

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 392 OF 2022

IN THE MATTER OF:
PRASOON PANT

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

...RESPONDENT

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FILED BY:

KANIKA SINGHAL
ADVOCATE FOR MR. HITESH GOEL,
IRP OF SUPERTECH LIMITED

PLACE: NEW DELHI
DATE: 15 JULY 2024



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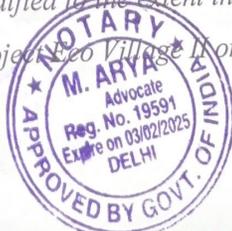
**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF MR. HITESH GOEL, INTERIM
RESOLUTION PROFESSIONAL OF SUPERTECH LIMITED**

I, Hitesh Goel, aged about 40 years, having registered office at C4/1002, the legend apartments, Sector 57, Gurgaon, Haryana, 122011 and correspondence address at Supertech Limited, 21st to 25th Floor, E-Square, Plot No. C2, Sector 96, Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201303, presently at New Delhi do hereby solemnly state and affirm as under:

1. I was appointed as the Interim Resolution Professional of Supertech Limited by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Delhi by order dated 25 March 2022.
2. An appeal was filed against the said order dated 25 March 2022 and the Hon'ble National Company Law Appellate Tribunal modified the order dated 25 March 2022, by its order dated 10 June 2022 as follows:

25. In view of the foregoing discussions, we issue following Interim Directions:

- i. The Interim Order dated 12th April, 2022 continuing as on date is modified to the extent that IRP may constitute the CoC with regard to the Project Eco Village II only.*



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ii. After constitution of CoC of Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall proceed to complete the construction of the project with the assistance of the ex-management, its employees and workmen.

iii. With regard to the Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall proceed with the completion of the project, Resolution and shall be free to prepare Information Memorandum, issue Form -G, invite Resolution Plan however no Resolution Plan be put for voting without the leave of the Court.

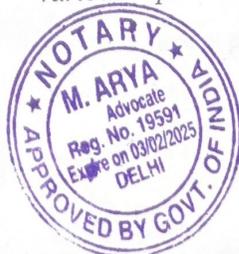
iv. All receivables with regard to the Eco Village II Project, shall be kept in the separate account, earmarked account and detail accounts of inflow and outflow shall be maintained by the IRP.

v. **That all other projects of the Corporate Debtor apart from Eco Village II Project shall be kept as ongoing project. The Construction of all other projects shall continue with overall supervision of the IRP with the assistance of the ex-management and its employees and workmen.**

....

viii. The IRP shall obtain approval of the CoC which is directed to be constituted for Eco Village II Project and incur all the expenses regarding the said projects and further incur the expenses accordingly.

ix. With regard to the expenses to other projects for which no CoC has been constituted, IRP is at liberty to submit a proposal for payment of various expenses including 'CIRP' expenses to this Tribunal.

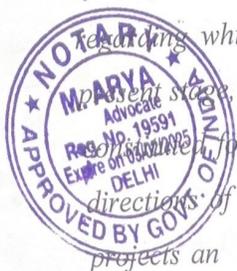


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Hitesh Goel
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A true copy of the order dated 10 June 2022 is annexed and marked as Annexure "A"

3. Subsequently, a civil appeal was filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the order dated 10 June 2022. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, by its judgment dated 11 May 2023 held as follows:

"10. In the light of the principles aforesaid, in our view, as at present, we should adopt the course which appears to carry lower risk of injustice, even if ultimately in the appeals, this Court may find otherwise or choose any other course. In that regard, the element of balance of convenience shall have its own significance. On one hand is the position that the Appellate Tribunal has adopted a particular course (which it had adopted in another matter too) while observing that the project-wise resolution may be started as a test to find out the success of such resolution. The result of the directions of the impugned order dated 10.06.2022 is that except Eco Village-II project, all other projects of the corporate debtor are to be kept as ongoing projects and the construction of all other projects is to be continued under the supervision of the IRP with the ex-management, its employees and workmen. Infusion of funds by the promoter in different projects is to be treated as interim finance, regarding which total account is to be maintained by IRP. If at the present stage, on the submissions of the appellants, CoC is ordered to be dissolved for the corporate debtor as a whole in displacement of the directions of the Appellate Tribunal, it is likely to affect those ongoing projects and thereby cause immense hardship to the home buyers while throwing every project into a state of uncertainty. On the other hand, as indicated before us, the other projects are being continued by the IRP and efforts are being made for infusion of funds with the active assistance



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of the ex-management but without creating any additional right in the ex-management. In our view, greater inconvenience is likely to be caused by passing any interim order of constitution of CoC in relation to the corporate debtor as a whole; and may cause irreparable injury to the home buyers. In this view of the matter, we are not inclined to alter the directions in the order impugned as regards the projects other than Eco Village-II.”

A true copy of the judgment and order dated 11 May 2023 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India is annexed and marked as **Annexure “B”**.

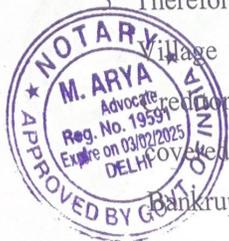
4. Furthermore, by order dated 12 September 2023, the Hon'ble National Company Law Appellate Tribunal clarified that the moratorium is continuing:

“The CIRP Order has not been stayed. The Moratorium is continuing.”

A true copy of the order dated 12 September 2023 passed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Appellate Tribunal is annexed and marked as **Annexure “C”**.

5. Therefore, the distinction between Project Eco-Village II and Non-Eco-Village II Projects pertains to the constitution of the Committee of Creditors. However, as regards moratorium is concerned, all projects are governed by the provisions of Section 14 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and moratorium has been imposed.

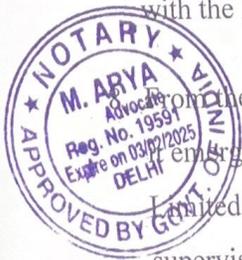
6. It will be apparent from a perusal of order dated 10 June 2022, passed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, that the Non



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EV-II Projects of Supertech Limited are to be kept as ongoing projects and construction of the same is to continue under the overall supervision of the IRP, with the assistance of the ex-management. Further, it is also the IRP's responsibility to ensure that all accounts of Supertech Limited are to be operated under his supervision and he is to have an overall responsibility to ensure that all expenses and payments for these projects are made with his approval and all receivables are deposited in the accounts for such projects, maintained as per RERA Guidelines. However, this is the extent to which the IRP's responsibility has been limited, i.e., ensuring continuation of construction activities and monitoring the cash inflow and outflow from Supertech's accounts, by the order dated 10 June 2022, which continues to be in operation as of date. Further, unlike a traditional CIRP, it is apparent from the order dated 10 June 2022, that the ex-management of Supertech Limited is still heavily involved in the projects, particularly the construction and maintenance of the same, and **the IRP only has a supervisory role in this regard.**

7. Accordingly, it is submitted that the liability and responsibility, if any, only lies with the promoters and directors of Supertech Limited and not with the IRP under any circumstance.



In the aforementioned conspectus of relevant facts and circumstances, it is submitted that as far as the CIRP for the Non EV-II Projects of Supertech Limited are concerned, the IRP is undertaking the same in an overall supervisory capacity with utmost diligence, while the promoters/ex-management also remain very much involved in the process, in terms of construction activities and keeping Supertech Limited running as a going concern, in terms of the order dated 10 June 2022, passed by the Hon'ble

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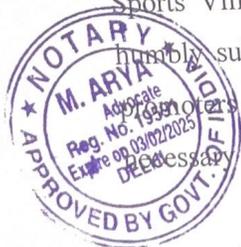
National Company Law Appellate Tribunal. It may also be noted that the IRP has assumed these responsibilities only pursuant to the order dated March 25, 2022 admitting the insolvency petition against Superetch Limited, and it is therefore a natural corollary of the same that the IRP had no control over the actions taken by and on behalf of Superetch Limited prior to such date.

9. The present matter pertains to the following Supertech Projects:

- (a) Eco-Village I;
- (b) Eco Village II;
- (c) Eco Village III;
- (d) Sports Village.

10. It is submitted that when the audit was undertaken, a discrepancy in only one site was found in Project Eco-Village III. It is submitted that the concerned authorities have already sealed the borewell and the borewell is not being used.

11. Furthermore, as far as the projects Eco Village I, Eco Village III and Sports Village are concerned, given the limited role of the IRP, it is humbly submitted that in case any further clarification is required, the and directors of Supertech Limited may be impleaded, and the necessary clarifications and response may be sought from them.



