

**IN THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
NEW DELHI
BENCH-VI**

IB-204/(ND)/2021

Section: Under Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and Rule 4 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority), Rules, 2016.

In the matter of:

Union Bank of India

Through its Chief Manager
Union Bank of India,
Stressed Assets
Management Vertical Branch,
M-93 Connaught Place,
New Delhi - 110001

Applicant/Financial Creditor

Versus

M/s Supertech Limited

Registered Office At:
1114, Hemkunt Chambers,
11th Floor, 89, Nehru Place,
New Delhi- 110019

...Respondent/ Corporate Debtor

Coram:

SHRI. P.S.N. PRASAD, Hon'ble Member (Judicial)

SHRI. RAHUL BHATNAGAR, Hon'ble Member (Technical)

Counsel for Petitioner/Financial Creditor: Adv. Alok Kumar

Counsel for Respondent/Corporate Debtor: Adv. Kanishk Khetan

ORDER

**Per SHRI. P.S.N PRASAD, MEMBER (JUDICIAL) &
SHRI.RAHUL BHATNAGAR, MEMBER (TECHNICAL)**

Date:25.03.2022

1. This is an application filed by Union of India to initiate corporate insolvency resolution process ("CIRP") against M/s Supertech Ltd. under Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 ("the Code") for the alleged default on the part of the Respondent in settling an amount of Rs. 431,92,53,302 (Four Hundred Thirty One Crore Ninety Two Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Two Rupees only) as on 31.01.2021. The details of transactions leading to



the filing of this application as averred by the Applicant are as follows:

- That the Corporate Debtor approached various financial institutions in 2013 including the Financial Creditor, to avail a credit facility of Rs. 350 Crores from a consortium of banks; out of which the exposure of the Financial Creditor i.e. the Lead Bank was Rs. 150 Crores. The purpose of availing the said loan amount was to part finance the development of the Corporate Debtor's Project namely Eco Village II located at Group Housing Plot No. GH-01, Sector 16B, Greater Noida (West), Uttar Pradesh at an estimated project cost of Rs. 1106.45 Crores.
- That vide sanction letter dated 19.10.2013 and revised letter dated 16.12.2013, the Respondent was granted credit facility of Rs. 150 Crores for the development of Eco Village II Project.
- The in pursuance to the loan agreement which was executed between the Applicant along with other Banks and the Respondent, the Respondent had deposited the title deeds of the property bearing address - Group Housing



Plot No. GH-01, Sector-16B, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh for creating an equitable mortgage on the said property vide Memorandum of Deposit of Title Deeds dated 30.12.2013.

- That the Corporate Debtor again approached the Financial Creditor and Bank of Baroda (formerly known as Vijaya Bank) for part financing the construction of Phase-II of this Project. The Financial Creditor and Bank of Baroda agreed to extend the second credit facility for Rs. 200 Crores to the Respondent out of which the total exposure of the Financial Creditor was Rs. 100 Crore. The credit facilities were granted to the Respondent by the Applicant vide sanction letter dated 21.11.2015 which was revalidated vide sanction letter dated 11.08.2016. The Respondent, Applicant and Bank of Baroda entered into a Construction Facility Agreement dated 07.09.2016. In order to secure the credit facility from the Applicant and Bank of Baroda, the Corporate Debtor delivered the Title Deeds of the Subject Property for creation of mortgage on pari-passu basis.
- That the Corporate Debtor was under an obligation to make timely repayment towards the Principal and the Interest



thereon within the stipulated period to the Financial Creditor, without any delay, demur or protest. However, despite various reminders and requests made by the Financial Creditor, the Corporate Debtor failed to honor its obligation and failed to make payment of the outstanding amount due to the Applicant Bank.

