021 on the basis</u> <u>of voting share of 98.55%</u>.

"25. Learned Counsel for the Respondent No.3 has emphasized that <u>the plan which is being submitted by</u> <u>Respondent No.3 is of much higher value and is</u> <u>favourable to the Corporate Debtor</u>. <u>After</u> <u>approval of the Resolution Plan by the CoC by</u> <u>requisite vote and after expiry of CIRP, it is not</u> <u>open for the CoC to contend that it is ready to</u> <u>consider the plan of Respondent No.3 which</u> <u>according to it may be better plan</u>."

(Emphasis Added)

21. In the present case in hand, we find that the Committee of Creditors of the Corporate Debtor within its ambit of "Commercial Wisdom" has taken the decision and the Adjudicating Authority has very limited scope to interfere in their decision which is unanimously taken. To fortify the view, we would refer to the judgment of the Hon'ble Apex Court in *Kalpraj Dharamshi v. Kotak Investment Advisors Ltd.* reported in (2021) 10 SCC 401: MANU/SC/0174/2021 wherein, it was observed that <u>the legislative scheme</u>, as interpreted by various decisions of this Court, is unambiguous. The commercial wisdom of CoC is not to be interfered with, excepting the limited scope as provided Under Sections 30 and 31 of the I&B Code.

22. Thus, from the foregoing enumerations, we can conclude that an unsuccessful resolution applicant has no vested right to challenge the



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approval of a resolution plan. In the instant case, we have noted that the plan value of the Unsuccessful Resolution Applicant is less than the plan value as proposed by the Successful Resolution Applicant and the resolution plan submitted by the SRA has unanimously been approved by the CoC with the majority voting share. Thus, the approval of the plan falls within the arena of "commercial wisdom" which cannot be questioned unless there is a violation of law as enshrined under Sections 30(2) and 31 of the I&B Code. We find that there are no irregulates in approval of the resolution plan by the CoC. Once a resolution applicant fails to succeed in the bid, it neither has a *locus* to question the action of the stakeholders qua members sitting in and controlling the CoC, nor the right to enhance or revise the monetary value of its Resolution Plan to compete with the plan of the Successful Resolution Applicant. Thus, the Applicant herein being an Unsuccessful Resolution Applicant cannot be allowed to cry foul.

23. In terms of the view above, we **dismiss** the Application.

24. No cost.

25. Certified copies of this order, if applied for with the Registry of this Adjudicating Authority, be supplied to the parties upon compliance with all requisite formalities.

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26. Now we would proceed to consider the Resolution Plan application preferred by **Mr. Anubrata Gangoly**, the Resolution Professional (RP) through this I.A. under Section 30(6) and 31(1) of the Insolvency and



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Bankruptcy Code, 2016, (I&B Code) read with Regulation 39(4) of IBBI (Insolvency Regulations Process of Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016, (CIRP Regulations) seeking for the final approval and sanction of the resolution plan as approved by the CoC on 18.04.2024.

<u>Prologue</u>

27. Learned Counsel Ms. Labanyasree Sinha appearing on behalf of the RP would submit that the CoC at its 12th meeting convened on 18.04.2024, approved the Resolution Plan submitted by **Mr. Vikas Garg** by 100% voting shares. A copy of the Minutes of the 12th CoC meeting is annexed at pages 21-22 to the Application.

28. That, subsequently the Resolution Plan submitted on 13.04.2024 by **Mr. Vikas Garg** is declared as a successful resolution plan and **Mr. Vikas Garg** as the "Successful Resolution Applicant" (SRA). The Resolution Professional issued a Letter of Intent (LoI) to **Mr. Vikas Garg**, **SRA** on 25.04.2024 which is annexed at pages 25-26 to the Application. Upon receiving the LoI, the SRA has deposited an amount equivalent to the sum named in the LoI as the Performance Bank Guarantee to the Applicant, which would be evident from the extract of the relevant Bank Account statement of the Corporate Debtor operated by the Applicant, annexed at pages 130-131 to the Application.

The Particulars of the Corporate Debtor

29. Carnation Industries Limited is a Private Limited Company incorporated on 23rd February 1983 bearing CIN: L27209WB1983PLC035920, registered office situated at 9/C Kumar Para Road 2nd Floor, Liluah, Howrah-711204, West Bengal, India. Carnation



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Industries Limited was promoted by Shri Ravindra Prakash Sehgal, Shri Gautam Sengupta, Shri Sanatan Kundu and Shri Madan Mohan Kundu to carry on the business of ferrous and non-ferrous metals.

Initiation of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)

30. The Operational Creditor, Lal Behari Singh filed an application under Section 9 of the I&B Code, 2016 which was admitted on September 12, 2023, and the Applicant was appointed as the Interim Resolution Professional (IRP). Later, on November 18, 2023, the Applicant was appointed as Resolution professional of the Corporate Debtor.

Public Announcement

31. The Applicant, as per Regulation 6(1) of the CIRP Regulations, 2016, the public announcement, in Form A was published by the Applicant in newspapers at Kolkata namely (i) Morning India in English and (ii) Duranto Barta in Bengali on September 15, 2023, for inviting claims from the creditors in specified forms prescribed by Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (hereinafter referred to as "IBBI"). The last date for submission of claim was September 26, 2023.

Constitution of CoC

32. No claims were received from any Financial Creditors, although the books of accounts of the Corporate Debtor showed that ICICI Bank was a Financial Creditor of the Corporate Debtor, having advanced financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 174.79 lakhs. Only one Operational Creditor viz., Oswal Minerals Limited, filed its claim, which was admitted upon due verification.



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33. Accordingly, the Committee of Creditors (CoC) was duly formed on October 5, 2023, with the sole Operational Creditor.

34. However, the said sole CoC member refused to participate in the CIRP of the Corporate Debtor. On or about November 13, 2023, ICICI Bank Limited, being a Financial Creditor of the Corporate Debtor submitted its claim, after written follow up by the IRP, and was inducted into the CoC by the Applicant after due verification. Accordingly, the CoC stood reconstituted with ICICI Bank Limited being 100% voting share thereof. A Report on the reconstitution of the CoC was duly filed by the Applicant along with the 2nd Progress Report being I.A. No. 1980/KB/2023 which was taken on record by this Learned Tribunal by its order dated April 16, 2024.

35. The total number of meetings of the CoC held is 12.

Appointment of Registered Valuers

36. The Applicant appointed registered valuers in accordance with Regulation 27 of the CIRP Regulations, 2016 to determine the fair value and liquidation value of the Corporate Debtor in accordance with Regulation 35 thereof. Such valuation exercise was completed on December 15, 2023. The average Fair value and the Liquidation value of the Company obtained from the appointed Registered Valuers are as follows:

- a) Fair Value: Rs. 129,04,109/-.
- b) Liquidation value: Rs. 96,46,907/-.



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Collation of Claims

37. The Learned Counsel for the RP has submitted the list of creditors along with the amount claimed and admitted/verified, reproduced hereunder:

Sr. No.	Category of Stakeholders	Amount Claimed (Rs.)	Amount Admitted (Rs.)
1.	Secured Financial	1,76,04,204/-	1,76,04,204/-
	Creditors (ICICI Bank)		
2.	Unsecured Financial Creditors	21,86,215/-	21,86,215/-
3.	Operational Creditors	32,66,275/-	28,98,464/-
Total (1+2+3)		2,30,56,694/-	2,26,88,883/-

Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process and Compliance

38. The Application issued the Information Memorandum in terms of Regulation 36 of the CIRP Regulations, 2016 to the CoC on December 20, 2023, while the Form "G" inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) was published on December 27, 2023, in terms of Regulation 36A thereof. Three expressions of interest were received till the last date, i.e., January 11, 2024.

39. Thereafter, the Applicant issued a Request for Resolution Plan (RFRP) to the eligible applicants on March 6, 2024, in terms of Regulation 36B of the said Regulations. The last date for submitting the Resolution Plan was 4th April 2024, which was extended till April 15, 2024, by the CoC at its meeting held on April 9, 2024.



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Evolution and Voting

40. The Applicant Received two resolution plans-one from Mr. Vikas Garg and the other from Dhansagar Dealers Private Limited. These two plans being compliant with the requirements of the IBC, 2016 and accompanying Regulations, the applicant duly placed the same for evaluation and voting before the Coc at a meeting held on April 18, 2024. A copy of the notice calling the meeting of the CoC on April 18, 2024, is annexed at Pages 17-20 to the application.