12. As regards project Eco-Village II, to the knowledge of the IRP, there is only one site where the discrepancy was found which pertained to Project Eco-Village III, and not Eco-Village II.

Hitesh Goel
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13. The present affidavit is filed *bona fide* and in the interest of justice.

Goel

DEPONENT

Hitesh Goel

IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P01405/2018-2019/12224

VERIFICATION

Verified on this 12 day of JUL 2024 at New Delhi that the contents of the present affidavit are true and correct and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Goel

DEPONENT

Hitesh Goel

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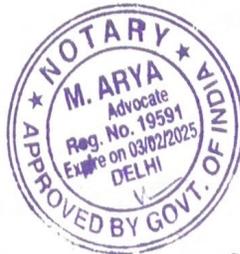
FILED BY:

Ks Singhal

KANIKA SINGHAL

ADVOCATE FOR MR. HITESH GOEL,
IRP OF SUPERTECH LIMITED

PLACE: NEW DELHI
DATE: 15 July 2024



ATTESTED

Manish Arya
MANISH ARYA
NOTARY PUBLIC, DELHI
GOVT. OF INDIA

12 JUL 2024

**NATIONAL COMPANY LAW APPELLATE TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Company Appeal (AT) (Insolvency) No. 406 of 2022

IN THE MATTER OF:

**Ram Kishor Arora Suspended Director of M/s.
Supertech Ltd.**

...Appellant

Versus

Union Bank of India & Anr.

...Respondents

Present:

For Appellant: Mr. Arun Kathpalia, Sr. Advocate along with Mr. Siddharth Bhatli, Mr. Abhijeet Sinha, Ms. Lashita Dhingra & Mr. Kshitij Wadhwa, Advocates.

For Respondent: Mr. Alok Kumar, Ms. Somya Yadava, Mr. Manan Gambhir, Mr. Nikhil Malhotra, Ms. Garima Soni & Ms. Nandita Jha, for R-1.

Mr. Bishwajity Dubey, Ms. Srideepa Bhattacharyya & Ms. Neha Shivhare, for R-2/RP.

Mr. Arvind Nayar, Sr. Advocate along with Mr. Siddhant Kumar, for Intervenor.

Mr. Ajay Bhargaa, Ms. Wamika Trehan & Ms. Maithli Moondra, Intervenor for L&T Finance.

Mr. P. Nagesh & Mr. K. Datta, Sr. Advocates along with Ms. Kanika Sachdeva, Mr. Piyush Singh, Mr. Aditya Parolia & Ms. Aditi Sinha, for Homebuyers.

Mr. Sidhartha Barua & Mr. Danish Abbasi, Intervenor for IDBI Bank, IA 1509 of 2022

ORDER

Ashok Bhushan, J:

1. This Appeal has been filed against the Order dated 25th March, 2022 passed by the Adjudicating Authority (National Company Law Tribunal, New

Delhi, Court –VI) admitting the Application under Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as ‘The Code’) filed by Union Bank of India praying for initiation of the ‘Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘CIRP’) against M/s. Supertech Limited-Corporate Debtor.

2. The Corporate Debtor is a ‘Real Estate Company’ engaged in construction of various projects in the National Capital Region (NCR). Union Bank of India vide its Sanction Letter dated 19.10.2013/16.12.2013 granted credit facilities of Rs. 150 Crores for the development of ‘Eco Village II Project’. The Union Bank of India and Bank of Baroda agreed to extend second credit facilities of Rs. 200 Crores where total exposure of Union Bank of India was Rs. 100 Crores which was sanctioned by Letter dated 21.11.2015. Credit Facilities was secured by execution of mortgage and with corporate guarantees and personal guarantees. There being default on the part of the Corporate Debtor in repaying the loan, the Account was declared as ‘Non-Performing Assets’ (NPA) on 20th June, 2018. An application under Section 7 was filed by the Union Bank of India on 20th March, 2021 claiming total amount of Rs. 431,92,53,302/- as on 31st January, 2021 and interest thereon. The Adjudicating Authority vide the Impugned Order dated 25th March, 2022 admitted the Section 7 Application directing for initiation of ‘CIRP’. Mr. Hitesh Goel was appointed as ‘Interim Resolution Professional’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘IRP’). The Appellant, the suspended director of the Corporate Debtor has filed this Appeal challenging the Impugned Order. The Appeal was entertained on 12th April, 2022, the

Appellant requested time to enable the Appellant to approach the Bank and the Appeal was adjourned and direction was issued to the IRP not to constitute the 'Committee of Creditors' (CoC in short). The Appeal was taken up thereafter on several dates. On 17th May, 2022, it was submitted by Learned Counsel for the Appellant that Appellant has approached the Bank and has offered to make upfront payment of Rs. 10 Crores with 10 Crores on acceptance of OTS and 55 Crores for exclusive security however the Bank has asked to deposit Rs. 75 Crores as upfront to consider the OTS. Additional Affidavit was filed by the Bank as well as Appellant. This Court vide Order dated 25.05.2022 directed the IRP to file Status Report. Status Report has been filed by the IRP.

3. Various Intervention Applications have been filed by home buyers, the Association of Home Buyers and IDBI Bank. The Appellant has also filed an I.A. No. 1468 of 2022 by which Resolution cum Settlement Proposal from the management of 'M/s. Supertech Limited' has been submitted.

4. We have heard Mr. Arun Kathpalia, Sr. Advocate along with Mr. Abhijeet Sinha, appearing for the Appellant and Mr. Alok Kumar, Learned Counsel appearing for the Union Bank of India. We have also heard Learned Counsel appearing for the Interveners. Submissions have been advanced by Learned Counsel for the Parties only on the prayer for Interim Relief.

5. Learned Counsel for the Appellant submits that the Appellant has approached the Respondent and presented their offer for payment of 100% of ledger balance along with 20 Crores upfront payment and rest within 24 months but the Bank has not accepted the offer and Union Bank of India

insisted that upfront payment of Rs. 75 Crores be made. It is submitted that the Appellant-Union Bank of India has extended the credit facilities only for the projects - Eco Village II Phase -I & Phase - II, Eco Village III and Romano Project. The Appellant has already paid an amount of Rs. 149.33 Corers. The Corporate Debtor have been running a large number of projects, substantial number of projects have already been completed, the existing promoters are willing to complete the projects in a time bound manner along with discharging the liabilities of all the Financial Creditors, Home Buyers and even Operational Creditors. Corporate Debtor had sufficient receivables with positive net worth and it requires only last mile funding for completing constructions which will result in generation of adequate cash-flows to meet out all obligations of the Corporate Debtor. The strategic partner 'M/s Star Realcon Pvt. Ltd.' has agreed 'in-principle' to induce 300 Crores to complete the stalled project of the Corporate Debtor. Further 'Varde' Partner a 'Grade A' fund has also shown inclination to infuse substantial fund. The Appellant vide I.A. No. 1468 of 2022 has submitted detailed Settlement cum Resolution Plan to execute the project completion.

6. Learned Counsel for the Appellant has also relied on the Judgement of this Tribunal where 'Reverse CIRP' was directed with regard to Real-Estate Projects. Learned Counsel for the Appellant submits that the present case is fit case where this Tribunal may follow the Judgment of this Tribunal in **Company Appeal (AT) Ins. No. 926 of 2019 in the matter of 'Flat Buyers Association Winter Hills-77, Gurgaon Vs. Umang Realtech Pvt. Ltd.**

through IRP &Ors.' dated 04.02.2020. It is submitted that the Promoters of the Corporate Debtor are ready to extend full cooperation to the IRP for carrying out the construction of all the projects of the Corporate Debtor and to complete the same. Detailed Settlement-cum-Resolution Plan has been submitted along with I.A. No. 1468 of 2022. In accordance with which the further steps be directed to be taken. It is submitted that corporate debtor has sufficient receiving and ex-management under the supervision of the IRP will undertake construction activities at site on all the projects. All the projects of the Corporate Debtor have their respective RERA Accounts where minimum 70% payment received for construction has to be held and the same shall be used for construction of the respective projects. 30% of the remaining amounts will be deposited in a separate account which will be to discharge all bank liabilities in a phase wise manner. Out of the total 30 projects, 12 are complete/delivered and 18 are under construction which are mostly complete. Home-Buyers will get their homes and 'No dues Certificates'. 90% approximately homebuyers of twin tower have been paid and remaining will also get their refunds as per the proposed settlement plan.

