

#### <u>I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2025</u> And <u>I.A. (IB) No. 72/KB/2023</u> In <u>Company Petition (IB) No. 393/KB/2021</u>

#### IN THE MATTER OF: STATE BANK OF INDIA

... Financial Creditor.

Versus

#### **REFORM FERRO CAST LIMITED**

... Corporate Debtor.

And

#### I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2025

An Application under Section 30(6) read with Section 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, and under Regulation 39(4) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016, for the approval of the Resolution Plan.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF:**

**ARUN KUMAR GUPTA,** Resolution Professional of Reform Ferro Cast Ltd. (Corporate Debtor), having Registration No. IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00013/2016-2017/10037, having office at P-15, Bentinck Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kolkata – 700 001.

... Applicant/ Resolution Professional (RP)

And I.A. (IB) No. 72/KB/2023

An application under Section 19(2) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, read with Regulation 30 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016.



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# IN THE MATTER OF:

**ARUN KUMAR GUPTA,** Resolution Professional of Reform Ferro Cast Ltd. (Corporate Debtor), having Registration No. IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00013/2016-2017/10037, having office at P-15, Bentinck Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kolkata – 700 001.

### ... Applicant/ Resolution Professional (RP)

#### Versus

- 1. **Basant Saha,** residing at 264, Vivekanand Road, Kolkata 700 006, West Bengal.
- 2. Shila Saha residing at 264, Vivekanand Road, Kolkata 700 006, West Bengal.
- Sakti Adhikari, residing at 28/1 D Road, Bamangachi, Liluah, Howrah 711106, West Bengal.

... Respondents.

#### Date of Pronouncement: March 24, 2025.

#### CORAM:

**SMT. BIDISHA BANERJEE, HON'BLE MEMBER (JUDICIAL)** CMDE. SIDDHARTH MISHRA, HON'BLE MEMBER (TECHNICAL)

#### **APPEARANCE**:

For the RP: Ms. Urmila Chakraborty, Adv. Mr. Arun Kumar Gupta, RP in Person.



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### <u>ORDER</u>

### Per: Bidisha Banerjee, Member (Judicial):

1. The Court congregate through a hybrid mode.

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2. Heard Ms. Urmila Chakraborty, Adv. appearing on behalf of the Resolution Professional (RP) and Mr. Arun Kumar Gupta (RP) in extenso.

3. By way of this application preferred under Section 30(6) read with Section 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, for brevity "I&B Code", the RP has sought for the approval of the resolution plan submitted by Algoquant Financials LLP and approved by the Committee of Creditor (CoC) by 100% voting shares.

### A. Prologue:

4. At the 16<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 17.02.2025 and evoting concluded on 21.02.2025, the CoC approved the Resolution Plan submitted by M/s Algoquant Financials LLP (Successful Resolution Applicant, for brevity "SRA") by a majority of 100% voting share.

5. The Letter of Intent, annexed at pages 628 – 629 to the application, was issued on 26.02.2025 by the RP upon instruction by the CoC and the same was unconditionally accepted by the SRA on 27.02.2025.



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6. The SRA deposited a Performance Security of an amount of Rs. 96,70,836/- that is equal to 10% of the total plan value proposed by the SRA, in terms of Clause 4.4.8 of the Request for Resolution Plan (RFRP).

### B. Particulars of the Corporate Debtor:

7. The Corporate Debtor – Reform Ferro Cast Limited is an unlisted Public Limited company incorporated in India with corporate identity number U27101WB2006PLC112036, has its registered office at Naupala, Bagnan-II Howrah West Bengal 711303 and works at Naupala, Bagnan-II Howrah West Bengal 711303.

8. The Company is operating in Cast Iron & Ductile Iron Products, Manufacturing Manhole covers, pipe & pipe fittings, engineering castings and automobile engineering - Exhaust Manifold Kits. The factory is closed since mid-2015.

9. The Corporate Debtor was incorporated on 7th December 2006. The authorized share capital of the Corporate Debtor is Rs. 5,25,00,000/-, and the issued and paid-up share capital of the Corporate Debtor is Rs.4,45,95,500/-.

# C. Commencement of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process:

10. The corporate debtor – Reform Ferro Cast Limited was admitted into Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) on



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21.11.2022, by this Adjudicating Authority and Mr. Arun Kumar Gupta was appointed as Interim Resolution Professional (IRP).

11. At the 1<sup>st</sup> CoC meeting convened on 21.12.2022, the IRP was appointed as the Resolution Professional (RP) by the CoC with 100% voting share.

### D. Public Announcement:

12. The IRP made public announcement under Regulation 6(1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016, for brevity "IBBI (CIRP) Regulations" on 23.11.2022 in Form A in Financial Express (English) and Aajkaal (Bengali).

13. Ld. Counsel for the RP submit that in terms of Regulation 6A of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, the IRP is required to communicate with the all creditors as per the last available books of accounts of the corporate debtor, however, due to non-cooperation on part of the suspended board of directors, the RP could not comply the same except intimating to the Income Tax, GST authorities, EPFO, electricity department and the secured financial creditors.

14. In terms of Section 15(1)(c) of the I&B Code read with Regulation 12(1) of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, the last date of the submission of claim was fixed on 05.12.2022.



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### E. Collation of Claims and Constitution of CoC:

15. In terms of Regulation 13(1) of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, IRP has verified the claims of the creditors on 12.12.2022.

16. In compliance with Section 18(1)(c) and 21(1) of the I&B Code, read with Regulation 17(1) of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, IRP has constituted the Committee of Creditors as on 14.12.2022 and after several modifications and alterations, the same was finalized on 06.12.2024, which is as under:

SN	Name of	Amount	Amount	Security	Voting
	the	Claimed (In	Admitted	Interest	shares
	Financial	Rs.)	(In Rs.)	as per	in the
	Creditors			Form C	CoC
1.	State	2,90,59,45,	2,90,59,45,	Secured.	99.935
	Bank of	599.16/-	599.16/-	*	%
	India				
2.	Adhunik	Rs.	Rs.	Unsecur	0.0516
	Dealtrade	15,00,000/-	15,00,000/-	ed.	%
	Pvt. Ltd.				
3.	Shivam	Rs.	Rs.	Unsecur	0.0138
	Singh	4,00,000/-	4,00,000/-	ed.	%
Total		Rs.	Rs.		100.00
		2,90,78,45,	2,90,78,45,		%
		599.15/-	599.15/-		

[\* 16.69 bighas of Land together with Office Building and 1<sup>st</sup> charge on book debts, goods, all other movable/ current assets and plant and machineries of Reform Ferro Cast Ltd. at Naupala, Bagnan, Howrah]



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17. List of Operational Creditors (Employees):

SN	Name of	Amount	Amount	Reason by RP
	the	Claimed	admitted	
	Employees	(In Rs.)	(In Rs.)	
1.	Kailash	Rs.	NIL	Claim yet to be
	Chand	68,37,850/-		reconciled with the
	Sharma			books of the corporate
				debtor, list of queries
				sent on 7.12.2022 and
				16.1.2023.
2.	Santosh	Rs.	NIL	Claim yet to be
	Karar	17,15,592/-		reconciled with the
				books of the corporate
				debtor, list of queries
				sent on 7.12.2022 and
				10.3.2023.
3.	Arun Kanti	Rs.	NIL	Claim yet to be
	Mazumder	4,63,459/-		reconciled with the
				books of the corporate
				debtor, list of queries
				sent on 7.12.2022 and
				10.3.2023.
	Total	Rs.	0.00	
		90,16,901/-		

### 18. List of Operational Creditors (Government dues):

SN	Department	Amount Claimed	Amount
		(In Rs.)	Admitted (In Rs.)
1.	The Commissioner	Rs.	Rs.
	of Commercial	19,36,56,531/-	19,36,56,531/-
	Taxes, West Bengal		