41. In accordance with the invitation given to the Resolution Applicants by the Applicant, both the said Mr. Vikas Garg and the said Dhansagar Dealers Private Limited attended the Meeting and deliberated their respective Plans with CoC. Thereafter, both resolution plans were put to vote simultaneously. A copy of the Minutes of the meeting dated April 18, 2024, is annexed at pages 21-22 to the Application.

42. That, the CoC has voted in favour of the resolution plan submitted by Mr. Vikas Garg. A copy of the e-voting report as received by the Applicant is annexed at Pages 23-24 to the Application.

43. The Applicant has issued a Letter of Intent ("LoI") to the SRA on April 25, 2024, annexed at Pages 25-26 to the Application. The Resolution Plan of the SRA as approved by the CoC is annexed at Pages 27-129 to the Application. Upon receiving the LoI, the SRA has deposited an amount equivalent to the sum named in the LoI, in lieu of the Performance Bank Guarantee to the Applicant, which is evidenced from an extract of the relevant Bank Account Statement of the Corporate



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Debtor operated by the Applicant, annexed at Pages 130-131 to the Application.

44. Upon having examined the Resolution Plan of the SRA, the Applicant submits that:

a. The resolution plan of the SRA provides for the payment of insolvency resolution process costs, in priority to the payment of the other debts of the corporate debtor, in accordance with the requirements laid down by the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India.

b. The resolution plan of the SRA provides for the payment of debts of operational creditors in a manner which is not less than the amount to be paid to such creditors in the event of the liquidation of the corporate debtor under Section 53 of the IBC, 2016.

c. The resolution plan of the SRA provides for the management of the affairs of the corporate debtor after approval of the resolution plan.

d. The resolution plan of the SRA does not contravene any of the provisions of law for the time being in force and also conforms to all requirements a specified by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India as on date.

45. The Applicant has duly affirmed the Compliance Certificate in "Form H" of the CIRP Regulations, 2016 which is annexed at Pages 136-144 to the Application.



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<u>Compliance of the Resolution Plan submitted by the SRA with</u> <u>various provisions.</u>

46. The Applicant has submitted that in terms of Regulation 39(4) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016, the RP has filed a Compliance Certificate in prescribed form i.e., Form "H", annexed at Pages 136-144 to the Application.

47. It is submitted that contended that the Successful Resolution Applicant has met the criteria approved by the CoC having regard to the complexity and scale of operations of the business of the Corporate Debtor in terms of Section 25(h)(2) of the I&B Code.

48. Further it is submitted that the Successful Resolution Applicant is eligible to submit a resolution plan in terms of Section 29A of the I&B Code and accordingly, an affidavit has also been furnished by the SRA. The Due Diligence Report concerning Section 29A of the I&B Code prepared by the RP along with the Affidavit furnished by the SRA is annexed at pages 113-116.

49. Further, the Learned Counsel for the Resolution Professional would submit the details of various compliances as envisaged within the I&B Code and the CIRP Regulations to which a Resolution Plan has been adhered to. Further, it is submitted that the Resolution Applicant has submitted its eligibility in terms of Section 30(1) of the I&B Code, 2016.



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50. It is further submitted that in terms of Section 30(2) of the I&B Code, 2016, (as amended vide Amendment dated August 16, 2019) the Resolution Plan, submitted by **Mr. Vikas Garg (SRA)** provides the compliance as under:

Section of	Requirement with respect	Clause of	Compliance
the Code /	to Resolution Plan	Resolution	(Yes / No)
Regulatio		Plan	
n No.			
25(2)(h)	Whether the Resolution	6 of Part I	Yes
	Applicant meets the criteria		
	approved by the CoC having		
	regard to the complexity and		
	scale of operations of		
	business of the CD?		
Section	Whether the Resolution	13 of Part III	Yes
29A	Applicant is eligible to submit		
	resolution plan as per final		
	list of Resolution Professional		
	or Order, if any, of the		
	Adjudicating Authority?		
Section	Whether the Resolution	13 of Part III	Yes
30(1)	Applicant has submitted an		
	affidavit stating that it is		
	eligible?		
Section	Whether the Resolution Plan-	4 of Part III	Yes
30(2)			



			T1
	(a) provides for the payment		
	of insolvency resolution		
	process costs?		
	(b) provides for the payment		
	to the operational creditors?		
	(c) provides for the payment		
	to the financial creditors who		
	did not vote in favour of the		
	resolution plan?		
	(d) provides for the		
	management of the affairs of		
	the corporate debtor?		
	(e) provides for the		
	implementation and		
	supervision of the resolution		
	plan?		
	(f) contravenes any of the		
	provisions of the law for the		
	time being in force?]		
Section	Whether the Resolution Plan		
30(4)	(a) is feasible and viable,		Yes
	according to the CoC?		
	(b) has been approved by the		Yes
	CoC with 66% voting share?		
Section	Whether the Resolution Plan	Part II	Yes
31(1)	has provisions for its effective		
	implementation plan,		
L		1	



	according to the CoC?		
Regulation	Whether the amount due to	4 of Part I	Yes
38 (1)	the operational creditors		
	under the resolution plan has		
	been given priority in		
	payment over financial		
	creditors?]		
Regulation	Whether the resolution plan	14 of Part III	Yes
38(1A)	includes a statement as to		
	how it has dealt with the		
	interests of all stakeholders?		
Regulation	(i) Whether the Resolution	16 of Part III	Yes
38(1B)	Applicant or any of its related		
	parties has failed to		
	implement or contributed to		
	the failure of implementation		
	of any resolution plan		
	approved under the Code.		
	(ii) If so, whether the		
	Resolution Applicant has		
	submitted the statement		
	giving details of such non-		
	implementation?]		
Regulation	Whether the Resolution Plan	1, 2 and 4 of	Yes
38(2)	provides:	Part II	
	(a) the term of the plan and its		
	implementation schedule?		



	(b) for the management and		
	control of the business of the		
	corporate debtor during its		
	term?		
	(c) adequate means for		
	supervising its		
	implementation?		
38(3)	Whether the resolution plan	5, 19.3, 19.4,	Yes
	demonstrates that –	10.5 and 19.6	
	(a) it addresses the cause of	of Part III	
	default?		
	(b) it is feasible and viable?		
	(c) it has provisions for its		
	effective implementation?		
	(d) it has provisions for		
	approvals required and the		
	timeline for the same?		
	(e) the resolution applicant		
	has the capability to		
	implement the resolution		
	plan?		
39(2)	Whether the RP has filed		Yes
	applications in respect of		
	transactions observed, found		
	or determined by him?		
Regulation	Provide details of	SRA has	Yes
39(4)	performance security	deposited	
			1



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received, as referred to in	entire
sub-regulation (4A) of	performance
regulation 36B.]	security in lieu
0 1	of PGB on
	03.04.2024
	and
	01.05.2024

Details of the Resolution Plan and/or Payment Schedule

51. The Learned Counsel for the Applicant herein has submitted that the total plan outlay/ value is of **Rs. 1,70,34,621**/- wherein CIRP Costs has been proposed of Rs. 20,00,000/- amount allocated to the Secured Financial Creditor is of Rs.1,42,00,000/-, amount proposed to the Operational Creditor (Employees) is of Rs. 3,18,621/- and to the Operational Creditor (other than Workmen and Employees and Government Dues) is of Rs. 5,16,000/-.