- That the Loan Account of the Respondent maintained by the Applicant in respect of the Credit Facilities became highly irregular and even after repeated requests by the Applicant, the Respondent failed to regularize both of its accounts with the Applicant. The repeated defaults in payment of principal amount or the interest component by the Respondent resulted in the classification of both Loan Accounts of the Respondent as Non-Performing Asset (NPA).
- That notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act dated 24.04.2019 (Term Loan-I) and 23.04.2019 (Term loan- II) was sent to Respondent but the Respondent not only failed to repay the outstanding debt but also abstained from making any effort for the same



2. Consequent to the notice issued by this Tribunal, the Respondent filed its reply in which the following contentions were made:

- That the instant petition has been filed without proper authority. The Application is filed by the Financial Creditor through an officer/employee, namely Mr. Shakti Singh Yadav, Chief Manager of the Applicant. However, Mr. Shakti Singh Yadav is not authorized to file such petition.
- That the Form 1 filed by the Applicant is incomplete and not in accordance with the provisions of the IBC particularly Section 7 and Section 215 of the IBC.
- That as per Article IV, Clause 4.4, sub-clause (g) of the Inter Creditor Agreement, the lenders are restricted to initiate any action for winding up, liquidation, bankruptcy, insolvency or dissolution of borrower before following the procedure as prescribed under Clause 4.3 of the Inter-creditor Agreement. Therefore, the instant Application under Section 7 of the IBC for initiating Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process before following the procedure as prescribed under Clause 4.3 of Inter



Creditor Agreement is premature and is liable to be dismissed on this ground alone.

- That the NPA classification is contrary to guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India.
- That the Statement of Account as filed by the Applicant Bank is not in accordance with the mandatory requirement of law. That the Applicant has failed to annex copy of the Certificate required under Section 2(a) of the Bankers Book Evidence Act, 1891 which is a mandatory requirement Under Column 7 of Part V of FORM -1.
- That the Applicant has failed to furnish the calculation chart and thereby the claim of the Applicant is unsubstantiated, exorbitant and thus, the same is liable to be rejected at the outset.

3. Pursuant to the Respondent's reply, the applicant has filed its Rejoinder in which the following contentions were made:

- That Sh. Shakti Yadav has been given general authorisation by the Bank with respect to all the business and affairs of the Bank, including commencement of legal proceedings before any court or tribunal with respect to any demand



and filing of all necessary applications in this regard vide Power of Attorney dated 12.11.2013.

- That Mr. Hitesh Goyal, the proposed Interim Resolution Professional has given the valid and appropriate consent form.
- That under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, the only criteria that is required to be satisfied is "existence of debt and its default in repayment by corporate debtor" and the same has existed since July, 2019 and the same is clearly evident from Statement of Account of the Respondent filed by the Applicant along with Petition under Section 7 of the Code along with Certificate under 2A of the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891.
- That the account was classified as NPA after the completion of 90 days.
- That the Corporate Debtor has not paid its debt since July 2019. The Statement of Account filed by the Applicant is well in accordance with Section 2A of the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891.



- That the Claim Amount of the Applicant/Petitioner is completely substantiated by its Statement of Account and Balance Confirmation filed along with filing of Claim Form

4. We have gone through the documents filed by both the parties and heard the arguments made by the counsels. The applicant has claimed the default on part of the Respondent for the Loan amount of Rs. 431,92,53,302 (Four Hundred Thirty One Crore Ninety Two Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Two Rupees only) as on 31.01.2021.
5. From the daily order dated 17.03.2022, it is clear that the Counsel for the Corporate Debtor has submitted that the One Time Settlement proposal submitted by the Corporate Debtor has not been accepted by the Financial Creditor. The counsel for the Corporate Debtor has therefore admitted the debt and default.
6. Mere plain reading of the provision under section 7 of IBC and decision (supra) shows that in order to initiate CIRP under Section 7 the applicant is required to establish that there is a



financial debt and that a default has been committed in respect of that financial debt.