7. Mr. Alok Kumar, Learned Counsel appearing for the Union Bank of India refuting the submissions of Learned Counsel for the Appellant submits that 'Status Report' of the IRP dated 31st May, 2022 has brought glaring default and non-compliance of the ex-management. It is submitted that their being debt and default, the Application under Section 7 has rightly been admitted and 'CIRP' be allowed to proceed by constitution of 'CoC'. Certain Intervention

Applications filed by Home-Buyers are just a delaying tactics. The proposal submitted by the Appellant in an Affidavit are mis-leading. The Corporate Debtor is in fragile financial condition. The Corporate Debtor does not have enough fund to cater its home-buyers. It is submitted that Hon'ble Supreme Court has time and again emphasized need for minimal judicial interference by the NCLAT and NCLT in the framework of IBC. The Concept/Mechanism of 'Reverse Insolvency' as envisaged in the case of 'Flat Buyers Association Vs. Umang Realtech Pvt. Ltd.' (Supra) and other cases is an alien concept outside the scheme and against the provisions/objections of the IBC and the same does not have any legal basis as there is no provision/legislation enacted by the legislature, substantiating the concept. Appellant's argument that the normal mechanism as is followed in a 'CIRP' cannot be followed in cases of real estate infrastructure companies, is an attempt to circumvent the settled principles of law laid down in the Code. The Judgment relied by Learned Counsel for the Appellant on 'Reverse Insolvency' is not attracted in the facts of the present case. Learned Counsel for the Bank submitted that this Court may permit the 'CoC' be constituted and to enable the CIRP process to proceed in accordance with the law.

8. We have heard Mr. Bishwajit Dubey appearing for the IRP. He has submitted the 'Status Report' dated 31st May, 2022 giving details of various facts regarding the claim management, construction, cash flow and list of key issues, details of finances provided to 'M/s. Supertech Limited' by different Financial Creditors, Financial Creditors Claim as well as the details of various

projects, number of total units, sold units, registered units, near ready units and under construction units and unsold units. The IRP in his Status Report has submitted that IRP after the commencement of the CIRP intimated the Management and informed the Banks and Banks were requested to add the IRP as an authorized signatory in addition to the existing ones in all the bank accounts. IRP has sent communication to the Home Buyers. He has received claims of INR 15,175 Crores from 13,484 creditors of the Corporate Debtor. Learned Counsel for the IRP submits that he is prepared to undertake construction work. IRP has already managed to visit select project sites with the Project Director and others to understand the current stage of operation, scale of construction activities, site development plans, challenges and intricacies of each site etc. IRP has expressed requirement of third party needs to be appointed to estimate the balance cost to complete each project. In Report, IRP has also referred to litigation and investigation and other facts.

9. There are number of Intervention Applications which have been filed by the respective applicants. The Intervention Applications can be divided in two groups. Group one consists of I.As filed by the Home-Buyers with a prayer that 'CIRP' should not continue. In this group, there are several I.As where prayers have been made that 'CIRP' should be restricted to Eco Village II Project only. In I.A. No. 1731 of 2022, the prayer is that 'CIRP' should not continue. In I.A. No. 1730/2022, I.A. No. 1668 of 2022, I.A. No. 1617 of 2022, I.A. No. 1616 of 2022, I.A. No. 1615 of 2022, I.A. No. 1614 of 2022, I.A. No. 1116 of 2022, I.A. No. 1117 of 2022, prayers are made by the Home Buyers is that CIRP should

be restricted to Eco Village II Project only. In I.A. No. 1115 of 2022, the Applicant prays to keep the project out of 'CIRP'. In I.A. No. 1731 of 2022, the Intervener Home Buyer prays that CIRP should not be continued and the projects of the Corporate Debtor shall be kept out from the ambit of the CIRP of the Corporate Debtor so as to allottees may get their possession of their dwelling units. Banks should not come in the way of completion of projects. Group two consists of Intervention Applications where Home Buyers prays that 'CIRP' should continue in this Group I.A. Nos. 1612 of 2022, 1609 of 2022, 1610 of 2022, 1605 of 2022, 1604 of 2022, 1582 of 2022, the Interveners pray that CIRP should continue. An Application being I.A. No. 1509 of 2022 has been filed by IDBI Bank Limited which prays that IDBI who is Financial Creditor and member of consortium banking arrangement where Union Bank of India was the Lead Bank, has disbursed the loan for the development of Eco Village II Project and prays that it may be permitted to intervene in the proceeding, it being a Financial Creditor.

10. We have heard Learned Counsel for the parties as well as the Interveners and perused the record.

11. We have carefully gone into the status report submitted by the IRP dated 31st May, 2022. From the status report submitted by the IRP, it is clear that IRP in his Report has listed 20 projects of the Corporate Debtor which also included Eco Village II Project for which the finance was given by the Union Bank of India who has filed the Application under Section 7 of the Code for initiation of the CIRP. By the admission of the Application under Section 7 of

the Code by the Adjudicating Authority, CIRP has commenced against the Corporate Debtor and when CIRP has commenced against the Corporate Debtor, all projects which had been undertaken and under construction comes under CIRP. As per the IRP Status Report, IRP has taken a stock of situation by visiting the sites which are under construction. The IRP has held several meetings with the Project Director. Paragraph 1.7 of the Report details with the construction which is to the following effect:

“As apprised by the erstwhile promoters, the Corporate Debtor has ~20-25 active projects at various locations across country but mainly in Delhi-NCR. All the projects have a respective Project Director who is entrusted with the overall development of the project including but not limited to construction activities, vendor management, site management, etc, IRP had numerous meeting meetings, discussions, conferences with all the project directors to understand the current stage of operations, scale of construction activities, site development plans, challenges, and intricacies of each site. Though basic understanding of each project was provided but the consolidated view on overall constructions status, percentage completion of projects along with balance cost to complete has not been made available to the IRP. In the context, an independent third party needs to be appointed to estimate the balance cost to complete each project.”

12. At page 14 of the Report, the IRP has given the details of 20 projects of the Corporate Debtor which also included Eco Village II Project, Eco Village I project and III. The IRP has also given the details of Banks/Financial

Institutions who has provided loan to M/s. Supertech Limited as Annexure C which is to the following effect:

“

Name of Bank/FIs	Doon Square	Eco City	EV-II	EV-III	EV-IV	Hues	Romano	Shopprix Mall Meerut	Multiple Projects	Amount Claimed
Union Bank of India	-	-	135	61	59	-	192	-	1	448
IFCI Limited	-	-	-	-	-	253	-	168	-	422
PNB Housing Finance	-	-	-	-	-	415	-	-	-	415
L & T Finance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	411	411
Bank of Baroda	71	-	-	82	70	-	-	-	-	223
IDBI Bank	-	-	222	-	-	-	-	-	-	222
Punjab & Sind Bank	-	23	-	-	-	-	163	-	-	186
Bank of Maharashtra	-	-	-	128	-	-	-	-	-	128
Indiabulls Commercial Credit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	29
Indiabulls ARC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Grand Total	71	23	356	271	129	668	354	168	441	2,483

13. Annexure E detailing the Operational Creditor Claim.

14. First we need to consider the submissions of Learned Counsel for the Appellant that in view of the fact that large number of projects of the Corporate Debtor are ongoing projects where substantial completion has been made and large number of units have also been handed over to the home buyers and rest units shall also be handed over, in event the construction of the projects are allowed to proceed as ongoing project, the promoters of the Corporate Debtor are willing to extend all cooperation to the IRP for carrying out the ongoing

projects. It is submitted that CIRP need not to be allowed to continue for all the 20 projects rather it may be undertaken on projects basis as has been held by this Tribunal in its Judgment of 'Flat Buyers Association Winter Hills' (supra). The Hon'ble Supreme Court in '**Swiss Ribbon Pvt. Ltd. Vs. Union of India**' [(2019) 4 SCC 17] has made weighty observations with regard to the Insolvency Code which deals with economic matter. In paragraph 120 of the Judgment, following has been observed:

“120. The Insolvency Code is a legislation which deals with economic matters and, in the larger sense, deals with the economy of the country as a whole. Earlier experiments, as we have seen, in terms of legislations having failed, trial having led to repeated errors, ultimately led to the enactment of the Code. The experiment contained in the Code, judged by the generality of its provisions and not by so-called crudities and inequities that have been pointed out by the petitioners, passes constitutional muster. To stay experimentation in things economic is a grave responsibility, and denial of the right to experiment is fraught with serious consequences to the nation. We have also seen that the working of the Code is being monitored by the Central Government by Expert Committees that have been set up in this behalf. Amendments have been made in the short period in which the Code has operated, both to the Code itself as well as to subordinate legislation made under it. This process is an ongoing process which involves all stakeholders, including the petitioners.”