52. The Applicant submits that the summary proposal of the Resolution Plan submitted by the SRA, which is in Clause d at pages 51-52 to the Resolution Plan, is attached hereunder in a tabular form:

Sr.	Category of	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
No.	Stakeholders	Claimed (Rs.)	Admitted	Provided	Provided
			(Rs.)	under the	to
				Plan (Rs.)	Amount
					Claimed
					(%)



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1.	CIRP Cost	-	-	20,00,000/-	-
2.	Secured	1,76,04,204/-	1,76,04,204/-	1,42,00,000/-	80.66
	Financial				
	Creditors				
3.	Unsecured	21,86,215/-	21,86,215/-	NIL	0.00
	Financial				
	Creditors				
4.	Operational	32,66,275/-	28,98,464/-	8,34,621/-	28.79
	Creditors				

53. As per Form "H" annexed to the application, the allocation of the amount as provided for all the stakeholders under the Resolution Plan submitted by the SRA in detail is as under:

S1.	Category	Sub-	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
No.	of	Category of	Claimed	Admitted	Provided	Provided to
	Stakehold	Stakeholder			under the	the
	er				Plan	Amount
						Claimed
						(%)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Secured	(a)	0	0	0	0
	Financial	Creditors				
	Creditors	not having				
		a right to				
		vote under				
		sub-				
		section (2)				



above:				
(i) who did	0	0	0	0
not vote in				
favour of				
the				
resolution				
Plan				
(ii) who	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	80.66
voted in	1,76,04,204	1,76,04,2	1,42,00,	
favour of	/-	04/-	000/-	
the				
resolution				
plan				
Total[(a) +	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	80.66
(b)]	1,76,04,20	1,76,04,2	1,42,00,	
	4/-	04/-	000/-	



2	Unsecur	(a)	Rs.	Rs.	0	0
	ed	Creditors	21,86,215/-	21,86,215		
	Financial	not having		/-		
	Creditors	a right to				
		vote under				
		sub-				
		section (2)				
		of section				
		21				
		(b) Other				
		than (a)				
		above:				
		(i) who did				
		not vote in				
		favour of				
		the				
		resolution				
		Plan				
		(ii) who				
		voted in				
		favour of				
		the				
		resolution				
		plan				



		Total[(a) +	Rs.	Rs.	0	0
		(b)]	21,86,215/	21,86,21		
			-	5/-		
3	Operatio	(a) Related	-	-	-	-
	nal	Party of				
	Creditors	Corporate				
		Debtor				
		(b) Other				
		than (a)				
		above:				
		(i)Governm	NA	NA	NA	NA
		ent				
		(ii)Workme	NA	NA	NA	NA
		n				
		(iii)Employ	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	48.34
		ees	6,59,144/-	3,18,621	3,18,621	
		(iv)Others	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	20
			26,07,131/-	25,79,843	5,16,000	
				/-	/-	
		Total[(a) +	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	28.79
		(b)]	32,66,275/	28,98,46	8,34,62	
			-	4/-	1/-	



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4	Other	-	-	-	-
	debts				
	and dues				
Gran	nd Total	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	59.60
		2,30,56,69	2,26,88,8	1,50,34,	
		4/-	83/-	621/-	

54. It is evident that in Form H submitted by the Applicant, the Grant Total in "Amount Claimed" and "Amount Admitted" is wrongly recorded in the Form H as Rs. 2,52,42,909/- and Rs. 2,48,75,098/-. The correct one, we have noted in this order at **Para 53**. We find that the "Amount Claimed" and "Amount Admitted" for the Unsecured Financial Creditors have wrongly calculated twice. We have noted that as the wrong calculation by the Applicant does not prejudice the total Plan Value as well as the allocation of the Plan Value to the Stakeholders, we deem it fit to pass the appropriate order on the face of the merits of the application.

55. Further, the Applicant submits that summery to be included in the Resolution Plan submitted by the SRA, annexed at page 48 to the Plan as under:

Sr. No.	DETAILS	AMOUNT
1.	Amount of upfront payment to creditors	Rs. 1,70,34,621 (Rupees One Crore Seventy Lakhs Thirty-Four Thousand



	(Upfront Cash	Five Hundred and Ninety Only) in the
	Recovery)	following manner:
	Recovery)	 CIRP Costs: Rs. 20,00,000 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Only) Secured Financial Creditor- Rs. 1,42,00,000 (Rupees One Crore Forty-Two Lakhs Only) Unsecured Financial Creditor- Nil Operational Creditor (Employees)-Rs.3,18,621 (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighteen Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty-One Only). Operational Creditor (other than Workmen and Employees and Government Dues)- Rs.5,16,000 (Rupees Five Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Only).
2.	Proposed Distribution	Rs.1,70,34,621 (Rupees One Crore
	of Repayment to	Seventy Lakhs Thirty-Four Thousand
	various creditors i.e.,	Five Hundred and Ninety Only) in the
	Financial Creditor,	following manner:
	Operational Creditors,	
	Statutory Creditors,	



	Employee and	•	CIRP Costs: Rs. 20,00,000
	Workmen, etc.		(Rupees Twenty Lakhs Only)
		•	Secured Financial
			Creditor_Rs.1,42,00,000
			(Rupees One Crore Forty-Two
			Lakhs Only)
		•	Unsecured Financial Creditor-
			Nil
		•	Operational Creditor
			(Employees)- Rs.3,18,621
			(Rupees Three Lakhs Eighteen
			Thousand Six Hundred and
			Twenty-One Only)
		•	Operational Creditor (other
			than Workmen and Employees
			and Government Dues)-
			Rs.5,16,000 (Rupees Five
			Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Only)
3.	Balance repayment	N.A.	
	obligations to creditors		
	(other than upfront		
	payment)		
4.	Proposed instruments	a.	Loan/Debt Instruments- Not
	for repayment		Applicable
		b.	Quasi Equity, if any-Not
			Applicable



		c. Equity, if any- Not Applicable
5.	Interest Rate/ Coupon and Frequency of Payment	a. Loan/Debt Instruments-NotApplicableb. Quasi Equity-Not Applicable
6.	Repayment Schedule	 a. Loan/Debt instruments- Not Applicable b. Quasi Equity- Not Applicable
7.	Security	Not Applicable
8.	Conversion terms for quasi equity instruments	Not Applicable
9.	Any equity being offered to lenders/non promoter/non promoter group and terms for the same.	Not Applicable
10.	Amount of fresh equity being infused into the company	 a. Purpose- Business b. Amount-2,00,000 (Two Lakhs) equity shares of Rs.10 each amounting to Rs. 20,00,000 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Only)



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c. Timing of Infusion-within 50
business days of approval of
Resolution Plan.
d. Terms- As per the provisions of
Companies Act, 2013.

Our Inference

On the Conduct of CoC:

56. Upon hearing, the submission made by the Learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the Resolution Professional of Corporate Debtor herein and perusing the record and/or documents placed before this Adjudicating Authority, we would find that **the Resolution dated April 13, 2024,** submitted by **Mr. Vikas Garg, the Successful Resolution Applicant** has been approved by the CoC of the Corporate Debtor by **100%** voting share on 18.04.2024 and **Mr. Vikas Garg,** is declared as the **"Successful Resolution Applicant".** As per the CoC, the plan meets the requirement of being <u>viable and feasible</u> for the revival of the Corporate Debtor. Preponderantly, all the compliances have been done by the Resolution Applicant for making the plan effective after approval by this Adjudicating Authority.

57. In the course of the hearing, the Ld. Counsel for the applicant would submit that the Resolution Plan complies with all the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, read with relevant Regulations of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency



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Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016 and does not contravene any of the provisions of law for the time being in force.

58. Upon perusal of the documents on record and/or documents, we are satisfied that **the Resolution dated April 13, 2024,** submitted by **Mr. Vikas Garg, the Successful Resolution Applicant**, is in accordance with sections 30 and 31 of the I&B Code, 2016 and also complies with regulations 38 and 39 of the IBBI (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016.

On the Statutory Obligations or Seeking Approvals from the <u>Authorities</u>:

59. As far as the question of granting time to comply with the statutory obligations or seeking approvals from authorities is concerned, the Resolution Applicant is directed to do so within one year from the date of this order, as prescribed under section 31(4) of the I&B Code.

On the Reliefs, Waivers and Concessions:

60. We have perused the <u>reliefs</u>, <u>waivers and concessions</u> as sought and as provided in the Resolution Plan. It is evident that some of the reliefs, waivers and concessions sought by the Resolution Applicant come within the ambit of the I&B Code and the Companies Act 2013, while many others fall under the power and jurisdiction of different government authorities/departments. <u>This Adjudicating Authority has the power to</u> grant reliefs, waivers and concessions only concerning the reliefs, waivers and concessions that are directly with the I&B Code and the Companies <u>Act (within the powers of the NCLT)</u>. The reliefs, waivers and concessions that pertain to other governmental authorities/departments may be dealt



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with by the respective competent authorities/forums/offices, Government or Semi-Government of the State or Central Government concerning the respective reliefs, waivers and concession, whenever sought for. The competent authorities including the Appellate authorities may consider granting such reliefs, waivers and concessions keeping in view the spirit of the I&B Code, 2016 and the Companies Act, 2013.