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		19,73,96,514/-	19,72,37,041/-
	Total	Rs.	Rs.
	Organisation		
	Provident Fund		
	Employees'		
	Howrah,		
	(Legal), RO,		
	Commissioner		
	Fund		
	Assistant Provident		
	Majumder,		
4.	Sandeep Dutta	Rs. 1,19,238/-	Rs. 1,19,238/-
	Corporation		
	Insurance		
5.	Employees' State	Ks. 9,20,330/-	KS. 7,00,003/-
3.	Debashish Datta,	Rs. 9,20,356/-	Rs. 7,60,883/-
	Howrah Commissionerate		
	Central Excise,		
	Service Tax and		
	Central Goods &		
2.	The Commissioner,	Rs. 27,00,389/-	Rs. 27,00,389/-

19. List of Operational Creditors (Other than Workmen and Employees and Government dues):

SN	Name of	Amount Claimed	Amount
	Creditors	(In Rs.)	Admitted (In Rs.)
1.	The Wesman	Rs.	Rs.
	Engineering	7,55,22,570.66/-	45,94,309.00/-
	Company Pvt Ltd		
2.	Binayak Hi-Tech	Rs. 55,66,585.76/-	Rs.
	Engineering Pvt		55,66,585.76/-
	Ltd		



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		10,28,56,259.42/-	3,09,27,997.76/-
	Total	Rs.	Rs.
	Company Limited		
	Distribution		
	Electricity		
5.	West Bengal State	Rs. 1,90,36,001/-	Rs. 1,90,36,001/-
	Vintrade Pvt Ltd		
4.	Cynosure	Rs. 10,00,000/-	NIL
	Company Limited		17,31,102.00/-
3.	SBICAP Trustee	Rs. 17,31,102.00/-	Rs.

### F. Appointment of Registered valuers:

20. At the 10<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 05.09.2024, upon instruction of the CoC, RP appointed registered valuers in terms of Regulation 27 of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, 2016, to carry out fresh valuation under Regulation 35 of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, 2016.

21. The Registered Valuers accordingly submitted their report with regard to the Fair Value and the Liquidation Value of the Corporate Debtor, which was placed and discussed at 12<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 13.11.2024. It is submitted that the average of the Fair Value and the Liquidation Value of the Corporate Debtor is as under:

- a. Fair Value (Average) = Rs. 12,37,88,787/-.
- b. Liquidation Value (Average) = Rs. 9,44,59,496/-.



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### G. CIRP and its Compliances:

22. In terms of Regulation 36A (1) of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, 2016, a public announcement in Form G was issued on 16.01.2023. Pursuant to such publication, the RP received 20 EoIs from various Prospective Resolution Applicants (PRAs), within the stipulated time, i.e., on 05.02.2023.

23. RP issued a provision list of resolution applicants on 10.02.2023, however, out of 20 PRAs in the final list, RP received resolution plan from 4 PRAs only before the stipulated deadline of 14.04.2023.

24. During the course of argument, the RP would assert that after several communications, RP did not receive the requisite documents as enshrined under the I&B Code as well as RFRP from the resolution applicants and thus, at 8<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 09.10.2023, SBI being the only secured creditors having 99.935% decided not to approve any plan and decided to liquidate the corporate debtor. Consequently, the RP preferred an application being I.A. (IB) No. 1803/KB/2023 under Section 33 of the Code.

25. It is further asserted that RP received an offer from an interested party for submission of a resolution plan and upon discussion, the CoC instructed the RP to take immediate steps to seek leave of this Adjudicating Authority to withdraw the liquidation application and to seek exclusion of the time exhausted due to



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pendency of the liquidation application and thereafter to plan for publishing a Form G inviting EoIs from PRAs.

26. Consequently, RP preferred an application being I.A. (IB) No. 1274/KB/2024 prayed the above reliefs. On 03.09.2024, this Adjudicating Authority allowed the liquidation application to be withdrawn and allowed the exclusion as prayed for.

27. Thereafter, RP conducted the  $10^{\text{th}}$  CoC meeting on 05.09.2024, and as discussed in the said meeting, a public announcement in Form G was issued on 06.09.2024.

28. Pursuant to the Form G issued on 06.09.2024, RP received 8 EoIs within the stipulated time i.e., 21.09.2024. Thereafter, the provisional list of resolution applicants issued on 26.09.2024 and the last date for submission of objections to the provisional list was fixed on 01.10.2024. RP issued final list of PRAs on 06.10.2024. In terms of Regulation 36B of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, 2016, RP issued the Request for Resolution Plan (RFRP) including Evaluation matrix and Information Memorandum to the resolution applicants on 06.10.2024.

29. The last date for submission of resolution plans by PRAs was fixed on 05.11.2024, which was extended upon instruction of CoC up to 12.11.2024.



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### H. Evaluation and Voting:

30. Ld. Counsel for the RP would submit that the RP received 3 resolution plans by 12.11.2024 from:

i. Consortium of HR Commercials Pvt. Ltd. & Crown Steels.

ii. Algoquant Financials LLP.

iii. Industrial Asset Transaction Services Private Limited.

31. At the 12<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 13.11.2024, all 3 resolution plans were opened. The resolution applicants were requested to submit their updated and best offer by 20.11.2024, however, none did the same.

32. A further request was made to re-submit the resolution plans incorporating the I&B Code/ RFRP compliant plan documents and to improve their offers. Algoquant Financials LLP submitted its final draft resolution plan by 17.12.2024, however, rest 2 resolution applicant did not submit the same despite several follow ups.

33. Thus, in compliance of Section 30(3) of the Code, only resolution plan from Algoquant Financials LLP was received by the RP.

34. At the 16<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 17.02.2024, after discussions and deliberations, the final resolution plan submitted by Algoquant Financials LLP was put for e-voting which commenced on 20.02.2025 at 9:00 AM and concluded on 21.02.2025 at 3:50 PM.



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The resolution plan submitted by Algoquant Financials LLP after conclusion of the e-voting was approved by the CoC with 100% voting share.

SN.	Name of Creditor	Voting Share (%)	Voting for Resolution Plan (Voted for / Dissented / Abstained)
1	State Bank of India	99.935 %	Voted For
2	Sivam Singh	0.014%	Voted For
3	Adhunik Dealtrade Pvt. Ltd	0.051%	Voted For

### Details of financials creditors in the CoC with Voting share -

35. The Letter of Intent, annexed at pages 628 – 629 to the application, was issued on 26.02.2025 by the RP upon instruction by the CoC and the same was unconditionally accepted by Algoquant Financials LLP on 27.02.2025.

36. Algoquant Financials LLP deposited a Performance Security of an amount of Rs. 96,70,836/- that is equal to 10% of the total plan value proposed by the SRA, in terms of Clause 4.4.8 of the Request for Resolution Plan (RFRP). Subsequently, Algoquant Financials LLP has been declared as Successful Resolution Applicant (SRA).



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I. Compliances of the Resolution Plan submitted by the SRA with various provisions under the I&B Code and CIRP Regulations:

37. The RP 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".

38. It is submitted 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.

39. 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.

40. 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.

41. It is further submitted that in terms of Section 30(2) of the I&B Code, 2016, (as amended vide Amendment dated August 16,



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2019) the Resolution Plan, submitted by SRA provides the details of various compliances as under:

Section of the	Requirement with	Clause of Resolution Plan
Code /	respect to	
<b>Regulation No.</b>	<b>Resolution Plan</b>	
Section 29A	Whether the Resolution Applicant is eligible to submit	Affidavit dated 13.12.2024, annexed at page 450-454 to the application.
	resolution plan as	Point 5.4 at page 13 and Point 21.2 at page 50 of the Resolution Plan dated 13.12.2024 submitted by SRA.
Section 30(1)	WhethertheResolutionApplicanthassubmittedanaffidavitstatingthat it is eligible?	Affidavit dated 13.12.2024, annexed at page 450-454 to the application.
Section 30(2)	Whether the Resolution Plan- (a) provides for the payment of insolvency resolution process costs?	(a) Clauses 3 and 9.1 of the resolution plan.
	(b) provides for the payment to the	(b) Clauses 3 and 9.3 of the resolution plan.