15. The thought which was echoed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in 'Swiss Ribbons Pvt. Ltd.' (supra) has been reiterated in the Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court in '**Committee of Creditors of Essar Steel India Limited Vs. Satish Kumar Gupta and Ors.**' [(2018) 8 SCC 531]. This Tribunal in the case of 'Flat Buyers Association Winter Hills' (supra) was faced with a case regarding Insolvency of a Real Estate Company. In the above Judgment, this Tribunal dealt with 'Reverse Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process' and in paragraph 21 made following observations:

"21. In Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process against a real estate, if allottees (Financial Creditors) or Financial Institutions/Banks (Other Financial Creditors) or Operational Creditors of one project initiated Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process against the Corporate Debtor (real estate company), it is confined to the particular project, it cannot affect any other project(s) of the same real estate company (Corporate Debtor) in other places where separate plan(s) are approved by different authorities, land and its owner may be different and mainly the allottees (financial creditors), financial institutions (financial creditors, operational creditors are different for such separate project. Therefore, all the asset of the company (Corporate Debtor) are not to be maximized. The asset of the company (Corporate Debtor – real estate) of that particular project is to be maximized for balancing the creditors such as allottees, financial institutions and operational creditors of that particular project. Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process should be

project basis, as per approved plan by the Competent Authority. Any other allottees (financial creditors) or financial institutions/ banks (other financial creditors) or operational creditors of other project cannot file a claim before the Interim Resolution Professional of other project and such claim cannot be entertained.

So, we hold that Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process against a real estate company (Corporate Debtor) is limited to a project as per approved plan by the Competent Authority and not other projects which are separate at other places for which separate plans approved. For example – in this case the Winter Hill – 77 Gurgaon Project of the ‘Corporate Debtor’ has been place of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process. If the same real estate company (Corporate Debtor herein) has any other project in another town such as Delhi or Kerala or Mumbai, they cannot be clubbed together nor the asset of the Corporate Debtor (Company) for such other projects can be maximised.”

16. This Tribunal also made observations that ‘Secured Creditor’ such as ‘financial institutions/ banks’, cannot be provided with the asset (flat/apartment) by preference over the allottees (Unsecured Financial Creditors) for whom the project has been approved. This Tribunal directed for following ‘Reverse Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process in case of Real Estate Infrastructure Companies in the interest of allottees and survival of the Real Estate Infrastructure Companies and to ensure completion of projects. In paragraph 25, following observations have been made:

“25. In the light of aforesaid discussion, as we find it is very difficult to follow the process as in normal course is followed in a Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process, we are of the view, that a ‘Reverse Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process’ can be followed in the cases of real estate infrastructure companies in the interest of the allottees and survival of the real estate companies and to ensure completion of projects which provides employment to large number of unorganized workmen.”

17. In the above case, one of the promoters were directed to cooperate with the Interim Resolution Professional and to disburse the amount not as a promoter but as the outside Lender and direction for phase-wise completion of the project as well as direction for payment of financial institutions/banks simultaneously. In paragraph 26-27, following observations have been issued:

“26. The ‘Uppal Housing Pvt. Ltd.’ – Intervenor (One of the Promoter) is directed to cooperate with the Interim Resolution Professional and disburse amount (apart from the amount already disbursed) from outside as Lender (financial creditor) not as Promoter to ensure that the project is completed with the time frame given by it. The disbursement of amount which has been made by ‘Uppal Housing Pvt. Ltd.’ and the amount as will be generated from dues of the Allottees (Financial Creditors) during the Corporate Insolvency Resolution should be deposited in the account of the Company (Corporate Debtor) to keep the Company a going concern. The amount can be utilized only by issuance of cheque signed by the authorised person of the Company (Corporate Debtor) with counter signature by

the Interim Resolution Professional. The Bank in which the Corporate Debtor (Company) has account the amount should be deposited only for the purpose of completion of the Winter Hill – 77 Gurgaon Project. Banks will allow the cheques for encashment only with the counter signature of the Interim Resolution Professional.

27. The flats/apartments should be completed in all aspect by 30th June, 2020. All internal fit outs for electricity, water connection should be completed by 30th July, 2020. The Financial Institutions/ Banks should be paid simultaneously. The allottees are directed to deposit their balance amount and pay 90% without penal interest, if not deposited, by 15th March, 2020. The Allottees in whose favour possession has been offered and clearance has been given by the competent authority are bound to pay the cost for registration and directed to deposit registration cost to get the flats/apartments registered after paying all the balance amount in terms of the agreement.”

18. An appeal was also filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide Diary No. 13889-2020 in the matter of Narendra Singh Vs. M/s. Umang Realtech Pvt. Ltd. against the Order dated 04.02.2020 of this Tribunal in Company Appeal (AT) Ins. No. 926 of 2019 which was dismissed by an Order dated 11th August, 2020

19. From the facts, which has been brought on record especially the Status Report by the IRP it is clear that all 20 Projects which are of the Corporate Debtor are ongoing projects where substantial units of the total units have

been sold. Project-wise detail has been given in Page 14 of the Report which is to the following effect:

S.no	Project name	Total Units	Sold Units	Registry Units	NDC Issued Units	Possession Without OC Units	Near Ready Units (NDC Issued)	Under construction Units	Unsold Units
1	Eco Village - 1	8,012	7,685	1,473	6,657	3,171	2,013	1,355	327
2	Upcountry	5,876	3,248	19	744	469	256	5,132	2,628
3	Eco Village - 2	5,696	5,189	1,079	4,287	2,054	1,154	1,409	507
4	Capetown	5,054	4,983	3,321	4,644	1,010	313	410	71
5	Eco Village - 3	3,909	2,892	593	1,718	667	458	2,191	1,017
6	Hill Town	2,561	1,208	72	75	-61	64	2,486	1,353
7	Cape Town North Eyes	2,449	1,561	23	340	39	278	2,109	888
8	Green Village	2,204	1,400	891	1,047	29	127	1,157	804
9	Eco City	2,145	2,141	1,333	2,130	720	77	15	4
10	Meerut Sport City	2,124	1,103	385	477	17	75	1,647	1,021
11	Romano	2,105	1,491	-	514	172	342	1,591	614
12	Czar Suites	2,083	1,862	265	1,678	976	437	405	221
13	Crossing Livingston	1,318	1,318	1,255	1,309	31	23	9	-
14	River Crest	1,301	265	-	199	55	144	1,102	1,036
15	Araville	618	493	82	336	88	166	282	125
16	Doon Square	606	326	60	149	19	70	457	280
17	Palm Green Residence Meerut	562	562	562	562	-	-	-	-
18	Palm Green Moradabad	434	434	401	429	28	-	5	-
19	34 Pavilion	367	367	138	361	221	2	6	-
20	Micasa - Bangalore	130	75	1	17	-	16	113	55
	Total	49,554	38,603	11,953	27,673	9,705	6,015	21,881	10,951

20. We further notice that the Union Bank of India who has initiated CIRP by filing Section 7 Application has stated in Section 7 Application that it had given finance for Eco Village II Project. In annexure C of the Status Report of the IRP, Union Bank of India has shown to have given finance for Eco Village II Project, Eco Village III Project, Eco Village IV and One Romano Project. With regard to the Eco Village II Project, there is another Financial Creditor i.e. IDBI Bank

who has filed Intervention Application as noted above. Large number of home buyers who has filed Intervention Application has prayed that CIRP be confined to Eco Village II Only. With regard to the other projects, the construction may be allowed to be completed so that home buyers may get their flats.

21. We are conscious of the fact that 'CIRP' has been initiated against the Corporate Debtor. 'CIRP' has commenced against all the projects of the Corporate Debtor. 'CIRP' encompasses all the assets of the Corporate Debtor including all Bank Accounts. The IRP has already been appointed and has taken steps by informing all concerned including Banks to add the name of IRP for operation of the Account. The Learned Counsel for the Appellant made submissions and also filed an I.A. No. 1468 of 2022 by which Resolution cum Settlement Proposal has been submitted by the Management with an object to carry out the construction of all the projects.