61. It is almost trite and fairly well-settled that the Resolution Plan must be consistent with the extant law. The Resolution Applicant shall make necessary applications to the concerned regulatory or statutory authorities for the renewal of business permits and supply of essential services, if required, and all necessary forms along with filing fees etc. and such authority shall also consider the same keeping in mind the objectives of the Code, which is essentially the resolving the insolvency of the Corporate Debtor.

62. In this context, we would rely upon the judgment in *Embassy Property Developments Pvt. Ltd. vs. State of Karnataka* reported at MANU/SC/1661/2019: (2020) 13 SCC 308, wherein, the Hon'ble Apex Court has laid down that:

"39. If NCLT has been conferred with jurisdiction to decide all types of claims to property, of the corporate debtor, Section 18(f)(vi) would not have made the task of the interim resolution professional in taking control and custody of an asset over which the corporate debtor has ownership rights, subject to the determination of ownership by a court or other authority. In fact an asset owned by a third party, but which is in the possession of the corporate debtor under contractual arrangements, is specifically kept out of the definition of the term "assets" under the Explanation to Section 18. <u>This</u>



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assumes significance in view of the language used in Sections 18 and 25 in contrast to the language employed in Section 20. Section 18 speaks about the duties of the interim resolution professional and Section 25 speaks about the duties of resolution professional. These two provisions use the word "assets", while Section 20(1) uses the word "property" together with the word "value". Sections 18 and 25 do not use the expression "property". Another important aspect is that Under Section 25(2)(b) of IBC, 2016, the resolution professional is obliged to represent and act on behalf of the corporate debtor with third parties and exercise rights for the benefit of the corporate debtor in judicial, quasi-judicial and arbitration proceedings. Section 25(1) and 25(2)(b) reads as follows:

25. Duties of resolution professional -

(1) It shall be the duty of the resolution professional to preserve and protect the assets of the corporate debtor, including the continued business operations of the corporate debtor.

(2) For the purposes of Sub-section (1), the resolution professional shall undertake the following actions:

(a).....

(b) represent and act on behalf of the corporate debtor with third parties, exercise rights for the benefit of the corporate debtor in judicial, quasi judicial and arbitration proceedings.

This shows that wherever the corporate debtor has to exercise rights in judicial, quasi-judicial proceedings, the resolution professional cannot short-circuit the same and bring a claim before NCLT taking advantage of Section 60(5).



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40. Therefore in the light of the statutory scheme as culled out from various provisions of the IBC, 2016 it is clear that wherever the corporate debtor has to exercise a right that falls outside the purview of the IBC, 2016 especially in the realm of the public law, they cannot, through the resolution professional, take a bypass and go before NCLT for the enforcement of such a right." (Emphasis Added)

63. The reliefs sought for subsisting contracts/agreements can be granted, and no blanket orders can be granted in the absence of the parties to the contracts and agreements.

On the Extinguishment of Claims:

64. Concerning the waivers with regard to the extinguishment of claims which arose prior to the initiation of the CIR Process and which have not been claimed are granted in terms of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in **Ghanashyam Mishra and Sons Private Limited vs. Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited** reported in MANU/SC/0273/2021: (2021)9SCC657: [2021]13SCR737 that "<u>once</u> *a resolution plan is duly approved by the Adjudicating Authority Under* Sub-section (1) of Section 31, the claims as provided in the resolution plan shall stand frozen and will be binding on the Corporate Debtor and its employees, members, creditors, including the Central Government, any State Government or any local authority, guarantors and other stakeholders. On the date of approval of resolution plan by the Adjudicating Authority, all such claims, which are not a part of resolution plan, shall stand extinguished and no person will be entitled to initiate or



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continue any proceedings in respect to a claim, which is not part of the

<u>resolution plan</u>." (Emphasis Added)

65. Further, the relevant part of the **Ghanshyam Mishra judgment** (supra) in this regard is given below:

"61. All these details are required to be contained in the information memorandum so that the resolution applicant is aware, as to what are the liabilities, that he may have to face and provide for a plan, which apart from satisfying a part of such liabilities would also ensure, that the Corporate Debtor is revived and made a running establishment. The legislative intent of making the resolution plan binding on all the stake-holders after it gets the seal of approval from the Adjudicating Authority upon its satisfaction, that the resolution plan approved by CoC meets the requirement as referred to in Sub-section (2) of Section 30 is, that after the approval of the resolution plan, no surprise claims should be flung on the successful resolution applicant. The dominant purpose is, that he should start with fresh slate on the basis of the resolution plan approved.'

"62. This aspect has been aptly explained by this Court in the case of Committee of Creditors of Essar Steel India Limited through Authorised Signatory (supra)."

"107. For the same reason, the impugned NCLAT judgment [Standard Chartered Bank v. Satish Kumar Gupta] in holding that claims that may exist apart from those decided on merits by the resolution professional and by the Adjudicating Authority/Appellate Tribunal can now be decided by an appropriate forum in terms of Section 60(6) of the Code, also militates against the rationale of Section 31 of the Code. A successful resolution



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applicant cannot suddenly be faced with "undecided" claims after the resolution plan submitted by him has been accepted as this would amount to a hydra head popping up which would throw into uncertainty amounts payable by a resolution applicant who prospective would successfully take over the business of the corporate debtor. All claims must be submitted to and decided by the resolution professional so that a prospective resolution applicant knows exactly what has to be paid in order that it may then take over and run the business of the corporate debtor. This the successful resolution applicant does on a fresh slate, as has been pointed out by us hereinabove. For these reasons, NCLAT judgment must also be set aside on this count."

(Emphasis Added)

66. In this regard we also rely on the judgement of the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan in the matter of *EMC* v. *State of Rajasthan*, Civil Writ Petition No. 6048/2020 with 6204/2020 reported in (2023) ibclaw.in 42 HC, wherein it has been inter-alia held that:

> "Law is well-settled that with the finalization of insolvency resolution plan and the approval thereof by the NCLT, all dues of creditors, Corporate, Statutory and others stand extinguished and no demand can be raised for the period prior to the specified date."

(Emphasis Added)

67. Thus, on the date of approval of the resolution plan by the Adjudicating Authority, all such claims, that are not a part of the resolution plan, shall stand extinguished and no person will be entitled to initiate or continue any proceedings in respect to a claim, which is not



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part of the resolution plan. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India further laid down that all the dues including the statutory dues owed to the Central Govt, any State Govt or any local authority, if not part of the resolution plan, shall stand extinguished and no proceedings in respect of such dues for the period before the date on which the Adjudicating Authority grants its approval under Section 31 of the I&B Code could be continued.

<u>On Guarantors</u>:

68. Concerning the waivers sought in relation to guarantors, the Hon'ble Apex Court held in *Lalit Kumar Jain* v. *Union of India* reported in MANU/SC/0352/2021: (2021) 9 SCC 321: (2021) ibclaw.in 61 SC that <u>the sanction of a resolution plan and finality imparted to it by Section</u> 31 does not per se operate as a discharge of the guarantor's liability. As to the nature and extent of the liability, much would depend on the terms of <u>the guarantee itself.</u> (Emphasis Added)

69. Further, we would rely upon the judgment rendered by the NCLAT in *Roshan Lal Mittal v. Rishabh Jain* reported in (2023) ibclaw.in 803 NCLAT that:

"<u>The Resolution Plan does not absolve the personal guarantors</u> <u>from their guarantee</u>. The law well settled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "Lalit Kumar Jain vs. Union of India & Ors. – (2021) 9 SCC 321), that by approval of resolution plan the guarantees are not ipso facto discharged."

(Emphasis Added)

70. The CoC comprises all the financial creditors of the corporate debtor as per Section 21(2) of the I&B Code. In the present case, the CoC



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is constituted with only one financial creditor, i.e., ICICI bank having 100% voting share. It is a trite, axiomatic and settled position of law that the CoC has a statutory role and serves as the custodian of the public confidence. The CoC is entrusted with the task of unlocking the valuable assets of the Corporate Debtor for their optimum contribution to the gross domestic production. Thus, the decision of the CoC impacts not only the life of the corporate debtor as well as its stakeholders, but also the have wider ramifications for the public interest. Thus, it is the duty of the CoC to maximize the assets of the Corporate Debtor by all means which would include the invocation of the personal guarantee, if any, and identification of PUFE transactions and preferring avoidance application accordingly. We have noted that avoidance applications have already been filed. If any personal guarantee(s) exists, the CoC shall invoke the same and will take appropriate action against them, as per law, if not done already.