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	operational	
	creditors?	
	(c) provides for the payment to the financial creditors who did not vote in favour of the resolution plan?	(c) Clause 3 and 9.3 of the resolution plan.
	(d) provides for the management of the affairs of the corporate debtor?	(d) Clauses 21.1(b) at page 49 and Schedule 5 and 6.
	(e) provides for the implementation and supervision of the resolution plan?	(e) Clause 19.2 at page 45 and Clause 23 at page 55 of the resolution plan.
	(f) contravenes any of the provisions of the law for the time being in force?]	(f) Clause 5.4 at page 13 of the resolution plan.
Section 30(4)	Whether the	
	Resolution Plan (a) is feasible and viable, according to the CoC?	(a) Part C at pages 15-33 of the resolution plan.
	(b) has been approved by the CoC with 66% voting share?	



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Section 31(1)	Whether the	Clause 19.2 at page 45 and
	Resolution Plan has	Clause 23 at page 55 of the
	provisions for its	resolution plan.
	effective	recordential plan.
	implementation	
	plan, according to	
	the CoC?	
Regulation 38	Whether the	Clause 9.3 at page 24 of the
(1)	amount due to the	resolution plan.
(1)	operational	
	creditors under the	
	resolution plan has	
	been given priority	
	in payment over	
	financial creditors?]	
Regulation	Whether the	Clause 9.8 at page 32 and
38(1A)	resolution plan	Clause 14 at page 35 of the
	includes a	resolution plan.
	statement as to how	Ĩ
	it has dealt with the	
	interests of all	
	stakeholders?	
Regulation	(i) Whether the	(i) At Page 66 of the
38(1B)	Resolution	resolution plan.
	Applicant or any of	
	its related parties	SRA declares that this is
	has failed to	their first resolution plan,
	implement or	and for the sake of clarity
	contributed to the	and compliance of law, the
	failure of	SRA states that the
	implementation of	resolution applicant or any
	any resolution plan	of its related parties has
	approved under the	neither failed to implement
	Code.	nor contributed to the failure
		of implementation of any



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		other resolution plan approved by this Adjudicating Authority at any time in the past.
	(ii) If so, whether the Resolution Applicant has submitted the statement giving details of such non- implementation?]	N.A.
Regulation 38(2)	WhethertheResolutionPlanprovides:(a) the term of theplanandimplementationschedule?	(a) Clauses 23 and 24 at pages 55 and 56 of the resolution plan.
	(b) for the management and control of the business of the corporate debtor during its term?	(b) Clause 19 at page 45 of the resolution plan.
	(c) adequate means for supervising its implementation?	(c) Clause 19.2 (a) at page 45 of the resolution plan. The Resolution Plan also provides for appointment of "Monetary Agency".



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38(3)	Whethertheresolutionplandemonstratesthat -	
	(a) it addresses the cause of default?	(a) Clause 2.6 at page 8 of the resolution plan.
	(b) it is feasible and viable?	(b) Part C at pages 15-33 of the resolution plan.
	(c) it has provisions for its effective implementation?	(c) Pages 45-47 of the resolution plan.
	(d) it has provisions for approvals required and the timeline for the same?	(d) Page 68 of the resolution plan.
	(e) the resolution applicant has the capability to implement the resolution plan?	(e) At pages 14, 34 and Clause 21 at page 49 of the resolution plan.
39(2)	Whether the RP has filed applications in respect of transactions observed, found or determined by him?	RP states that as per the transactional audit report no PUFE transactions have been detected and thus, RP has not filed any application in this regard.
Regulation 39(4)	Provide details of performance security received, as referred to in sub-	SRA has paid an amount of Rs. 96,70,836/ The bank statement is annexed at pages 630-631 to the



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regulation	(4A)	of	application.
regulation 3	86B.]		

### J. Financial proposal proposed by the SRA:

42. The Successful Resolution Applicant has proposed to pay of an amount of **Rs. 9,67,08,353/-** as **Total Plan Amount** against the total admitted claim of Rs. 3,13,60,10,637.16/- and the total amount claimed of Rs. 3,21,71,15,273.58/-. CIRP cost has proposed to be paid in full as per actual. The hair cut in respect of amount admitted by the RP is **97%.** 

43. Gist of the Financial Proposal as proposed by the SRA is as under:

Particulars	Amount			
CIRP Cost	The CIRP cost to be paid in full as per actual and as approved by the CoC. It will be paid upfront within 30 days from the date of order of the Adjudication Authority approving resolution plate under section 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.			
Payment to Operational Creditors (Government Dues)	<b>Rs. 4,92,795/-</b> (Rupees Four Lakhs Ninety-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-Five only) being <b>0.25</b> % of the claim of Rs. 19,71,17,803.00 (excluding Provident Fund claim amount) admitted by the Resolution Professional is proposed to be paid under the Resolution Plan to ensure minimum			



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	amount to be paid to such creditors in
	terms of clause (b) of Section 30(2). This
	amount will be paid, in priority as per
	Regulation 38, upfront within 30 days
	from the date of order of the
	Adjudicating Authority approving
	resolution plan under section 31 of the
	Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
	It is hereinafter clarified that the
	payments required to be made to
	secured statutory creditors shall be
	dealt with as per applicable law and the
	judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court
	in State Tax Officer v. Rainbow Papers
	<i>Limited</i> , or applicable law at the time of
	making such payments.
	Any additional amounts, over and above
	Rs. 4,92,795.00, required to be paid to
	such statutory creditors in accordance
	with applicable laws shall be funded
	extra by the resolution applicant.
	Admitted claim of Rs.1,19,238/- by
	the Provident Fund department will
	be paid and settled in full by the
	resolution applicant.
Payment to	Rs. 77,320/- (Rupees: Seventy-seven
Operational Creditors	Thousand Three Hundred Twenty only)
(Other than workmen	being 0.25% of the claim of Rs.
and employees and	3,09,27,997.76 admitted by the
Government Dues)	Resolution Professional is proposed to be
	paid under the Resolution Plan to
	ensure minimum amount to be paid to



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	such creditors in terms of clause (b) of Section 30(2). This amount will be paid, in priority as per Regulation 38, upfront within 30 days from the date of order of the Adjudicating Authority approving resolution plan under section 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
	It is hereinafter clarified that the amounts payable to the operational creditors under the Code and the CIRP Regulations exceeds Rs. 77,320.00, the additional amounts payable to such creditors in accordance with applicable laws shall be funded extra by the Resolution Applicant.
Payment to Operational Creditors (Workmen and Employees)	<b>N.A.</b> – There are no admissible debts under this category.
Payment to Unsecured Financial Creditors	<b>Rs. 19,000/-</b> (Rupees Nineteen thousand only) being 1.00 % of the admitted claim of Rs. 19,00,000.00 by the Resolution Professional. This amount will be paid upfront within 30
	days of the order from the Adjudicating Authority approving resolution plan under section 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.