22. As noted above, the consequence of 'CIRP' is that all assets of the Corporate Debtor come in the control and management of the IRP. All bank accounts are to be operated with the counter signature of the IRP. No amount from any account can be withdrawn without the counter signature and permission of the IRP. IRP under the IBC has responsibility to run the Corporate Debtor as a going concern. Further when Promoters are ready to extend all cooperation with all its staffs and employees to the IRP, we see no reason for not to direct the IRP to proceed with construction of all the projects under the overall supervision and control of the IRP. We by an Interim Order

dated 12th April, 2022 directed not to constitute the 'CoC' which Interim Order is continuing as on date.

23. In the facts of the present case and keeping in view the submissions raised by the Learned Counsel for the parties, we are of the view that in 'CIRP' Process, Project-Wise Resolution to be started as a test to find out the success of such Resolution. Keeping an eye regarding construction and completion of the projects, we at present, are of the view that Interim Order dated 12th April, 2022 staying the constitution of CoC be modified to the extent that CoC be constituted for the Eco Village II Project only with all Financial Creditors including Financial Creditors/Banks/Home Buyers. The Committee of Creditors of Eco Village II Project shall start process for Resolution of Eco Village II Project. The IRP shall separate the claims received with regard to the Eco Village II Project and prepare an 'Information Memorandum' accordingly and proceed for meeting of the CoC as per the Code. It is further directed that even for Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall carry the Project and continue the project as ongoing project by taking all assistance from the ex-management, employees, workmen etc. We however make it clear that other projects apart from the Eco Village II Project shall proceed as ongoing project basis under the overall supervision of the IRP. IRP in his report stated that with regard to the projects, there are separate accounts as per 'RERA' Guidelines. Detail account of all the inflow and outflow with regard to each project shall be separately maintained as per the 'RERA' Guidelines. 70% of the amount received with regard to the project shall be utilized for construction purpose only with regard

to the disbursement of rest 30 % amount, we shall issue appropriate direction after receiving further Status Report and after hearing all concern subsequently.

24. The Promoters of the Corporate Debtor has submitted that they shall arrange for Interim Finance to support the ongoing construction of the different projects by arranging finances as submitted in their Settlement cum Resolution Plan. Annexure 3 to the I.A. No. 1468 of 2022, with an object to complete the projects and clear the outstanding of all Financial Institutions including the Financial Creditors on the basis of 100% ledger balance and also payment to the Operational Creditor. The pendency of this proceeding shall in no manner hinder the Appellant to approach the Financial Creditors for entering into Settlement with the Financial Creditors. With regard to the disbursement to the Financial Creditors, out of 30% of the amount, we shall issue necessary direction after receiving the status report and receiving the progress of the projects.

25. In view of the foregoing discussions, we issue following Interim Directions:

- i. The Interim Order dated 12th April, 2022 continuing as on date is modified to the extent that IRP may constitute the CoC with regard to the Project Eco Village II only.
- ii. After constitution of CoC of Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall proceed to complete the construction of the project with the assistance of the ex-management, its employees and workmen.

- iii. With regard to the Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall proceed with the completion of the project, Resolution and shall be free to prepare Information Memorandum, issue Form -G, invite Resolution Plan however no Resolution Plan be put for voting without the leave of the Court.
- iv. All receivables with regard to the Eco Village II Project, shall be kept in the separate account, earmarked account and detail accounts of inflow and outflow shall be maintained by the IRP.
- v. That all other projects of the Corporate Debtor apart from Eco Village II Project shall be kept as ongoing project. The Construction of all other projects shall continue with overall supervision of the IRP with the assistance of the ex-management and its employees and workmen.
- vi. The promoter shall infuse the funds as arranged by it in different projects which shall be treated as Interim Finance regarding which detail account shall be maintained by the IRP.
- vii. No account of Corporate Debtor shall be operated without the counter signature of the IRP. All expenses and payments in different projects, shall be only with the approval of the IRP. All receivables in different projects shall be deposited in the account as per 'RERA' Guidelines and 70% of the amount shall be utilized for the construction purpose only. With regard to the disbursement of rest of the 30 %, appropriate direction shall be issued subsequently after receiving the status report and after hearing all concerns.

- viii. The IRP shall obtain approval of the CoC which is directed to be constituted for Eco Village II Project and incur all the expenses regarding the said projects and further incur the expenses accordingly.
- ix. With regard to the expenses to other projects for which no CoC has been constituted, IRP is at liberty to submit a proposal for payment of various expenses including 'CIRP' expenses to this Tribunal.
- x. The Promoters of the Corporate Debtor shall be at liberty to bear any expenses as requested by the IRP without in any manner utilizing any of the funds of the Corporate Debtor.
- xi. Let the IRP submit a further Status Report within six weeks from today regarding Eco Village II Project and all other projects.
- xii. The Parties are at liberty to file an I.A. for any direction/clarification in the above regard.
- xiii. List this Appeal on **27th July, 2022.**

[Justice Ashok Bhushan]
Chairperson

[Mr. Naresh Salecha]
Member (Technical)

New Delhi
10.06.2022
Basant

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
CIVIL APPEAL NO. 1925 OF 2023

INDIABULLS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION
COMPANY LIMITED

....APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

RAM KISHORE ARORA & ORS.

....RESPONDENT(S)

WITH

CIVIL APPEAL NO. 5941 OF 2022

CIVIL APPEAL NO. 1975 OF 2023

ORDER

Civil Appeal No. 5941 of 2022 and Civil Appeal No. 1925 of 2023

1. These two appeals (Civil Appeal Nos. 5941 of 2022 and 1925 of 2023) filed by the Union Bank of India and Indiabulls Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. respectively, being the financial creditors of the corporate debtor – Supertech Ltd., are directed against the order dated 10.06.2022 passed by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi¹, in Company Appeal (AT) (Ins.) No. 406 of 2022. By the order impugned, the Appellate Tribunal, while dealing with an appeal against the order dated 25.03.2022 passed by the

¹ Hereinafter referred to as 'the Appellate Tribunal' or 'NCLAT.'

National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi – Court VI², in admitting an application under Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016³, has issued a slew of directions which practically have the effect of converting the corporate insolvency resolution process⁴ in question into a “project-wise insolvency resolution process” inasmuch as the constitution of committee of creditors⁵ has been restricted only to one project named “Eco Village-II” of the corporate debtor, who is dealing in real estate and has several ongoing projects.

2. The other appeal, being Civil Appeal No. 1975 of 2023, is preferred by Assets and Care Reconstruction Ltd., a beneficiary of corporate guarantee, challenging the order dated 10.01.2023 whereby, the Appellate Tribunal directed the interim resolution professional⁶ to call a meeting of only those financial institutions who have lent money to the corporate debtor before finalisation of the term sheet.

3. Having regard to myriad issues involved and the fact that final disposal of the appeals is likely to take time, we have heard the learned counsel for the parties as regards interim relief and/or interim arrangement, particularly after taking note of the fact that in terms of the direction of NCLAT, certain offers were received from the prospective resolution applicants. Those offers were directed to be placed before NCLAT and we requested the NCLAT to keep further proceedings in

2 Hereinafter referred to as ‘the Tribunal’ or ‘NCLT’.

3 Hereinafter referred to as ‘IBC’ or ‘the Code’.

4 For short, ‘CIRP’.

5 For short, ‘CoC’.

6 For short, ‘IRP’.

abeyance and await further orders of this Court. Thereafter, we heard the learned counsel for the parties at substantial length as regards the propositions towards interim relief/interim arrangement in view of the typical issues involved in these matters.

4. A brief reference to the relevant background aspects shall be apposite.

4.1. The corporate debtor is a real estate company engaged in construction of various projects, mostly in the National Capital Region, which received credit facilities from Union Bank of India by way of sanction letter dated 19.10.2013/16.12.2013, in the sum of Rs. 150 crore, for the development of the "Eco Village-II Project." Subsequently, Union Bank of India and Bank of Baroda entered into an agreement, extending second credit facilities in the sum of Rs. 200 crore, with Union Bank of India's total exposure being Rs. 100 crore, as sanctioned by letter dated 21.11.2015.