On Inquiries, Litigations, Investigations, and Proceedings:

71. For the reliefs and waivers sought for all inquiries, litigations, investigations, and proceedings shall be granted strictly as per section 32A of the I&B Code, 2016 and the provisions of the law as may be applicable.

72. In this context, we would infer that upon the approval of the Resolution Plan, the Corporate Debtor avails the limbs of new management to revive its business. Thus, all the past liabilities of the Corporate Debtor including criminal liability prior to the initiation of the CIR Process shall stand effaced and the new management will step into the shoes of the company with a fresh or clean slate. Hence, the old



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management shall be liable to face all the offences committed prior to the commencement of the CIR Process. At this junction, we would rely upon the judgment rendered by the Hon'ble Apex Court in *Ajay Kumar Radheyshyam Goenka vs. Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd.* reported in MANU/SC/0244/2023: (2023) 10 SCC 545 that:

"67. Thus, Section 32A broadly leads to:

a. <u>Extinguishment of the criminal liability of the</u> <u>corporate debtor, if the control of the corporate debtor</u> <u>goes in the hands of the new management which is</u> <u>different from the original old management</u>.

b. The prosecution in relation to "every person who was a "designated partner" as defined in Clause (j) of Section 2 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act 2008 (6 of 2009), or an "officer who is in default", as defined in Clause (60) of Section 2 of the Companies Act. 2013 (18 of 2013), or was in any manner in charge of, or responsible to the corporate debtor for the conduct of its business or associated with the corporate debtor in any manner and who was directly or indirectly involved in the commission of such offence" shall be proceeded and the law will take it's own course. Only the corporate debtor (with new management) as held in Para 42 of P. Mohanraj will be safeguarded.

c. If the old management takes over the corporate debtor (for MSME Section 29A does not apply (see 240A), hence for MSME old management can takeover) the corporate debtor itself is also not safeguarded from prosecution Under Section 138 or any other offences."

(Emphasis Added)



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73. Further, in a very recent judgment rendered by the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in Vasan Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. vs. The Deputy Director of Income Tax (Investigation), Unit 3(2) reported in MANU/TN/0243/2024: (2024) ibclaw.in 80 HC that:

> "9. In the above judgement, the Apex Court after dealing with the provision in detail, came to a categoric conclusion that insofar as the criminal prosecution is concerned, the criminal liability of the corporate debtor viz., company gets completely wiped off and the new management is allowed to take over the company on a clean slate. However, <u>the Apex Court also</u> <u>made it clear that the persons who are involved in the day</u> <u>today affairs of the company and were incharge and</u> <u>responsible for running of the company, will be liable to face</u> <u>all the offence committed prior to the commencement of</u> <u>the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process. There is</u> <u>no escape for those persons from criminal liability even</u> <u>though the corporate debtor is given a clean slate and</u> <u>is handed over to the new Management</u>.

> 10. Useful reference can also be made to the judgement of <u>the</u> <u>Calcutta High Court</u> in <u>[Tantia Constructions Limited</u> <u>Vs. Krishna Hi-Tech Infrastructure P Ltd] in CRP No. 172</u> <u>of 2022.</u> The relevant portions in the order are extracted hereunder :-

> 4. For the **application of Section 32A of IBC, 2016** and in light of the present matter, it is pertinent to determine the following two issues, i.e.,

i. Whether the offence as complained in the impugned criminal proceedings has been alleged to be committed before the initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process or during such process?



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ii. Whether the resolution plan has resulted in change in the management or corporate debtor in consonance with the provisions of Section 32A(1) of IBC, 2016?

5. With respect to Issue No. 1, it is pertinent to note that the corporate insolvency resolution process as against the Petitioner/Corporate Debtor was initiated on 13.03.2019 when the application was accepted and the Order of Moratorium under Section 14 of the IBC, 2016 was imposed by NCLT, Kolkata in the aforementioned case. The complaint that commenced the impugned criminal proceedings was filed on 22.07.2019 before the concerned court by the opposite party. Whereby, said alleged offence so complained, took place before or during the corporate insolvency resolution process and is covered under the ambit of Section 32A of IBC, 2016.

6. With respect to Issue No. 2, it is observed that the petitioner has not made specific submission in this regard. However, it is the submission of the opposite party that the **impugned** complaint case does not concern itself with the new directors that were appointed after takeover by the Resolution Applicant in line with the Resolution Plan so approved by NCLT dated 24.02.2022. It is their submission that they are primarily aggrieved by the actions of petitioner when it was in control of erstwhile Directors.

11. The above judgement clearly lays down the law on the subject. The moment the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process is initiated against the corporate debtor and the application is accepted by the NCLT, the moratorium comes into operation. Once the resolution plan is accepted by the NCLT and orders are passed and the Corporate debtor gets into hands of the new management, all the past liabilities including the criminal liability of the



I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024 and I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2024 In Company Petition (IB) No. 12/KB/2021

<u>Corporate debtor gets wiped off and the new</u> <u>Management takes over the company with clean slate</u>." (Emphasis Added)

74. For the sake of convenience, the reliefs, concessions and approvals sought by the Applicant from us are catered to as below and the orders thereon are indicated against each as under:

SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
Reliefs and Concessions for the implementation of the Resolution Plan.				



1.	7. a) (i)	The Resolution	However, the	Not
		Applicant has	Corporate Debtor is	Granted.
		considered that by	being acquired on a	
		virtue of the Order of the	'going concern'	We direct to
		Adjudicating Authority	basis (as is where is	approach
		approving this	basis, as is what is	the
		Resolution Plan and	basis, whatever	appropriate
		since the Resolution	there is basis), this	authority/
		Applicant would	Adjudicating	Authorities.
		acquire the Corporate	Authority is not the	
		Debtor on a 'going	proper forum to	
		concern' basis, <u>all</u>	consider and/or	
		consents, licences,	grant such relief.	
		approvals, rights,		
		entitlements benefits	This is for the	
		and privileges whether	relevant and/or	
		under law, contract,	appropriate	
		lease or license or any	authorities to	
		registration, <u>granted</u> in	consider, and not in	
		favour of the Corporate	the nature of a	
		Debtor or to which the	waiver, concession	
		Corporate Debtor is	or relief to be	
		entitled or accustomed	granted by this	
		to shall,	Adjudicating	
		notwithstanding any	Authority.	
		provision to the contrary		
		in their terms and		



notwithstanding that	
may have already	
lapsed or expired due to	
any non-compliance or	
efflux of time, be	
deemed to continue	
without disruption for	
the benefit of the	
Corporate Debtor and	
the Resolution	
Applicant from the	
NCLT plan approval	
date, i.e., the Effective	
Date or until the period	
mentioned in such	
Business Licences,	
whichever is later.	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
2.	7. a)	The Resolution	Whatever the	Granted, in
	(ii)	Applicant shall be	immunity is granted	accordance
		handed over with <u>clear</u>	strictly under	with law.
		<u>title</u> of the Building and	Section 32A of the	
		being the true, legal,	I&B Code and the	
		and beneficial owner of	law laid down in	
		the Corporate Debtor	Ajay Kumar	
		and shall have peaceful	Radheyshyam	
		and quite enjoyment of	Goenka (Supra),	
		the Building without	Tantia	
		any hindrance of	Constructions	
		exercise of its rights	Limited (Supra)	
		from any third party	and in Vasan	
		including but not limited	Healthcare Pvt.	
		to any litigations	Ltd. (Supra),	
		against the Corporate	nothing more and	
		Debtor.	nothing less.	
3.		For the avoidance of		
	(iii)	doubt, it is hereby	,	Granted.
		clarified that all		
		consents, licenses,		We direct to
		approvals, rights,	consider, and not in	approach