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	Upfront – Rs.2,00,00,000 61 days-90 days - >90 days up to 180 days – Rs.4,00,00,000 >180 days up to 1 year – Rs.3,60,00,000 <b>Total Value = Rs. 9,60,00,000/-</b>
Full Payment within 12 months to all creditors	Full payment will be done within 12 months of the order from the Adjudicating Authority approving resolution plan under section 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

44. As per Form H, the amounts provided for the stakeholders under the Resolution Plan is as under:

(Amount in Rs. Lakh)

SN	Category of Stakeholder	Sub-Category of Stakeholder	Amount Claimed	Amount Admitted	Amount Provided under the Plan	Amount Provided to the Amount Claimed (%)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Secured	(a) Creditors	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Financial	not having a				
	Creditors	right to vote				
		under sub-				
		section (2) of				
		section 21				
		(b) Other				
		than (a)				
		above:				



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		(i) who did not vote in favour of the resolution Plan	NA	NA	NA	NA
		(ii) who voted in favour of the resolution plan		290,59,4 5,599.16	9,60,00, 000	3.303%
		Total[(a) + (b)]	290,59,45,5 99.16	290,59,4 5,599.16	9,60,00, 000	3.303%
2	Unsecured Financial Creditors	<ul> <li>(a) Creditors</li> <li>not having a</li> <li>right to vote</li> <li>under sub-</li> <li>section (2) of</li> <li>section 21</li> <li>(b) Other</li> <li>than (a)</li> <li>above:</li> </ul>	NA	NA	NA	NA
		(i) who did not vote in favour of the resolution Plan	NA	NA	NA	NA
		(ii) who voted in favour of the resolution plan	19,00,000.0 0	19,00,00 0.00	19,000. 00	1.00%
		Total[(a) + (b)]	19,00,000.0 0	19,00,00 0.00	19,000. 00	1.00%



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3	Operational Creditors	(a)RelatedPartyofCorporateDebtor(b)Otherthan(a)above:	NA	NA	NA	NA
		(i) Government	(i) 19,73,96,51 4.00	(i) 19,72,37, 041.00	(i) 6,12,03 3.00 (Admitte d claim of Rs.1,19, 238/- by the Provident Fund departme nt will be paid and settled in full by the resolutio n applicant included in above)	(i) 0.31%
		(ii)Workmen	(ii) _	(ii) _	(ii) _	(ii) _
		(iii)Employees	(iii) 90,16,901.0 0	(iii) _	(iii) _	(iii) _



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		(iv)	(iv)	(iv)	(iv)	<i>(</i> ; )
		Operational	10,28,56,25	3,09,27,9	77,320.	(iv)
		Creditors	9.42	97.76	00	0.075%
		(Other than				
		workmen and				
		employees				
		and				
		Government				
		Dues)				
		Total[(a) + (b)]	30,92,69,67	22,81,65,	6,89,35	0.223%
			4.42	038.76	3.00	
4	Other debts	NA	NA	NA	NA	
	and dues					
Gra	nd Total		3,21,71,15,	3,13,60,1	9,67,08,	3.00%
			273.58	0,637.16	353.00	

### K. PUFE Transactions:

45. It is submitted that the RP appointed Neha B Agarwal & Co. CA for carrying out the transaction audit of the corporate debtor under Section 43, 45, 50, 66 of the Code for the period of 21.11.2020 to 21.11.2022. the Transactional Auditor has submitted a report on 10.03.2023 and the same has been circulated to the member of the CoC. As per the Transactional Auditor's report, there is no avoidance transactions in the corporate debtor company.

46. Further, it is submitted that as per Regulation 35A of the IBBI (CIRP) Regulations, 2016, RP is required to make a determination regarding avoidable transactions under Section 43, 45, 50, and 66 of the Code within 115<sup>th</sup> day of the commencement of CIRP. The RP has informed the CoC by way of an email dated



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13.03.2023, annexed at pages 337-338 to the application that he has unable to determine any avoidance transactions with  $115^{\text{th}}$  day i.e., 16.03.2023 due to following reasons:

- i. Sole factory is closed since the year 2015.
- Last available accounts as per MCA portal is for period ended 31.03.2019, but Balance Sheet numbers are largely unchanged since 31.03.2015 accounts.
- iii. The directors and auditor are not cooperating the RP and thus, an application under Section 19(2) of the Code has been preferred before this Adjudicating Authority.
- iv. RP does not have access to the books of account or records of the corporate debtor.
- v. The main promoter and the auditor have both passed.

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47. This application under Section 19(2) of the I&B Code has been preferred by the RP against the member of suspended board of directors, namely Basant Saha, Shila Saha, and Sakti Adhikari, praying for a direction upon the suspended board to provide singed copies of the audited accounts, tally accounting data base, bank account details, staff/ employee details, operational creditor list, list of fixed assets, public announcement and list of creditors to be uploaded on the website of the company as well as to



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provide all the documents related to IOCL pipeline at the factory premises with the RP, as well as to provide all the documents relating to the suit instituted against Wesman Engineering in TS 19 of 2021.

48. RP submits that after several intimation to the directors of the company, no cooperation has been made on behalf of them and due to non-cooperation from the suspended directors, RP cannot proceed with the CIRP properly.

49. During the course of hearing, the Ld. Counsel for the RP would assert that during ongoing CIRP, RP came to know that Mr. Basant Saha, one of the directors of the company passed away on 17.01.2023. Soon after, the RP visited Mr. Basant Saha's residence on 22.02.2023 and met his spouse and paid his condolences. RP would further assert that prior demise, Mr. Basant Saha once informed the RP that there is no employee or worker presently and he does not have any access of any records directly as the company is closed since the year 2015 and the last accounts were audited for the year ended 31.03.2019.

50. Mr. Sakti Adhikary (R3) would *per contra* submit that he has no access to such the documents sought for by the RP and he was in no way connected with the loan facility procured by the corporate debtor from the financial creditor herein. Though he was a director of the company, but he was working in the capacity of an employee providing technical knowledge and pursuing the instruction of Late Basant Saha.



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51. In counter, RP would submit that in terms of Section 166 of the Companies Act, 2013, R3 is liable to know all the details of the corporate debtor as he was appointed as a member of the board of directors of the corporate debtor.

### Analysis and Findings:

## On the Conduct of CoC

52. 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 Plan dated 13.12.2024** submitted by **Algoquant Financials LLP**, annexed at pages 366-449 to the application has been approved by the CoC of the Corporate Debtor with <u>100%</u> voting share at the 16<sup>th</sup> CoC meeting convened on 17.02.2025, e-voting concluded on 21.02.2025 and **Algoquant Financials LLP**, is declared as the **"Successful Resolution Applicant"**.

53. 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.



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54. We have already noted that the Fair value (Average) of the Corporate Debtor is arrived at Rs. 12,37,88,787/- and the Liquidation Value (Average) is Rs. 9,44,59,496/-.

55. The Successful Resolution Applicant has proposed to pay of an amount of **Rs. 9,67,08,353/-** as **Total Plan Amount** against the total admitted claim of Rs. 3,13,60,10,637.16 /- and the total amount claimed of Rs. 3,21,71,15,273.58/-. CIRP cost has proposed to be paid in full as per actual. The hair cut in respect of amount admitted by the RP is **97%.** 

56. In the course of the hearing, the Learned Counsel for the Resolution Professional 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 Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016 and does not contravene any of the provisions of law for the time being in force.

57. Upon perusal of the documents on record and/or documents, we are satisfied that the **Resolution Plan dated 13.12.2024** submitted by **Algoquant Financials LLP**, annexed at pages 366-449 to the application, 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.



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

58. 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 <u>one</u> <u>year</u> from the date of this order, as prescribed under section 31(4) of the I&B Code.

## On the Reliefs, Waivers and Concessions:

59. We have perused the <u>reliefs</u>, <u>waivers and concessions</u> as sought 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.

60. <u>This Adjudicating Authority has the power to grant only</u> <u>such reliefs, waivers and concessions that are directly in tune with</u> <u>the I&B Code and the Companies Act (within the powers of the</u> <u>NCLT). The reliefs, waivers and concessions that pertain to other</u> <u>governmental authorities/departments may be dealt with by the</u> <u>respective competent authorities/forums/offices, Government or</u> <u>Semi-Government of the State or Central Government concerning</u> <u>the respective reliefs, waivers and concession, whenever sought for.</u> <u>The competent authorities including the Appellate authorities may</u>



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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. This assumes significance in view of the language used in Sections 18 and 25 in contrast to the language employed in Section



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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 <u>to</u> <u>preserve and protect the assets of the corporate debtor</u>, 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 the to 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 "once 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



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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 continue any proceedings in respect to a claim, which is not part of the resolution plan." (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 stakeholders 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 <u>Committee of Creditors of Essar</u> <u>Steel India Limited through Authorised Signatory</u> (supra)."