4.2. The credit facilities provided by Union Bank of India to the corporate debtor were secured through a mortgage, corporate guarantees, and personal guarantees. As a result of the corporate debtor's default on the loan repayment, the account was declared as a 'Non-Performing Asset' on 20.06.2018.

4.3. Union Bank of India filed an application under Section 7 of the Code on 20.03.2021, claiming a total amount of Rs. 431,92,53,302 as on 31.01.2021, along with accrued interest. The NCLT, by its order dated 25.03.2022, admitted the Section 7 application and directed for initiation

of CIRP for the corporate debtor. Following this, Mr. Hitesh Goel – respondent No. 3 was appointed as the IRP.

4.4. Aggrieved by this order so passed by NCLT, respondent No. 1 – promoter/suspended director of corporate debtor filed an appeal before NCLAT. On 12.04.2022, an interim order was passed by NCLAT, directing that CoC shall not be constituted until the next date. The said order continued until passing of the impugned order dated 10.06.2022.

4.5. In the impugned order dated 10.06.2022, the Appellate Tribunal partly modified its order dated 12.04.2022 and issued interim directions, including constitution of CoC for Eco Village Project-II only; the said project to be completed with assistance of ex-management whereas other projects, apart from Eco Village-II, were ordered to be continued as ongoing projects. The interim directions in the impugned order dated 10.06.2022 read as follows: -

“i. The Interim Order dated 12th April, 2022 continuing as on date is modified to the extent that IRP may constitute the CoC with regard to the Project Eco Village II only.

ii. After constitution of CoC of Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall proceed to complete the construction of the project with the assistance of the ex management, its employees and workmen.

iii. With regard to the Eco Village II Project, the IRP shall proceed with the completion of the project, Resolution and shall be free to prepare Information Memorandum, issue Form –G, invite Resolution Plan however no Resolution Plan be put for voting without the leave of the Court.

iv. All receivables with regard to the Eco Village II Project, shall be kept in the separate account, earmarked account and detail accounts of inflow and outflow shall be maintained by the IRP.

v. That all other projects of the Corporate Debtor apart from Eco Village II Project shall be kept as ongoing project. The Construction of all other projects shall continue with overall supervision of the IRP with the assistance of the ex-management and its employees and workmen.

vi. The promoter shall infuse the funds as arranged by it in different projects which shall be treated as Interim Finance regarding which detail account shall be maintained by the IRP.

vii. No account of Corporate Debtor shall be operated without the counte signature of the IRP. All expenses and payments in different projects, shall be only with the approval of the IRP. All receivables in different projects shall be deposited in the account as per 'RERA' Guidelines and 70% of the amount shall be utilized for the construction purpose only. With regard to the disbursement of rest of the 30 %, appropriate direction shall be issued subsequently after receiving the status report and after hearing all concerns.

viii. The IRP shall obtain approval of the CoC which is directed to be constituted for Eco Village II Project and incur all the expenses regarding the said projects and further incur the expenses accordingly.

ix. With regard to the expenses to other projects for which no CoC has been constituted, IRP is at liberty to submit a proposal for payment of various expenses including 'CIRP' expenses to this Tribunal.

x. The Promoters of the Corporate Debtor shall be at liberty to bear any expenses as requested by the IRP without in any manner utilizing any of the funds of the Corporate Debtor.

xi. Let the IRP submit a further Status Report within six weeks from today regarding Eco Village II Project and all other projects.

xii. The Parties are at liberty to file an I.A. for any direction/clarification in the above regard.

xiii. List this Appeal on **27th July, 2022.**"

5. Dissatisfied with the interim directions so issued by the Appellate Tribunal, the appellants, financial creditors of corporate debtor, have filed appeals before this Court, essentially challenging the adoption of reverse CIRP by the Appellate Tribunal and limiting the CIRP and constitution of CoC to only one project of corporate debtor, i.e., Eco Village-II.

6. It has been contended on behalf of the appellants that the Appellate Tribunal does not have power under IBC to allow project-wise CIRP and does not have power to accept a resolution plan presented by the promoter without giving opportunity to the CoC to study the commercial viability of the plan. It has also been contended that there is

no concept of project-wise resolution under IBC and the order impugned was passed by the Appellate Tribunal without notice to the appellants, who are the financial creditors having substantial stakes in the matter.

7. As regards interim relief/interim arrangement, the contesting parties have put forward different propositions which could be summarised as *infra*.

7.1. It has been submitted on behalf of the appellant - Union Bank of India that the financial institutions, including appellant, have funded the corporate debtor as a single corporate entity irrespective of the fact that the funds are being utilised for a single project or multiple projects. Therefore, the credit facility extended by the appellant does not get converted to 'project finance' allowing resolution through 'project based insolvency' mechanism; and the scheme of IBC envisages CIRP of whole corporate entity that is to be carried out only through CoC mandated to be constituted for the corporate debtor as a whole instead of only one of its projects. Moreover, any procedure that allows the erstwhile management, the cause of suspension of the projects, to participate as a resolution applicant or in any other form or to receive funds from a third party for the corporate debtor will defeat the purpose of the Code, as it is in violation of Section 29-A of the Code as well as various judgments of this Court; and there are serious delinquencies dimension against the ex-management. It is submitted that the appellant is in favour of the investment being made by any third party on the primary condition that the ex-management is not included for resolution of the corporate debtor.

7.2. It has been submitted on behalf of the appellant – Indiabulls Asset and Reconstruction Company Ltd. that the impugned order restricting constitution of CoC only to Eco Village-II is required to be modified to constitute CoC for entire company; promoter/erstwhile management of the corporate debtor should have no involvement in CIRP and must maintain the *status quo* concerning the assets of the corporate debtor.

7.3. It has been submitted on behalf of promotor-respondent No.1 that interim direction No. (i) and (ii) issued by the Appellate Tribunal be modified to include Eco Village-II project also within the interim arrangement. Additionally, the ex-management of the corporate debtor may be allowed to carry out the execution of the interim funding and settlement plan under the supervision of IRP, which could be monitored by a Monitoring Committee designated by this Court. Further, the IRP, ex-management, and the Monitoring Committee be required to submit quarterly progress reports to NCLAT, or alternatively, to this Court. It has also been submitted that no coercive action be taken against assets of corporate debtor, its promoters, directors and management which otherwise would delay completion of projects.

7.4. It has been submitted on behalf of IRP that interim directions issued by the Appellate Tribunal, by way of the impugned order, deserve not to be interfered with; the construction can be monitored by a steering committee which can file reports every quarter; and directions may be issued to initiate efforts to procure interim financing for all of the corporate

debtor's projects, which would include both Eco Village-II and Non-Eco Village II projects.

7.5. It has been submitted on behalf of home buyers of Eco Village-II that the direction be issued to complete the construction of the said project in a similar manner as envisaged for other home buyers for whom no CoC has been constituted and construction deserves to be completed under supervision of IRP with assistance of ex-management.

7.6. It has been submitted on behalf of other home buyers that the impugned order deserves not to be interfered with and direction may be issued to NCLAT to complete the process of approval and infusion of funds from proposed investor; a Monitoring Committee may be formed in regard to interim arrangement and settlement plan and due diligence report may be circulated for their opinion; and no coercive action to be taken against assets of the corporate debtor.

8. We have given anxious consideration to the submissions made by the learned counsel for the parties, who have assigned various reasons in support of their respective propositions. As aforesaid, in this order, we are only dealing with the question of interim relief/interim arrangement during the pendency of these appeals.

9. As noticed, the present appeals (Civil Appeal No. 5941 of 2022 and Civil Appeal No. 1925 of 2023) are directed against an interim order of the Appellate Tribunal. However, the said interim order, *prima facie*, gives rise to several questions worth consideration, including the fundamental one as to the tenability of the proposition of "project-wise

resolution” as adopted by the Appellate Tribunal. The question, at present, is as to what should be the interim relief/interim arrangement until disposal of these appeals. In regard to this question, we may take note of the relevant principles in relation to the matter concerning grant of interim relief which have been re-emphasized by this Court in the case of

***Union of India and Ors. v. M/s Raj Grow Impex LLP and Ors.:* 2021**

SCC OnLine SC 429 as follows:-

“**194.** In addition to the general principles for exercise of discretion, as discussed hereinbefore, a few features specific to the matters of interim relief need special mention. It is rather elementary that in the matters of grant of interim relief, satisfaction of the Court only about existence of *prima facie* case in favour of the suitor is not enough. The other elements i.e., balance of convenience and likelihood of irreparable injury, are not of empty formality and carry their own relevance; and while exercising its discretion in the matter of interim relief and adopting a particular course, the Court needs to weigh the risk of injustice, if ultimately the decision of main matter runs counter to the course being adopted at the time of granting or refusing the interim relief. We may usefully refer to the relevant principle stated in the decision of Chancery Division in *Films Rover International Ltd. v. Cannon Film Sales Ltd.* : (1986) 3 All ER 772 as under:—

“...The principal dilemma about the grant of interlocutory injunctions, whether prohibitory or mandatory, is that there is by definition a risk that the court may make the “wrong” decision, in the sense of granting an injunction to a party who fails to establish his right at the trial (or would fail if there was a trial) or alternatively, in failing to grant an injunction to a party who succeeds (or would succeed) at trial. **A fundamental principle is therefore that the court should take whichever course appears to carry the lower risk of injustice if it should turn out to have been “wrong”** in the sense I have described. The guidelines for the grant of both kinds of interlocutory injunctions are derived from this principle.”