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		entitlements, benefits	the nature of a	the
		and privileges whether	waiver, concession	appropriate
		under law, contract,	or relief to be	authority/
		lease or license,	granted by this	Authorities.
		granted in favour of the	Adjudicating	
		Corporate Debtor or to	Authority.	
		which the Corporate		
		Debtor is entitled to,		
		which were in place		
		shall be deemed to		
		continue without		
		disruption for the		
		benefit of the Corporate		
		Debtor.		
4.	7. a)	The Registrar of	All regulatory	Granted, in
	(iv)	Companies of relevant	compliances such	accordance
		jurisdiction to take on	as filing with the	with law.
		record and implement	RoC, payment of	
		the Plan upon approval	filing fees on	
		of the Plan by the NCLT,	documents etc. will	
		without any further	have to be complied	
		compliances;	with. The RoC	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			cannot be expected	
			to grant suo moto	
			approval for such	
			activities without	
			the forms being filed	
			or necessary	
			compliances being	
			done on behalf of	
			the corporate	
			debtor.	
_		<u>A11</u> O	11 / 1 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	One statis
5.	7. a)			Granted , in
	(v)	Authorities to waive the		
		Non-Compliances of the	, c	with law.
		Corporate Debtor prior		
		to the Closing Date		
		(including Non-		
		Compliances under		
		Companies Act, 2013,		
		Employees' Provident		
		Fund & Miscellaneous		
		Provisions Act, 1952		
		and other Applicable	Limited (Supra)	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		Laws, and Non-	and in Vasan	
		Compliances in relation	Healthcare Pvt.	
		to non-payment of any	Ltd. (Supra),	
		outstanding charges	nothing more and	
		and dues by the	nothing less.	
		Corporate Debtor		
		(including stamp duty,		
		registration fee and		
		property Taxes);		
				N 4
6.	7. a)	Since the Resolution		Not
	(vi)	Applicant has been	-	Granted.
		provided with limited		TT 7 1' / /
		information in relation		We direct to
		to the Business Permits		
			the nature of a	the
		status, it is probable		
		that certain Business		authority/
		Permits of the Corporate		Authorities.
		Debtor have lapsed,		
		expired, suspended,	Authority.	
		cancelled, revoked or		
		terminated or the		



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		Corporate Debtor Group		
		has Non-Compliances		
		in relation thereto.		
		Accordingly, all		
		Governmental		
		Authorities to provide		
		reasonable time period,		
		if required, in order for		
		the Resolution		
		Applicant to assess the		
		status of these		
		Business Permits and		
		ensure that the		
		Corporate Debtor is		
		compliant with the		
		terms of such Business		
		Permits and Applicable		
		Law without initiating		
		any investigations,		
		actions or proceedings		
		or imposing any costs in		
		relation to such Non-		
		Compliances and		



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		permit the Resolution		
		Applicant to continue to		
		operate the business of		
		the Corporate Debtor,		
7.	7. a)	All Governmental		Not
	(vii)	Authorities to grant any		Granted.
		relief, concession or	appropriate	
		dispensation as may be	authorities to	We direct to
		required for the	consider, and not in	approach
		implementation of the	the nature of a	the
		transactions	waiver, concession	appropriate
		contemplated under the	or relief to be	authority/
		Plan in accordance with	granted by this	Authorities.
		its terms and	Adjudicating	
		conditions, and to	Authority.	
		waive the Non-		
		Compliances of the		
		Corporate Debtor,		
8.	7. a)	All Governmental	This is for the	Not
	(viii)	Authorities shall grant	relevant and/or	Granted.
		any relief, concession or	appropriate	
		dispensation as may be	authorities to	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		required for	consider, and not in	We direct to
		implementation of the	the nature of a	approach
		transactions	waiver, concession	the
		contemplated under the	or relief to be	appropriate
		Plan in accordance with	granted by this	authority/
		its terms and	Adjudicating	Authorities.
		conditions.	Authority.	
9.	7. a)	5	The reliefs fall	Not
	(ix)	anything contained in		Granted.
		this Resolution Plan,		
		this Resolution Plan	wisdom". Upon the	
		and the amounts and	submission of the	
		payments contemplates	plan by the	
		and set out in this Plan	Resolution	
		have been arrived at on	Applicant, it can be	
		the basis of the (i)	believed that the	
		information provided by	Resolution	
		the Resolution	Applicant has	
		Professional in the	verified the	
		Information	informational	
		Memorandum, (ii)	memorandum,	
		information provided	RFRP and inspected	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		through the RFRP (iii)	the assets of the	
		Physical inspection of	corporate debtor.	
		Assets (iv) details and	After verification	
		other information	and inspection of all	
		provided by the	the aspects, the	
		Resolution Professional.	Resolution	
		It is clarified that the	Applicant has	
		rights of the Resolution	expressed its	
		Applicant, set forth in	willingness to	
		this Chapter are	participate in the	
		without prejudice or	bid. Further, in the	
		detriment to any rights,	CoC meeting, the	
		remedies or powers that	Plan of the	
		the Resolution	Resolution	
		Applicant may have in	Applicant has	
		under applicable laws,	thoroughly been	
		under any document or	discussed and the	
		on equity. In the event	Resolution	
		that any of the	Applicant has	
		assumptions set out in	availed every	
		this Plan are <u>breached</u> ,	possible	
		the Resolution	opportunity to raise	
		Applicant and the	its demur and/or	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		members of the	negotiate with the	
		erstwhile Committee of	members of the CoC	
		Creditors (represented	during the approval	
		through their	of its plan. It is a	
		authorised	trite law that the	
		representative), as	I&B Code does not	
		applicable, shall	restrict negotiation.	
		mutually discuss and	Therefore, post-	
		agree on a suitable	approval of the plan	
		redressal method;	by the Adjudicating	
			Authority, the	
			Resolution	
			Applicant can	
			neither turn volta	
			face to fulfil its	
			payment obligations	
			nor be allowed to be	
			withdrawn or	
			modified by the	
			SRA.	
			It is a settled	
			position of law as	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			laid down in Ebix	
			Singapore Private	
			Limited vs.	
			Committee of	
			Creditors of	
			Educomp	
			Solutions Limited	
			reported in (2022)	
			2 SCC 401 that "the	
			existing insolvency	
			framework in India	
			provides no scope	
			for effecting further	
			modifications or	
			withdrawals of CoC-	
			approved Resolution	
			Plans, at the behest	
			of the successful	
			Resolution	
			Applicant, once the	
			plan has been	
			submitted to the	
			Adjudicating	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			Authority. A	
			Resolution	
			Applicant, after	
			obtaining the	
			financial information	
			of the Corporate	
			Debtor through the	
			informational	
			utilities and	
			perusing the IM, is	
			assumed to have	
			analyzed the risks in	
			the business of the	
			Corporate Debtor	
			and submitted a	
			considered proposal.	
			A submitted	
			Resolution Plan is	
			binding and	
			irrevocable as	
			between the CoC	
			and the successful	
			Resolution Applicant	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			in terms of the	
			provisions of the IBC	
			and the CIRP	
			Regulations."	
10		Description 27(1) of the	This is fare the	Nat
10.	7. a)	Regulation 37(l) of the		Not
	(x)	CIRP Regulations		Granted.
		provides that a		T '1 / '
		resolution plan may		5
		provide for the		0
		measures required for		approach
		implementing it,		the
		including but not limited	or relief to be	appropriate
		to obtaining necessary	granted by this	authority/
		approvals from the	Adjudicating	authorities.
		Central and State	Authority.	
		Governments and other		
		authorities.	However, as per	
		Accordingly, the	Section 37(l) of the	
		Resolution Applicant	CIRP Regulations, <u>a</u>	
		requires all	resolution plan may	
		Governmental	provide for the	
		Authorities to grant any	measures required	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		relief, concession or	for implementing	
		dispensation as	<u>the same</u> . Thus, in	
		envisaged in the	terms of the CIRP	
		Resolution Plan for its	Regulations, we	
		implementation. In this	hereby grant the	
		regard, upon the NCLT	liberty to move any	
		approving the Plan, the	application, if	
		Resolution Applicant	required, in	
		will pursuant to the	connection with the	
		NCLT's order, make	successful	
		necessary applications	implementation of	
		to the relevant	this Resolution	
		Governmental	Plan.	
		Authorities to seek such		
		waivers and reliefs, as		
		appropriate. In		
		particular, and without		
		limiting the foregoing,		
		the Resolution		
		Applicant requires the		
		measures as stated in		
		Part I and from the other		
		relevant Governmental		



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		Authorities, which the		
		Resolution Applicant		
		believe are required for		
		implementing this Plan;		
11.	7. a)	The Resolution	This is for the	Granted , in
	(xi)	Applicant and	relevant and/or	accordance
		Corporate Debtor <u>shall</u>	appropriate	with law.
		<u>not be liable</u> for any	authorities to	
		payments against any	consider, and not in	
		contingent liability	the nature of a	
		whether mentioned in	waiver, concession	
		the Information	or relief to be	
		Memorandum or not	granted by this	
		included in the	Adjudicating	
		Information	Authority.	
		Memorandum but not		
		limited to liabilities on		
		account of bank		
		guarantees given to		
		customers or any other		
		entity, Income Tax,		
		GST, Sales Tax, VAT,		