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"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 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 prospective resolution applicant who 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 would also rely upon 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



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**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 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</u> <u>and finality imparted to it by Section 31 does not per se operate as a</u>



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discharge of the guarantor's liability. As to the nature and extent of the liability, much would depend on the terms of the guarantee itself.

69. Further, in *Maitreya Doshi vs. Anand Rathi Global Finance Ltd. reported* in MANU/SC/1216/2022, the Hon'ble Apex Court laid down that:

"36. The proposition of law which emerges from the judgment is that a pledgor per se may not be a Financial Debtor. However, in this case, as observed above, the Appellate Authority arrived at a factual finding that Disha Holdings was a borrower. In Lalit Kumar Jain v. Union of India MANU/SC/0352/2021 : (2021) 9 SCC 321, this Court held that the approval of a resolution plan in relation to a Corporate Debtor does not discharge the guarantor of the Corporate Debtor. On a parity of reasoning, the approval of a resolution in respect of one borrower cannot certainly discharge a co-borrower."

## (Emphasis Added)

70. 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</u> <u>guarantors 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)



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71. Hence, we would infer that all the guarantees whether personal or corporate in nature, will not be redeemed by the virtue of the approval of this resolution plan. Thus, if there are any guarantors of the corporate debtor, the creditor(s) will invoke those guarantees and an appropriate action against them, as per law, be taken.

## On Inquiries, Litigations, Investigations, and Proceedings:

72. 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.

73. 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 management shall be liable to face all the offences committed prior to the commencement of the CIR Process. At this juncture, 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:



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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)

74. Further, 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, (hereinafter referred to as 'Vasan Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. I') has held that:

"9. In the above judgement, the Apex Court after dealing with the provision in detail, came to a categoric conclusion that



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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?

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



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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. <u>Once the resolution plan is accepted by</u> <u>the NCLT and orders are passed and the Corporate</u> <u>debtor gets into hands of the new management, all the</u> <u>past liabilities including the criminal liability of the</u> <u>Corporate debtor gets wiped off and the new</u> <u>Management takes over the company with clean slate</u>." (Emphasis Added)

75. Further, the Hon'ble Madras High Court in *M/s. Vasan Healthcare Pvt Ltd v. M/s. India Infoline Finance Ltd*, Crl O.P.



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No. 1772 of 2024, reported in (2024) ibclaw.in 700 HC, (hereinafter referred to as 'Vasan Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. IP) has observed that:

"13. As a result of the above discussion and the law laid in Ajay Kumar Radheshyam Goenka case, it is clear that the corporate debtor cannot be prosecuted for the prior liability after the approval of the Resolution Plan. At the same time, it is to be bear in mind the protection under Section 32-A of Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016 is restricted only to the Corporate debtor and not to its Directors who were in-charge of the affairs of the Company when the offence committed or the signatory of the cheque."

## (Emphasis Added)

76. Very recently, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in *Bhushan Power & Steel Limited v. Union of India* in W.P. (CRL)
1261/2024, judgment dated 30.01.2025, has laid down that:

"6.1 A plain reading of the above provision would reveal that there is no dispute over the legal position that <u>once a</u> <u>resolution plan has been approved by the adjudicating</u> <u>authority under Section 31 of IBC and the conditions</u> <u>specified in Section 32A of the IBC are fulfilled, the</u> <u>Corporate Debtor shall not be prosecuted for an offence</u> <u>committed prior to the commencement of the CIRP</u>.

6.2 However, <u>Section 32A of IBC also clarifies</u> that any erstwhile officer of the Corporate Debtor who 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 or who was directly or indirectly involved in the commission of such offence prior to the commencement of CIRP as per



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the complaint filed by the investigating authority, shall continue to be prosecuted and punished for such an offence committed by the Corporate Debtor, notwithstanding that the Corporate Debtor's liability has ceased.

xxx xxx xxx 7.1 Further, in view of the mandate under sub-section (1) of Section 32A of the IBC, the Petitioner Company, having undergone a successful resolution process under Section 31 of the IBC, shall not be prosecuted for the offences committed prior to the commencement of the CIRP."

(Emphasis Added)

77. Further, in **SREI Infrastructure Finance Limited vs. State of Tripura** reported in MANU/TR/0474/2024, the Hon'ble High Court of Tripura has laid down that:

"38. The object of revival of a sick company on approval of the resolution plan by the NCLT is intended to provide a clean slate for the company to ensure that the new management makes a clean break from the past. The resolution plan of the successful resolution applicant has been approved under Section 31 of the I&B Code by the learned NCLT vide its order dated 11th August, 2023 which is Annexure-2 to the writ petition. It records that on the date of approval of the 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 continue any proceedings in respect to a claim, which is not part of the resolution plan. It has referred to the decision of the Apex Court in Ghanashyam Mishra & Sons Pvt. Ltd (supra) wherein it has been held that once a resolution plan is duly approved by the Adjudicating Authority under sub-section (1) of section 31, the claims as



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provided in the resolution plan shall stand frozen and will be binding on the Corporate Debtor and its employees, members, creditors, including the Central Govt. any State Govt. or any local authority, guarantors and other stakeholders. The Apex Court also held that all 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 prior to the date on which the Adjudicating Authority grants its approval under Section 31 could be continued.

39. <u>However, waiver sought in relation to guarantors would</u> not be allowed to operate in view of the judgment of the Apex Court in Lalit Kumar Jain Vs. Union on India & Ors., <u>MANU/SC/0352/2021 : 2021:INSC:297</u> as sanction of a resolution plan and finality imparted to it <u>by section 31</u> does not per se operate as a discharge of the guarantor's liability. With respect to the relief of waivers sought for all inquiries, litigations, investigations and proceedings the same shall be granted strictly as per the section 32A of the code and the provisions of the law as may be applicable." (Emphasis Added)

78. For the sake of convenience, the reliefs, concessions, and approvals sought in the Resolution Plan annexed at pages 433-440 to the application are catered to as below and the orders thereon are indicated against each as under:

SN	Ref to	Relief and / or concessions	<b>Our Inference</b>	Order
	clause of	Sought		thereon
	Resolutio			
	n Plan			



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(1)	16 (a)	Consents and approvals, authorizations etc. Upon approval of this Resolution Plan by the NCLT, all actions stated in this Resolution Plan shall be deemed to be approved. Accordingly, any action or implementation of this Resolution Plan shall not be a ground for termination of any consents, approvals, concessions, authorizations, permits or the like that has been granted to the Corporate Debtor or for which the Corporate Debtor has made an application for renewal or grant.	proper authority to consider the relief. The SRA may approach the appropriate authority(ies) in accordance with	Not Allowed.
(2)	16 (b)	License/ Approvals/ contractual Right and benefits The Resolution Applicant has assumed that upon approval of this Resolution Plan by the NCLT and since the Resolution Applicant will acquire the Corporate Debtor, which, at present, is not a going concern, all subsisting consents, licenses, approvals, rights, entitlements, benefits and privileges whether under law, contract, lease or license, including consent to operate from the State Pollution Control Board granted in favor of the Corporate Debtor or to which the Corporate Debtor is entitled or accustomed to shall, notwithstanding any	proper authority to consider the relief. The SRA may approach the appropriate authority(ies) in accordance with law. However, the	Not Allowed.