(emphasis in bold supplied)

195. While referring to various expositions in the said decision, this Court, in the case of *Dorab Cawasji Warden v. Coomi Sorab Warden* : (1990) 2 SCC 117 observed as under:—

“16. The relief of interlocutory mandatory injunctions are thus granted generally to preserve or restore the status

quo of the last non-contested status which preceded the pending controversy until the final hearing when full relief may be granted or to compel the undoing of those acts that have been illegally done or the restoration of that which was wrongfully taken from the party complaining. **But since the granting of such an injunction to a party who fails or would fail to establish his right at the trial may cause great injustice or irreparable harm to the party against whom it was granted or alternatively not granting of it to a party who succeeds or would succeed may equally cause great injustice or irreparable harm, courts have evolved certain guidelines.** Generally stated these guidelines are:

- (1) The plaintiff has a strong case for trial. That is, it shall be of a higher standard than a prima facie case that is normally required for a prohibitory injunction.
- (2) It is necessary to prevent irreparable or serious injury which normally cannot be compensated in terms of money.
- (3) The balance of convenience is in favour of the one seeking such relief.

17. Being essentially an equitable relief the grant or refusal of an interlocutory mandatory injunction shall ultimately rest in the sound judicial discretion of the court to be exercised in the light of the facts and circumstances in each case. Though the above guidelines are neither exhaustive nor complete or absolute rules, and there may be exceptional circumstances needing action, applying them as prerequisite for the grant or refusal of such injunctions would be a sound exercise of a judicial discretion.”

(emphasis in bold supplied)

196. In keeping with the principles aforesaid, one of the simple questions to be adverted to at the threshold stage in the present cases was, as to whether the importers (writ petitioners) were likely to suffer irreparable injury in case the interim relief was denied and they were to ultimately succeed in the writ petitions. A direct answer to this question would have made it clear that their injury, if at all, would have been of some amount of loss of profit, which could always be measured in monetary terms and, usually, cannot be regarded as an irreparable one. Another simple but pertinent question would have been concerning the element of balance of convenience; and a simple answer to the same would have further shown that the inconvenience which the importers were going to suffer because of the notifications in question was far lesser than the inconvenience which the appellants were going to suffer (with ultimate impact on national interest) in case

operation of the notifications was stayed and thereby, the markets of India were allowed to be flooded with excessive quantity of the said imported peas/pulses.”

10. In the light of the principles aforesaid, in our view, as at present, we should adopt the course which appears to carry lower risk of injustice, even if ultimately in the appeals, this Court may find otherwise or choose any other course. In that regard, the element of balance of convenience shall have its own significance. On one hand is the position that the Appellate Tribunal has adopted a particular course (which it had adopted in another matter too) while observing that the project-wise resolution may be started as a test to find out the success of such resolution. The result of the directions of the impugned order dated 10.06.2022 is that except Eco Village-II project, all other projects of the corporate debtor are to be kept as ongoing projects and the construction of all other projects is to be continued under the supervision of the IRP with the ex-management, its employees and workmen. Infusion of funds by the promoter in different projects is to be treated as interim finance, regarding which total account is to be maintained by IRP. If at the present stage, on the submissions of the appellants, CoC is ordered to be constituted for the corporate debtor as a whole in displacement of the directions of the Appellate Tribunal, it is likely to affect those ongoing projects and thereby cause immense hardship to the home buyers while throwing every project into a state of uncertainty. On the other hand, as indicated before us, the other projects are being continued by the IRP and efforts are being made for infusion of funds with the active assistance of the ex-management but

without creating any additional right in the ex-management. In our view, greater inconvenience is likely to be caused by passing any interim order of constitution of CoC in relation to the corporate debtor as a whole; and may cause irreparable injury to the home buyers. In this view of the matter, we are not inclined to alter the directions in the order impugned as regards the projects other than Eco Village-II.

11. In relation to Eco Village-II project, since CoC was ordered to be constituted by the Appellate Tribunal in the impugned order dated 10.06.2022, we are not interfering with those directions too but, in our view, any process beyond voting on the resolution plan should not be undertaken without specific orders of this Court.

12. The other propositions, including that of constituting monitoring committee, are kept open, to be examined later, if necessary.

13. For what has been discussed hereinabove, the impugned order dated 10.06.2022 is allowed to operate subject to the final orders to be passed in these appeals and subject, of course, to the modification in respect of Eco Village-II project that the process beyond voting on resolution plan shall await further orders of this Court.

14. The interim direction dated 27.01.2023 by this Court in these matters is modified in the manner that the NCLAT may deal with the offers said to have been received and pass an appropriate order thereupon but, the entire process shall remain subject to the orders to be passed in these appeals.

15. These appeals may be listed for final hearing at the admission stage in the second week of July, 2023.

Civil Appeal No. 1975 of 2023

16. As regards Civil Appeal No. 1975 of 2023, no interim relief or interim arrangement is considered requisite at the present stage. The question of maintainability of this appeal is also kept open, to be examined at the appropriate stage. This appeal also be listed along with Civil Appeal No. 5941 of 2022.

Regarding interlocutory applications

17. In the interest of justice, it is made clear that other pending interlocutory applications in these matters are also left open to be examined at appropriate stage with liberty to the parties to mention, if so advised and necessary.

..... J.
(DINESH MAHESHWARI)

..... J.
(SANJAY KUMAR)

**NEW DELHI;
MAY 11, 2023.**

ITEM NO.1502

COURT NO.5

SECTION XVII

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Civil Appeal No(s).1925/2023

INDIABULLS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION
COMPANY LIMITED

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

RAM KISHOR ARORA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

[HEARD BY: HON'BLE DINESH MAHESHWARI AND HON'BLE SANJAY KUMAR,
JJ.]
WITH

C.A. No.5941/2022 (XVII)

C.A. No.1975/2023 (XVII)

Date : 11-05-2023 These appeals were called on for pronouncement
of order.

For Appellant(s)

Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. Ankur Saigal, Adv.
Mr. Shashwat Singh, Adv.
Ms. Geetika Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Sumesh Dhawan, Adv.
Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR

Mr. Balaji Srinivasan, AOR

Mr. Angad Varma, Adv.
Mr. Toyesh Tiwari, Adv.
Mr. Nikhil Mehndiratta, Adv.
M/s. Dua Associates, AOR

For Respondent(s)

Mr. Siddharth Bhatli, Adv.
Mr. Dinesh Kumar Garg, AOR
Mr. Abhishek Garg, Adv.
Mr. Dhananjay Garg, Adv.
Ms. Khyati Jain, Adv.
Mr. Ishaan Tiwari, Adv.

Mr. Nakul Dewan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. R. Gopalakrishnan, AOR
Mr. Somdutta Bhattacharyya, Adv.
Ms. Niharika Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Kiran Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Sathvik Chandrasekar, Adv.
Mr. R Sudhinder, Adv.
Mr. R Gopalakrishnan, Adv.

Mr. Viplan Acharya, Adv.
Mr. N. B. V. Srinivasa Reddy, Adv.
Mr. Akshat Srivastava, AOR

Mr. Divyesh Pratap Singh, AOR

Mr. Himanshu Shekhar, AOR
Mr. M. L. Lahoty, Adv.
Mr. Paban Kumar Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Anchit Sripat, Adv.
Mr. Pranab Kumar Nayak, Adv.
Mr. Arvind Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Nishant Verma, AOR
Ms. Shisba Chawla, Adv.
Mr. Sourav Singh, Adv.