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		Excise Duty, Custom		
		Duty and any other		
		duty, Tax, Cess, levies		
		etc. due to Centre,		
		State, or Local Bodies		
		other than as proposed		
		in this Resolution Plan;		
12.	7. a)	The Corporate Debtor,	Whatever the	Granted , in
	(xii)	Resolution Applicant	immunity is granted	accordance
		and their Board of	strictly under	with law.
		Directors (appointed	Section 32A of the	
		after NCLT Plan	I&B Code and the	
		approval date i.e. the	law laid down in	
		Effective Date) <u>shall not</u>	Ajay Kumar	
		<u>be liable for any breach</u>	Radheyshyam	
		<u>or non- compliance</u> of	Goenka (Supra),	
		the terms and	Tantia	
		conditions of the	Constructions	
		agreements, lease	Limited (Supra)	
		deeds, buy back	and in Vasan	
		arrangements and	Healthcare Pvt.	
		maintenance	Ltd. (Supra),	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		agreements and such	nothing more and	
		other	nothing less.	
		clearances/approvals,		
		etc., <u>by the Corporate</u>		
		<u>Debtor, for a period</u>		
		<u>until the NCLT plan</u>		
		<u>approval date i.e. the</u>		
		<u>Effective Date a</u> nd any		
		penalty /claim for any		
		such breach or non-		
		compliance shall stand		
		waived and		
		extinguished on and		
		from the NCLT plan		
		approval date i.e. the		
		Effective Date and		
		accordingly all such		
		payments shall be		
		deemed to be settled in		
		terms of this Resolution		
		Plan by virtue of		
		settlement of dues of		
		the Operational		



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		Creditors or creditors in		
		class, as the case may		
		be.		
13.		Upon approval of this		
	(xiii)	Resolution Plan by the	waivers and	accordance
		Hon'ble NCLT, all	concessions that	with law.
		actions stated in this	are directly with the	
		Resolution Plan shall be	I&B Code and the	
		deemed to be approved.	Companies Act	
		Accordingly, any action	(within the powers	
		or implementation of	of the NCLT) only.	
		this Resolution Plan	For the rest, we	
		shall not be a ground for	direct to approach	
		termination of any	the appropriate	
		clearances or the like	authority/	
		that has been granted	authorities to be	
		to the Corporate Debtor	dealt with.	
		or for which the		
		Corporate Debtor has		
		made an application for		
		renewal or grant.		
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
14.	7. a)	Upon the approval of	The law laid down in	Granted in
	(xiv)	the Resolution Plan by	Ghanashyam	accordance
		the NCLT, any claims	Mishra (Supra),	with law
		by any person whether	that once a	strictly.
		submitted to Resolution	resolution plan is	
		Professional or not,	duly approved by	
		admitted by Resolution	the adjudicating	
		Professional or not, due	authority under	
		or contingent, asserted	sub-section (1) of	
		or un-asserted,	Section 31, the	
		crystallized or	claims as provided	
		uncrystallized, known	in the resolution	
		or unknown, secured or	plan shall stand	
		unsecured, disputed or	frozen and will be	
		undisputed, present or	binding on the	
		future against the	corporate debtor	
		Corporate Debtor	and its employees,	
		accrued as on the	members, creditors,	
		insolvency	including the	
		commencement date	Central	
		against the Corporate	Government, any	
		Debtor, whether arising	State Government	
		under the subsisting	or any local	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
		contents licenses,	authority,	
		approvals, sights,	guarantors and	
		entitlements, benefits	other stakeholders.	
		and privileges whether	On the date of	
		under laws, contract,	approval of	
		lease or licence, granted	resolution plan by	
		in favour of the	the adjudicating	
		Corporate Debtor or any	authority, all such	
		contractual	claims, which are	
		arrangements entered	not a part of	
		into by the Corporate	resolution plan,	
		Debtor, shall	shall stand	
		notwithstanding any	extinguished and no	
		provision to the contrary	person will be	
		in their terms, stand	entitled to initiate or	
		extinguished without	continue any	
		any recourse;	proceedings in	
			respect to a claim,	
			which is not part of	
			the resolution plan.	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
15.	7. a)	The submission of this	It is the capacity of	Granted in
	(xv)	Resolution Plan shall	the Resolution	accordance
		not in any manner	Applicant, and the	with law.
		prejudice or affect the	Code does not bar	
		ability of the Resolution	the Resolution	
		Applicant to be a	Applicant from	
		Resolution Applicant	being a Resolution	
		under the Code in	Applicant of any	
		respect of <u>any other</u>	other Corporate	
		<u>person</u> or in respect of	Debtor. If the	
		any other CIRP under	Resolution	
		the Code.	Applicants meets	
			the criterion as	
			envisaged under	
			Sections 25(2)(h),	
			29A and other	
			provisions under	
			the I&B Code in	
			respect of in respect	
			of <u>any other person</u>	
			or in respect of any	
			other CIRP, it shall	
			have the right to	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			participate in the	
			bid.	
16	7 1)	Tinhilidian for Drat		Onemte d in
16.	7. b)	<u>Liabilities</u> for Past		,
		<u>Actions or Omissions</u>	immunity is granted	accordance
			strictly under	with law.
			Section 32A of the	
			I&B Code and the	
			law laid down in	
			Ajay Kumar	
			Radheyshyam	
			Goenka (Supra),	
			Tantia	
			Constructions	
			Limited (Supra)	
			and in Vasan	
			Healthcare Pvt.	
			Ltd. (Supra),	
			nothing more and	
			nothing less.	
17.	8.	Relevant Tax	Whatever the	Granted in
		Authorities.	immunity is granted	accordance
			strictly under	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			Section 32A of the	
			I&B Code and the	
			law laid down in	
			Ajay Kumar	
			Radheyshyam	
			Goenka (Supra),	
			Tantia	
			Constructions	
			Limited (Supra)	
			and in Vasan	
			Healthcare Pvt.	
			Ltd. (Supra), and	
			the law relating to	
			the claim of a	
			creditor after	
			approval of a plan,	
			as laid down in	
			Ghanashyam	
			Mishra (Supra),	
			shall strictly be	
			followed, nothing	
			more, nothing less.	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			For the rest, we	
			direct to approach	
			the appropriate	
			authority/	
			Authorities.	
18.	9.	Waiver under the		
		<u>Companies Act, 2013,</u>		
		SEBI Laws and Stock	which are directly	with law.
		<u>Exchange bye-laws</u>	with the Companies	
			Act, 2013 and the	
			I&B Code are	
			granted in	
			accordance with the	
			law. For others, we	
			direct to approach	
			the appropriate	
			authority/	
			Authorities.	
19.	10.	<u>Inquiries,</u>	Whatever the	Granted , in
		Investigations etc.	immunity is granted	accordance
			strictly under	with law.
			Section 32A of the	



SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			I&B Code and the	
			law laid down in	
			Ajay Kumar	
			Radheyshyam	
			Goenka (Supra),	
			Tantia	
			Constructions	
			Limited (Supra)	
			and in Vasan	
			Healthcare Pvt.	
			Ltd. (Supra),	
			nothing more and	
			nothing less.	
20.	11.	No legal action by	The law relating to	Granted in
		<u>creditors</u>	the claim of a	accordance
			creditor after	with law.
			approval of a plan,	
			as laid down in	
			Ghanashyam	
			Mishra (Supra),	
			shall strictly be	



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SN	Clause	Reliefs, Concessions,	Our Inference with	Our Orders
		and	the Relevant	thereon
		Approvals sought for	Provisions and/or	
			Case laws	
			followed, nothing	
			more, nothing less.	

Conclusion:

75. As far as the question of granting time to comply with the statutory obligations or seeking approvals from authorities is concerned, the Resolution Applicant is directed to do so within one year from the date of this order, as prescribed under section 31(4) of the I&B Code.

76. In case of non-compliance with this order or withdrawal of the Resolution Plan, the payments already made by the Resolution Applicant shall be liable for forfeiture.