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provision to the contrary in	
their terms, be deemed to	
continue without disruption for	
the benefit of the Corporate	
Debtor.	
It is hereby clarified that all	
consents, licenses, approvals,	
rights, entitlements, benefits	
<b>0</b>	
and privileges whether under	
law, contract, lease or license,	
including consent to operate	
from the State Pollution	
Control Board granted in favor	
of the Corporate Debtor or to	
which the Corporate Debtor is	
entitled or accustomed to,	
which have expired as of the	
<i>Effective Date, shall be</i>	
deemed to continue without	
disruption for the benefit of the	
Corporate Debtor for a period	
of 12 months or until renewed	
by the relevant authorities,	
whichever is later. Without	
0 0 0	
compliance during the time	
specified above, the	
Resolution Applicant	
undertakes to cause the	
Corporate Debtor to	
expeditiously identify such	
expired consents, licenses,	
approvals, rights,	
entitlements, benefits and	
privileges whether under law,	
contract, lease or license,	
granted in favor of the	
Corporate Debtor or to which	
the Corporate Debtor is	
entitled or accustomed to,	
evaluate the steps required to	
address the same and take	<u>                                     </u>



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steps to remedy the same to the extent practically possible.	
State Electricity Board or	
any such other authority / authorities having	
jurisdiction to provide power connection to the	
Factory Premises shall	
restore the power connection immediately	
upon approval of this Resolution Plan by the NCLT.	
Upon approval of this Resolution Plan by the NCLT,	
any claims by any person	
<i>(whether admitted or not, due or contingent, asserted or </i>	
or contingent, asserted or unasserted, crystallized or	
uncrystallized, known or	
unknown, secured or	
unsecured, disputed or	
undisputed, present or future)	
against the Corporate Debtor	
accruing due to the	
commencement or pendency of	
insolvency proceedings	
against the Corporate Debtor,	
whether arising under the	
terms of subsisting consents,	
licenses, approvals, rights, entitlements, benefits and	
privileges whether under law,	
contract, lease or license,	
granted in favor of the	
Corporate Debtor or any	
contractual arrangements	
entered into by the Corporate	
Debtor, shall, notwithstanding	
any provision to the contrary	



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	r H jt C S A E K L	n their terms, stand extinguished without any ecourse in conformity with Ion'ble Supreme Court udgment in the matter of Ghanashyam Mishra and Sons Pvt. Ltd. Through Authorized Signatory Vs. Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. Civil Appeal No. 8129 of 2019 and other appeals.		
(3) 16	5 (c)	<ul> <li>During the Interim Period, neither the Resolution Professional nor any creditor including any Financial Creditor and Government agency) or any stakeholder nvolved in this Resolution Plan or otherwise connected with this Resolution Plan, the CoC nor the Corporate Debtor shall:</li> <li>(i) take any of the actions specified in Section 28 of the Code without the approval of Monitoring Agency.</li> <li>(ii) take any action or omission that could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse impact, directly or indirectly, on the Resolution Plan or its successful implementation; or</li> <li>(iii) Institute or continue any proceedings against the Corporate Debtor or transfer,</li> </ul>	Granted in accordance with the plan approved by the CoC.	Allowed in accordan ce with law.



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		encumber, alienate or dispose any of the assets or interests of the Corporate Debtor or enforce any encumbrance or security interest created by the Corporate Debtor or on the securities of the Corporate Debtor.		
(4)	16 (d)	Liability for past actions or omissions (i) The Resolution Applicant will acquire control over the Corporate Debtor pursuant to the order of the NCLT by the Effective Date and not pursuant to the usual acquisition process which would ordinarily include a detailed due diligence and representation, warranties and indemnities in relation to the affairs of the Corporate Debtor from its existing promoters. Therefore, the Resolution Applicant may take some time to discover any non- compliances that may exist in relation to the Corporate Debtor on the date of acquisition of control by the Resolution Applicant over the Corporate Debtor. As such the Resolution Applicant may take some time to identify such non-compliances and to address them. (ii) In light of this, the Resolution Applicant and the Corporate Debtor shall have	Whatever the immunity provided in <b>Ghanashyam</b> <b>Mishra (Supra),</b> shall apply.	Allowed in accordan ce with law.



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immunity from any actions	
and penalties (of any nature)	
under any laws for any non-	
compliance of laws in relation	
to the Corporate Debtor or by	
the Corporate Debtor, as well	
as with the terms of any	
agreement or arrangement	
entered into by the Corporate	
Debtor, which was existing as	
on the Effective Date and	
which continues for a period of	
up to 12 months after the	
acquisition of control by the	
Resolution Applicant over the	
Corporate Debtor. Without any	
liability for the non-compliance	
during the time specified	
above, the Resolution	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Applicant undertakes to cause the Corporate Debtor to	
1	
expeditiously identify such	
non-compliances, evaluate the	
steps required to address	
such non-compliances and	
take steps to remedy such	
non-compliances to the extent	
practically possible. The	
Resolution Applicant and the	
Corporate Debtor shall be	
entitled to apply to and	
approach the NCLT for the	
relief for continued	
implementation of the	
approved Resolution Plan	
before or after any coercive	
action is taken against the	
Corporate Debtor or the	
Resolution Applicant	
especially in view of the	
limited due diligence offered to	
the Resolution Applicant.	



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		(iii) This Resolution Plan will be implemented pursuant to an order of the NCLT, and all actions stated in this Resolution Plan shall be deemed to be approved by the NCLT. Accordingly, any action or implementation of this Resolution Plan shall not be a ground for termination of any contracts entered into by the Corporate Debtor.		
(5)	16 (e)	Inquiries, investigations etc. Upon approval of this Resolution Plan by the NCLT, all inquiries, investigations and proceedings, whether civil or criminal, notices, causes of action, suits, claims, disputes, litigation, arbitration or other judicial, regulatory or administrative proceedings against, or in relation to, or in connection with the Corporate Debtor or the affairs of the Corporate Debtor, pending or threatened, present or future, (including without limitation, any investigation, action, proceeding, prosecution, whether civil or criminal, by the Central Bureau of Investigation, the Enforcement Directorate or any other regulatory or enforcement agency), in relation to any period prior to the Effective Date or arising on account of the acquisition of control by the Resolution Applicant over the Corporate Debtor pursuant to this Resolution Plan shall	Radheyshyam Goenka (Supra), Tantia Constructions Limited (Supra), Vasan Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. I (Supra), Vasan Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. II (Supra) and in Bhushan Power (Supra), shall apply; nothing more	Allowed, in accordan ce with law and Section 32A read with the judgment cited herein.

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		this Resolution Plan by	provided in	accordan
( - <i>)</i>	- (-)	(i) With the approval of	immunity	in
(6)	16 (f)	Tax exemptions	Whatever	Allowed
		Resolution Plan.		
		Debtor pursuant to this		
		Applicant over the Corporate		
		control by the Resolution		
		account of the acquisition of		
		Corporate Debtor or on		
		Resolution Applicant over the		
		acquisition of control by the		
		Corporate Debtor in relation to any period prior to the		
		5		
		and will not be initiated or admitted against the		
		will be deemed to be barred		
		administrative proceedings		
		or other judicial, regulatory or		
		disputes, litigation, arbitration		
		criminal, notices, suits, claims,		
		investigations, whether civil or		
		NCLT, all new inquiries,		
		of this Resolution Plan by the		
		Effective Date. Upon approval		
		authority prior to or after the		
		respect of the same by any		
		order that may be passed in		
		notwithstanding any adverse		
		or liable ill relation thereto		
		or indirectly, held responsible		
		at no point of time be, directly		
		the Resolution Applicant shall		
		and the Corporate Debtor or		
		permanently extinguished		
		written off in full and		
		be deemed to have been		
		of the Corporate Debtor, will		
		and loss account statements		
		Corporate Debtor or the profit		
		5		
		whether or not set out in the balance sheets of the		
		obligations in relation thereto,		
		dismissed and all liabilities or		
		stand withdrawn or		



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		acquisition of control by the		
		Resolution Applicant over the		
		Corporate Debtor.		
(8)	16 (h)	Contracts		
(0)	10 (11)	(i) For a period of 6 months from the Effective Date, all subsisting contracts and arrangements entered into by the Corporate Debtor shall continue to be in subsistence, including but not limited to the following:	-	Not Allowed.
		(ii) For a period of 6 months from the Effective Date, the Corporate Debtor shall have a right to review and terminate any contract that was entered into prior to the Effective Date.		
		<ul> <li>(iii) If during such review, the Corporate Debtor terminates any contracts then the Corporate Debtor shall not be liable towards any claims with respect to termination of such contracts, including but not limited to any claims, penalty, damages (liquidated or otherwise), arbitration claims or claims for specific performance.</li> <li>(iv) All contracts between the Corporate Debtor and related parties as</li> </ul>		
		defined in Section 5(24) of the Code shall stand terminated with effect		