Mr. Ravi Prakash Mehrotra, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Apoorv Srivastava, Adv.
Mr. Jogy Scaria, AOR

Mr. Somesh Dhawan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. Rishi Agrawala, Adv.
Mr. Ankur Saigal, Adv.
Ms. Geetika Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Shivam Shukla, Adv.
Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari pronounced the order of the Bench comprising His Lordship and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kumar.

In terms of the signed order, Civil Appeal No.5941 of 2022 and Civil Appeal No.1925 of 2023 may be listed for final hearing at the admission stage in the second week of July, 2023 and Civil Appeal No.1975 of 2023 be listed along with Civil Appeal No.5941 of 2022.

Regarding interlocutory applications

In the interest of justice, it is made clear that other pending interlocutory applications in these matters are also left open to be examined at appropriate stage with liberty to the parties to mention, if so advised and necessary.

(ARJUN BISHT)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(MATHEW ABRAHAM)
COURT MASTER (NSH)
(signed order is placed on the file)

NATIONAL COMPANY LAW APPELLATE TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH,
NEW DELHI

Company Appeal (AT) (Ins) No. 406 of 2022 &
I.A. No. 2663 of 2022

IN THE MATTER OF:

Ram Kishor Arora

Suspended Director of Supertech Ltd.

...Appellant

Versus

Union Bank of India & Anr.

...Respondents

Present:

For Appellant : Mr. Krishnan Venugopal Sr. Advocate with Mr. Abhijeet Sinha, Mr Siddharth Bhatli, Ms. Lashita Dhingra, Mr. Krishnan Agarwal, Ms. Pallavi Srivastava, Advocates

For Respondents : Mr. Alok Kumar, Mr. Manan Gambhir, Advocates
Mr. Udit Mendiratta, Ms. Kiran Sharma, Ms. Niharika Sharma, Mr. Hitesh, IRP
Mr. Rajiv Nayar, Sr. Advocate with Ms Vanita Bhargava, Mr. Siddhant Kumar, Ms Wamika Trehan, for Land T Finance Ltd..
Mr. S.Roy, Mr. Prabudh Singh, Kr. Kaushal Sharma, Advocates
Mr. A.Tandon, Ms. Pooja Singh, Advocates
Ms. Priyadarshini, Ms. Saloni Sharma, Advocates
Mr. P. Nagesh, Sr. Advocate with Ms. Kanika Sachdeva, Advocate for Homebuyers.
Mr. P.Sahay, Ms. Eccha Shukla, Advocates for Homebuyers.
Mr. Aditya Wadhwa and Mr. Shivansh Agarwal, Advocates in I.A. No. 2717/2022 in TBPL & Anr.

ORDER

12.09.2022: In pursuance of the order dated 29.08.2022, an affidavit has been filed dated 09.09.2022 by the Appellant.

2. Learned Counsel appearing for Union Bank of India submits that Financial Creditors were not effectively associated with any discussion with regard to the proposal.

3. Learned Counsel for the IRP submits that he is not aware of any of the meeting which was held on Wednesday with the Financial Creditors.

4. Learned Counsel for the L&T also submits that they have huge exposure against the projects and they were also not associated with any discussion regarding any proposal.

5. A statement has been made by Union Bank of India that if any meeting is to be held regarding consideration of any proposal for carrying construction of projects, it should be under the Chairmanship of the IRP, who is at the helm of the affairs and all discussions and proposal should emanate from IRP which may also include proposal of paying off the dues of the Financial Creditor.

We, thus, adjourn this appeal for two weeks.

6. Learned Counsel for IRP has proposed meeting of all Financial Institutions with Suspended Directors and financial entities on 21.09.2022.

7. Learned Counsel for IRP shall inform all concerned of the date, time and agenda of the meeting for effective discussion and Learned IRP shall submit a report on proposal, if any, for carrying out the construction and mechanism to pay the Financial Creditor and with regard to infusion of funds, not confined to Eco-village. The expenses of conducting the meeting will be borne by the Appellant.

The CIRP Order has not been stayed. The Moratorium is continuing.

List this matter on **28.09.2022 at 2.00 P.M.**

Interim Order to continue.

[Justice Ashok Bhushan]
Chairperson

[Mr. Barun Mitra]
Member (Technical)

ss/nn

IN THE MATTER OF:
PRASOON PANT

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS

...RESPONDENTS

KNOW ALL to whom these present shall come that I/We Sh. Hitesh Goyal, do hereby appoint -

Kanika Singhal, Advocate
D-3555/2017
Ph: +91-9871545659 | Off: A-19 Sector 17A Noida
Email: chambersofkanikasinghal@outlook.com

(Herein after called the advocate/s) to be my/our Advocate in the above noted case authorized him -
To act, appear and plead in the above-noted case in this Court or in any other Court in which the same may be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High Court subject to payment of fees separately for each Court by me/ us.
To sign, file verify and present pleadings, appeals cross objections or petitions for execution review, revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of the said case in all its stages.

To file and take back documents to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.
To withdraw or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case.

To take execution proceedings.
The deposit, draw and receive money, cheques, cash and grant receipts thereof and to do all other acts and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the course of the prosecution of the said case.

To appoint and instruct any other Legal Practitioner, authorizing him to exercise the power and authority hereby conferred upon the Advocate whenever he may think it to do so and to sign the Power of Attorney on our behalf

And I/We the undersigned do hereby agree to ratify and confirm all acts done by the Advocate or his substitute in the matter as my our own acts, as if done by me/us to all intents and purposes.

And I/We undertake that I /we or my /our duly authorized agent would appear in the Court on all hearings and will inform the Advocates for appearance when the case is called.

And I /we undersigned do hereby agree not to hold the advocate or his substitute responsible for the result of the said case. The adjournment costs whenever ordered by the Court shall be of the Advocate which he shall receive and retain himself

And I /we the undersigned do hereby agree that in the event of the whole or part of the fee agreed by me/us to be paid to the Advocate remaining unpaid he shall be entitled to withdraw from the prosecution of the said case until the same is paid up. The fee settled is only for the above case and above Court. I/We hereby agree that once the fee is paid, I/we will not be entitled for the refund of the same in any case whatsoever. If the case lasts for more than three years, the advocate shall be entitled for additional fee equivalent to half of the agreed fee for every addition three years or part thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I / We do hereunto set my /our hand to these presents the contents of which have been understood by me/us on this 14 Day of July, 2024.

Accepted subject to the terms of fees.

Kanika Singhal
Advocates - D-3555/2017

Hitesh Goel Clients
Hitesh Goel
I/We identify the signatures of the Client

Hitesh Goel
IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P01405/2018-2019/12224



Subject: Prasoan Pant v Union of India| Service of Affidavit

Date: Monday, 15 July 2024 at 11:09:11 AM India Standard Time

From: Kanika Singhal

To: ediordelhinrnews@gmail.com, pradeepkumar1651989@gmail.com

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

By way of service, please see attached the affidavit being filed on behalf of the IRP of Supertech Limited, in the matter titled *Prasoan Pant v Union of India*.

Best regards,
Kanika Singhal

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 392 OF 2022

IN THE MATTER OF:
PRASOON PANT

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS

...RESPONDENTS

KNOW ALL to whom these present shall come that I/We Sh. Hitesh Goyal, do hereby appoint -

Kanika Singhal, Advocate
D-3555/2017
Ph: +91-9871545659| Off: A-19 Sector 17A Noida
Email: chambersofkanikasinghal@outlook.com

(Herein after called the advocate/s) to be my/our Advocate in the above noted case authorized him -
To act, appear and plead in the above-noted case in this Court or in any other Court in which the same may be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High Court subject to payment of fees separately for each Court by me/ us.
To sign, file verify and present pleadings, appeals cross objections or petitions for execution review, revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of the said case in all its stages.

To file and take back documents to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.
To withdraw or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case.

To take execution proceedings.
The deposit, draw and receive money, cheques, cash and grant receipts thereof and to do all other acts and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the course of the prosecution of the said case.

To appoint and instruct any other Legal Practitioner, authorizing him to exercise the power and authority hereby conferred upon the Advocate whenever he may think it to do so and to sign the Power of Attorney on our behalf

And I/We the undersigned do hereby agree to ratify and confirm all acts done by the Advocate or his substitute in the matter as my our own acts, as if done by me/us to all intents and purposes.

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