77. In so far as the approval of the Resolution dated April 13, 2024, submitted by Mr. Vikas Garg, the Successful Resolution Applicant, is concerned, this Adjudicating Authority is bound by the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in *K. Sashidhar vs. Indian Overseas Bank and Ors.* reported in (2019) 12 SCC 150: MANU/SC/0189/2019, wherein it is held that:

"35. [...] Reverting to Section 30(2), the enquiry to be done is in respect of whether the resolution plan provides: (i) the payment of insolvency resolution process costs in a specified manner in priority to the repayment of other



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debts of the corporate debtor, (ii) the repayment of the debts of operational creditors in prescribed manner, (iii) the management of the affairs of the corporate debtor, (iv) the implementation and supervision of the resolution plan, (v) does not contravene any of the provisions of the law for the time being in force, (vi) conforms to such other requirements as may be specified by the Board. [...]. To wit, the feasibility and viability of the proposed resolution plan and including their perceptions about the general capability of the resolution applicant to translate the projected plan into a reality. The resolution applicant may have given projections backed by normative data but still in the opinion of the dissenting financial creditors, it would not be free from being speculative. These aspects are completely within the domain of the financial creditors who are called upon to vote on the resolution plan Under Section 30(4) of the I & B Code."

(Emphasis Added)

78. Further, the Hon'ble Apex Court in Jaypee Kensington Boulevard Apartments Welfare Association and Ors. vs. NBCC (India) Ltd. and Ors. reported in (2022) 1 SCC 401: MANU/SC/0206/2021 at Para 216, has laid down that:

> "<u>The Adjudicating Authority has limited jurisdiction in</u> <u>the matter of approval of a resolution plan, which is</u> <u>well-defined and circumscribed by Sections 30(2) and</u> <u>31 of the Code.</u> In the adjudicatory process concerning a resolution plan under IBC, <u>there is no scope for</u> <u>interference with the commercial aspects of the</u> <u>decision of the CoC; and there is no scope for</u> <u>substituting any commercial term of the resolution plan</u> <u>approved by Committee of Creditors....</u>"

> > (Emphasis Added)



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79. Further, in Committee of Creditors of Essar Steel India Limited
vs. Satish Kumar Gupta reported at (2020) 8 SCC 531:
MANU/SC/1577/2019, the Hon'ble Apex Court has propounded that:

"38. <u>This Regulation fleshes out Section 30(4) of the Code,</u> making it clear that ultimately it is the **commercial wisdom of the Committee of Creditors** which operates to approve what is deemed by a majority of such creditors to be the best resolution plan, which is finally accepted after negotiation of its terms by such Committee with prospective resolution applicants."

(Emphasis Added)

80. In the case at hand, we would note that **the Resolution dated** April 13, 2024, submitted by Mr. Vikas Garg, has been approved by the Committee of Creditors of the Corporate Debtor by <u>100%</u> voting share on 02.02.2024. We have further noted that the LoI was issued on 02.02.2024, which has been unconditionally accepted by the SRA. Accordingly, **the Resolution dated April 13, 2024**, submitted by Mr. Vikas Garg, defeats all other plans submitted before the applicant and Mr. Vikas Garg, has unanimously declared as a "Successful Resolution Applicant". Hence, given the aforesaid decisions of the Hon'ble Apex Court as well as in light of the overall facts and circumstances of the present case, this Adjudicating Authority has not interfered with the viability of the Commercial Wisdom as exercised by the Committee of Creditors of the Corporate Debtor.

81. Subject to the observations made in this Order, the Resolution dated April 13, 2024, submitted by Mr. Vikas Garg, the Successful



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Resolution Applicant, is hereby <u>APPROVED</u> and <u>FINALLY</u> <u>SANCTIONED</u> by this Adjudicating Authority.

On PUFE Application(s):

82. We find that the Applicant has submitted in Form H that the Resolution Professional has opined and determined the existence of PUFE transactions within the timelines and appointed the Transaction Auditor also within the timeline. The RP has also preferred two interlocutory applications being I.A. (IB) 415/KB/2024 and I.A. (IB) No. 630/KB/2024 on March 18, 2024. We would infer that approval of the Resolution Plan shall not affect the proceedings of the PUFE applications and <u>the Resolution Professional shall continue to pursue those applications sans any barrier with the approval of the CoC of the Corporate Debtor upon communication to the SRA. We would refer to the judgment rendered by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in **Tata Steel BSL Vs Venus Recruiters** reported at **2023/DHC/000257** wherein it is held that:</u>

"89. Conclusion

xxxxxxxxxd) It follows that the RP will not be functus officio with respect to
adjudication of avoidance applications in a situation, as
described hereinabove. There being a clear demarcation between
the scope and nature of the CIRP and avoidance application
within the scheme of the IBC, the RP can continue to pursue such
applications. The method and manner of the RP"s remuneration
ought to be decided by the Adjudicating Authority itself."Kemphasis Added

83. The Resolution Plan shall form part of this Order and shall be read along with this order for implementation. The Resolution Plan thus approved shall be binding on the Corporate Debtor and all other



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stakeholders involved in terms of Section 31 of the I&B Code, so that the revival of the Corporate Debtor Company shall come into force with immediate effect without any delay.

84. The Moratorium imposed under section 14 of the Code by virtue of the order initiating the CIR Process, shall cease to have effect from the date of this order.

85. The Resolution Professional shall submit the records collected during the commencement of the proceedings to the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India for their record and also return them to the Resolution Applicant or New Promoters.

86. Liberty is hereby granted for moving any application, if required, in connection with the successful implementation of this Resolution Plan.

87. A copy of this Order is to be submitted to the Registrar of Companies (RoC) to whom the company is registered, by the Resolution Professional.

88. The Resolution Professional shall stand discharged from his duties with effect from the date of this Order. However, he is required to comply with our direction mentioned in **Para 82** of the order. subject to comply the direction.

89. The Resolution Professional is further directed to hand over all records, premises/ factories/ documents to the Resolution Applicant to finalise the further line of action required for starting the operation. The Resolution Applicant shall have access to all the records/ premises/



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factories/ documents through the Resolution Professional to finalise the further line of action required for starting the operation.

90. The **Registry of this Adjudicating Authority** is directed to send e-mail copies of the order forthwith to all the parties and their Learned Counsels for information and for taking necessary steps.

91. In terms of the view above, the interlocutory application being <u>I.A.</u> (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2024 along with the main company petition being <u>Company Petition (IB) No. 12/KB/2021</u> shall stand **disposed of** accordingly.

Summarization:

92. <u>I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024</u>: Dhansagar Dealers Private Limited (applicant in I.A. (IB) No. 969/KB/2024) being an unsuccessful resolution applicant has no vested right to challenge the approval of a resolution plan. Once it fails to succeed in the bid, it has neither a *locus* to question the action of the CoC nor can enhance or revise its plan value to compete with the plan of the Successful Resolution Applicant. **I.A. (IB)** No. 969/KB/2024 is dismissed accordingly.

93. <u>I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2024</u>: the Resolution dated April 13, 2024, submitted by Mr. Vikas Garg, is hereby <u>APPROVED</u> and this I.A. along with the main company petition is **disposed of** accordingly, subject to the direction given regarding the PUFE Applications mentioned in **Para** 82 of the Order.



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94. Certified copies of this order, if applied for with the Registry of this Adjudicating Authority, be supplied to the parties upon compliance with all requisite formalities.

95. File be consigned to the record.

D. Arvind Member (Technical) Bidisha Banerjee Member (Judicial)

This Order is signed on the 05th Day of June, 2024.

Later:

96. At the time of the pronouncement of **I.A. (IB) (PLAN) No. 7/KB/2024** for approval of the plan, the Learned Counsel Ms. Urmila Chakraborty appearing on behalf of the member of the suspended board of the Corporate Debtor submitted that after reserving the plan approval application for orders on May 07, 2024, her client, preferred an application on May 24, 2024, seeking the dismissal of the plan approval application and therefore, in the event, plan is approved, her application would become infructuous.



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97. Since the Applicant had not taken any steps while the plan was receiving consideration and was deliberated upon in open court, also while the time was ripe to get the pronouncement deferred, we are afraid, such a request cannot be entertained on the date of pronouncement as it will create a bad precedent. The Applicant may have his recourse to other remedies in accordance with law.

D. Arvind Member (Technical) Bidisha Banerjee Member (Judicial)

This Order is signed on the 05th Day of June, 2024.

Bose, R. K. [LRA]