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		from the Effective Date		
		unless otherwise notified		
		by the Resolution		
		Applicant by the		
		Effective Date, and the		
		Corporate Debtor shall		
		not be liable towards		
		any claims with respect		
		to termination of such		
		contracts, including but		
		not limited to, any		
		claims, penalty,		
		damages (liquidated or		
		otherwise), arbitration		
		claims, claims for		
		specific performance or		
		claims for interim relief.		
		(v) All financial obligations		
		under any contract to		
		which the Corporate		
		Debtor is a party,		
		relatable to a period prior		
		to the Effective Date, if		
		not provided for under		
		this Resolution Plan,		
		shall stand		
		extinguished.		
(9)	16 (i)	The State Government of West	This is not the	Not
		Bengal shall grant it suitable	proper authority	Allowed.
		tax and financial incentives as	to consider the	
		per the prevailing policy of the	relief. The SRA	
		State Government or any other	may approach	
		policy for revival of distressed	the appropriate	
		companies, considering the	authority(ies) in	
		revival of the Corporate Debtor	accordance with	
		in order to achieve financial	law.	
		viability of the Corporate		
(10)	16 (1)	Debtor.		A 11 -
(10)	16 (j)	On the basis of information	As provided in	Allowed
		provided by the Resolution	the resolution	in
		Professional, this Resolution	plan and IM	accordan
		Plan assumes that, on the	shall be applied.	ce with
		Effective Date the Corporate		law.



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(11)	16 (k)	Debtor will not have any realizable gross current assets (inventory, receivables and cash). The Resolution Applicant has assumed that since this is a NCLT approved plan under a statutory process and is binding on all stakeholders under Sections 31(1) and 238 of Code, all concerned regulators, including RBI, shall give expeditious approvals to facilitate the Resolution Plan of the Corporate Debtor and its implementation.	37(l) of the CIRP Regulations, a resolution plan may provide for <u>the <b>measures</b></u> <u>required for</u> <u>implementing</u> <u>the same by</u> <u>obtaining</u>	Not Allowed.
(12)	16(l)	This Resolution Plan assumes that no sale deeds / agreement of sale etc. has been entered upon and/or registered by the Corporate Debtor without knowledge of the charge holder being State Bank of India. In the event of such deeds are detected, the same will be construed to be void ab initio.	accordance with law. As provided in the resolution plan shall be applied.	Allowed in accordan ce with law.
(13)	16(m)	Liabilities accrued/may accrue under Various Acts &–Laws - Approval of the Resolution Plan will be treated	Whatever immunity that Ghanashyam Mishra (Supra)	<b>Allowed</b> in accordan



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as waiver approval from past liabilities, payments of fees and all dues including any penalties as well as any form of payment by way of Interest, Late Fees, Damages etc, related to all Government Authorities with regard to non- compliances of various Statutes to be adhered related to Consent, Fees, Certification etc. by the Corporate Debtor prior to the Effective Date which is inclusive but not exhaustive of: • Factories Act, 1948 • Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 • Payment of Wages Act, 1936 • The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 • The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 • The Bonus Act, 1948 • The Bonus Act, 1948 • Legal Metrology Act, 2009 • Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 • Environment (Protection) Act	-	shall	ce law.	with
• Environment (Protection) Act, 1986				



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		<ul> <li>Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981</li> <li>Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974</li> <li>Hazardous Waste (Management and handling) Rules, 1989</li> <li>State Fire Safety Act</li> <li>Electricity Act, 2003</li> </ul>		
		• Trademarks Act, 1999		
		The waiver also includes any dues relating to Interest, Penal Interest, Penalty, Interest on Penalty, any kind of late fee as well as Damages.		
(14)	17.1	The Resolution Applicant has assumed that the Code is a complete code and the NCLT acting under the Code is empowered to grant a single window clearance for all actions as provided in a resolution plan approved by the NCLT.	order can be	Not Allowed.
(15)	17.2	Accordingly, the process stipulated under the Code for implementation of a resolution plan is a final and binding process and therefore, any action undertaken pursuant to a resolution plan approved by	The SRA may approach the concerned authority(ies) in accordance with law.	Not allowed.



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the NCLT under the Code does not require compliance with procedural requirements under other laws, to the extent permissible under the Code, including the requirements with respect to the following, that shall stand complied and approved upon approval of this Resolution Plan by the NCLT:	
<ul> <li>(a) The vacation of office by the directors who comprised the suspended board of directors, or the appointment of new directors on the board of the Corporate Debtor (for the interim Period and/or by the Effective Date, as the case may be) shall not require any corporate action by the Corporate Debtor or any other approvals and the Corporate Debtor may file the order of the NCLT to inform the Registrar of Companies regarding such vacation and appointment.</li> </ul>	
(b) The increase in authorized share capital of the Corporate Debtor, as contemplated in Clause 14, shall not require	



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any corporate action by
the Corporate Debtor or
any other approvals,
and the increased
authorized share
capital and the revised
Memorandum of
Association, as set-out
in this plan shall take
effect pursuant to
approval of this
Resolution Plan by the
NCLT, and the
Corporate Debtor may
file the order of the
5
Registrar of Companies
regarding such
increase in authorized
share capital and
amendment to the
Memorandum of
Association.
(c) The cancellation of
existing equity share
capital and preference
share capital <b>*and</b>
cancellation of old
share certificates
issued by the
Corporate Debtor as
contemplated in Clause
9.5 shall not require
any corporate action by
the Corporate Debtor or
-
any other approvals
and the Corporate
Debtor may file the
order of the NCLT to
inform the Registrar of



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Companies regarding such cancellation. (d) The issuance and allotment of equity shares to the Resolution Applicants, as contemplated in Clause 14 shall not require any corporate action by the Corporate Debtor or any other approvals, and the Corporate Debtor may file the order of the NCLT to inform the Registrar of Companies regarding such issuance and allotment.	
<ul> <li>(e) The issuance and allotment of equity shares to Resolution applicant, as contemplated in Clause 14 shall not require any corporate action by the Corporate Debtor or any other approvals, and the Corporate Debtor may file the order of the NCLT to inform the Registrar of Companies regarding such issuance and allotment.</li> <li>(f) Removal of the existing auditors and substitution by another</li> </ul>	



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		duly qualified auditor for the Corporate Debtor.		
(16)	18.1	The Resolution Applicant and the Corporate Debtor shall be entitled to share a certified copy of this Resolution Plan and the order of the NCLT approving this Resolution Plan with third parties, including Governmental authorities.	resolution applicant as per the	Allowed.
(17)	18.2	The order of the NCLT approving this Resolution Plan shall take effect pursuant to Section 238 of the Code, to the extent applicable, that states that, "the provisions of this Code shall have effect, notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or any instrument having effect by virtue of any such law.	Section 238	Allowed in accordan ce with law.

## Conclusion:

79. 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.



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80. 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.

81. In so far as the approval of **the Resolution Plan dated 13.12.2024** by **Algoquant Financials LLP (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 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



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vote on the resolution plan Under Section 30(4) of the I & <u>B Code</u>."

(Emphasis Added)

82. 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:

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

> > (Emphasis Added)

83. 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</u> <u>Code, making it clear that ultimately it is the</u> <u>commercial wisdom of the Committee of Creditors</u> <u>which operates to approve what is deemed by a majority</u> <u>of such creditors to be the best resolution plan, which is</u> <u>finally accepted after negotiation of its terms by such</u> <u>Committee with prospective resolution applicants.</u>"



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## (Emphasis Added)

84. Reinforcing the above, the Hon'ble Apex Court in **Vallal RCK vs. Siva Industries and Holdings Limited** reported in **MANU/SC/0753/2022**, has held that:

**"21.** This Court has consistently held that the commercial wisdom of the CoC has been given paramount status without any judicial intervention for ensuring completion of the stated processes within the timelines prescribed by the IBC. It has been held that there is an intrinsic assumption, that financial creditors are fully informed about the viability of the corporate debtor and feasibility of the proposed resolution plan. They act on the basis of thorough examination of the proposed resolution plan and assessment made by their team of experts."

xxxxxxxxx"27. This Court has, time and again, emphasized the<br/>need for minimal judicial interference by the NCLAT and<br/>NCLT in the framework of IBC. We may refer to the<br/>recent observation of this Court made in the case of Arun<br/>Kumar Jagatramka v. Jindal Steel and Power Limited<br/>and Anr. (2021) 7 SCC 474:

95. ....However, we do take this opportunity to offer a note of caution for NCLT and NCLAT, functioning as the adjudicatory authority and appellate authority under the IBC respectively, from judicially interfering in the framework envisaged under the IBC. As we have noted earlier in the judgment, the IBC was introduced in order to overhaul the insolvency and bankruptcy regime in India.



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As such, it is a carefully considered and well thought out piece of legislation which sought to shed away the practices of the past. The legislature has also been working hard to ensure that the efficacy of this legislation remains robust by constantly amending it based on its experience. Consequently, the need for judicial intervention or innovation from NCLT and NCLAT should be kept at its bare minimum and should not disturb the foundational principles of the IBC....."

## (Emphasis Added)

85. In the case at hand, we would note that **the Resolution Plan dated 13.12.2024** submitted by **Algoquant Financials LLP (Successful Resolution Applicant),** has been approved by the Committee of Creditors of the Corporate Debtor by <u>100%</u> voting share.

86. We have further noted that the Letter of Intent was issued on 26.02.2023, which has been unconditionally accepted by the SRA. Accordingly, **Algoquant Financials LLP** is 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.

87. In the light of the enumerations and observations made in this Order supra, we hereby **APPROVE** and **FINALLY SANCTION** 



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the Resolution Plan dated 13.12.2024 submitted by Algoquant Financials LLP (Successful Resolution Applicant).

88. 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 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.

89. 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.

90. 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.

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

92. 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.



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## **On PUFE Transactions**

93. We have noted that the Fair value (Average) of the Corporate Debtor is arrived at Rs. 12,37,88,787/- and the Liquidation Value (Average) is Rs. 9,44,59,496/-.

94. The Successful Resolution Applicant has proposed to pay of an amount of **Rs. 9,67,08,353/-** as **Total Plan Amount** against the total admitted claim of Rs. 3,13,60,10,637.16/- and the total amount claimed of Rs. 3,21,71,15,273.58/-. CIRP cost has proposed to be paid in full as per actual. Thus, the "hair cut" in respect of amount admitted by the RP is **97%.** 

95. We have noted that the RP appointed a Transactional Auditor to carry out the transaction audit of the corporate debtor under Section 43, 45, 50, 66 of the Code for the period of 21.11.2020 to 21.11.2022. The Transactional Auditor has submitted report on 10.03.2023 observing that there are no avoidance transactions in the corporate debtor company. However, the look back period for avoidance transactions under Sections 43, 45 and 50 is two years, but there is no limit on look back period for fraudulent transactions under Section 66 of the I&B Code.

96. Under similar circumstances, in the matter of **Rachna** Jhunjhunwala, Resolution Professional of Power Max (India) Pvt. Ltd. in I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 2/KB/2024 in Company Petition No. 104/KB/2022, decided on 17.05.2024, reported in MANU/NC/2452/2024, we held that:



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*"73. <u>The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 casts huge</u> <u>responsibilities on the Resolution professional to deal with</u> <u>avoidance transactions under Sections 43, 45, 50 and 66</u> <u>during the corporate insolvency resolution process of a</u> <u>corporate debtor</u>. In fact, the Code contemplates that it is the Resolution Professional alone who would form an opinion and determine avoidance transactions and take it up with the Adjudicating Authority by way of application for appropriate orders.* 

74. The members of the committee of creditors who participate in the CIR Process neither can devote their time on a full-time basis nor equipped to form an opinion and determine the avoidance transactions in a corporate debtor undergoing CIRP/ liquidation.

75. If the Resolution Professional misses to determine the avoidance transactions and fail to file applications before the Adjudicating Authority, then no way diverted or syphoned of funds if any can be got back and made available for distribution and insolvency resolution of the corporate debtor.

76. In the present case, we find that total admitted claims is of Rs. 48.36 Crore, the liquidation value is Rs. 4.08 Crore and the value of the Resolution Plan is of Rs. 4.01 Crore, leading to a "haircut" of about 92%.

77. It is the duty of the Resolution Professional to bring it to the notice of the CoC, as to where the borrowed funds have gone, particularly in case where the "haircut" is as high as 92% like in the present case.

78. We have noted that during the CIR Process, the RP has appointed a transactional auditor who has examined only two financials' years i.e., 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, and unaudited Trial Balance of 2022-2023, and came to conclusion that there are no avoidance transactions. <u>While</u> the look back period for fraudulent transactions



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<u>under Sections 43, 45 and 50 is two years and there</u> <u>is no limit on look back period for fraudulent</u> <u>transactions under Section 66 of the I&B Code.</u>

79. Unless the audit period covers a period beyond two years, at least from the period when the corporate debtor starting making losses / default in payment of debts, we are of the view that no fraudulent transactions can meaningfully be found or unearthed. Further, the transactional audit report merely reports changes in various accounts when compared to the previous year.

80. Hence, we direct the Resolution Professional to examine the last 6 years Financial Statements, IT Returns, GST Returns, cash flow and fund flow statements in detail and place it before the CoC of the Corporate Debtor with appropriate justification and the basis for forming opinion that there were no avoidance transactions, in the form of a report. A copy of the said report also be filed with this Adjudicating Authority.

81. The RP shall comply with the direction within a period of four weeks from the date of pronouncement of the order. This direction shall not affect the approval of the Resolution Plan."

## (Emphasis Added)

97. Thus, we direct the RP to examine the last 10 years Financial Statements, IT Returns, GST Returns, cash flow and fund flow statements in detail and place it before the CoC of the Corporate Debtor with appropriate justification and basis for forming an opinion that there were no avoidance transactions, in the form of a report. If required, forensic auditor can also be appointed by the RP. The fees for RP for this assignment and the appointment of forensic



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auditor shall be borne by financial creditors. A copy of the said report also be filed with this Adjudicating Authority.

98. Further, we direct the R2 and R3 to the I.A. (IB) No. 72/KB/2023, to cooperate with the RP by providing the all the documents sought for by the RP and the documents mentioned above within a weeks' time. Persistent non-cooperation albeit this order shall be visited with penalty. In view of this direction, I.A. (IB) No. 72/KB/2023 is disposed of.

99. <u>We are not discharging the Resolution Professional as</u> <u>he will comply with the direction as above to determine PUFE</u> <u>transactions of the corporate debtor.</u>

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

101. 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.



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102. In terms of the view above, the interlocutory application being **I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2025** shall stand **disposed of** accordingly.

## TO SUMMARIZE:

103. **I.A. (IB) No. 72/KB/2023** is **allowed and disposed of.** Direction is given to the Respondents to cooperate the RP by providing all the documents as asked for within a week's time and the RP shall examine the same and determine PUFE transactions and furnish a report time to time before this Adjudicating Authority.

# 104. I.A. (IB) (Plan) No. 7/KB/2025 is allowed and disposed of.

105. Main company petition be listed on 22/04/2025, for progress report.

106. Certified copy of the orders, if applied for with the Registry, be supplied to the parties upon compliance with all requisite formalities.

## Cmde. Siddharth Mishra Member (Technical)

Bidisha Banerjee Member (Judicial)

## This Order is signed on 24th Day of March 2025.

Bose, R. K. [LRA]