7. In the light of the aforesaid facts, we find that the documents submitted by the Financial Creditor and the Corporate Debtor clearly substantiate the Financial Creditor's claim that the Corporate Debtor has indebted and defaulted the repayment of loan amount.
8. In light of the above discussion, after giving careful consideration to the entire matter, hearing the arguments of the parties and upon appreciation of the documents placed on record to substantiate the claim, this Tribunal **admits** this petition and initiates CIRP on the Corporate Debtor with immediate effect.
9. Sub-section (3) (b) of Section 7 mandates the financial creditor to furnish the name of an Interim Resolution Professional. In compliance thereof the applicant has proposed the name of Mr. Hitesh Goel for appointment as Interim Resolution Professional having registration number IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P-01405/2018-2019/12224. Mr. Hitesh Goel has agreed to accept the appointment as the interim resolution professional and has



signed a communication in Form 2 in terms of Rule 9(1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016. There is a declaration made by him that no disciplinary proceedings are pending against him in Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India or elsewhere. Accordingly, it is seen that the requirement of Section 7 (3) (b) of the Code has been satisfied.

10. It is thus seen that the *requirement of sub-section 5 (a) of Section 7 of the code* stands satisfied as default has occurred, the present application filed under Section 7 is complete, and as no disciplinary proceeding against the proposed IRP is pending.

11. It is pertinent to mention here that the Code requires the adjudicating authority to only ascertain and record satisfaction in a summary adjudication as to the occurrence of default before admitting the application. The material on record clearly goes to show that respondent had availed the credit facilities and has committed default in repayment of the outstanding loan amount.



12. We are satisfied that the present application is complete in all respects and the applicant financial creditor is entitled to claim its outstanding financial debt from the corporate debtor and that there has been default in payment of the financial debt.
13. As a sequel to the above discussion and in terms of Section 7 (5) (a) of the Code, the present application is admitted.
14. Mr. Hitesh Goel, having Registration No. IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P-01405/2018-2019/12224 is appointed as an Interim Resolution Professional.
15. In pursuance of Section 13 (2) of the Code, we direct that public announcement shall be made by the Interim Resolution Professional immediately (3 days as prescribed by Explanation to Regulation 6(1) of the IBBI Regulations, 2016) with regard to admission of this application under Section 7 of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
16. We also declare moratorium in terms of Section 14 of the Code. The necessary consequences of imposing the moratorium flows from the provisions of Section 14 (1) (a), (b), (c) & (d) of the Code. Thus, the following prohibitions are imposed:



“(a) the institution of suits or continuation of pending suits or proceedings against the corporate debtor including execution of any judgment, decree or order in any court of law, tribunal, arbitration panel or other authority;

(b) transferring, encumbering, alienating or disposing of by the corporate debtor any of its assets or any legal right or beneficial interest therein;

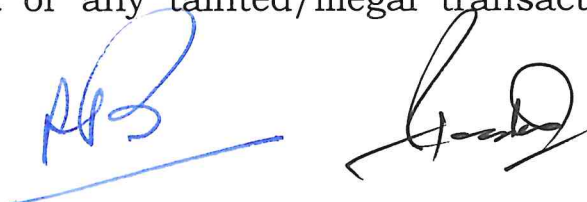
(c) any action to foreclose, recover or enforce any security interest created by the corporate debtor in respect of its property including any action under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002;

(d) the recovery of any property by an owner or lessor where such property is occupied by or in the possession of the corporate debtor.

17. It is made clear that the provisions of moratorium shall not apply to transactions which might be notified by the Central Government or the supply of the essential goods or services to

the Corporate Debtor as may be specified, are not to be terminated or suspended or interrupted during the moratorium period. In addition, as per the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2018 which has come into force w.e.f. 06.06.2018, the provisions of moratorium shall not apply to the surety in a contract of guarantee to the corporate debtor in terms of Section 14 (3) (b) of the Code.

18. The Interim Resolution Professional shall perform all his functions contemplated, inter-alia, by Sections 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21 of the Code and transact proceedings with utmost dedication, honesty and strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Code, Rules and Regulations. It is further made clear that all the personnel connected with the Corporate Debtor, its promoters or any other person associated with the Management of the Corporate Debtor are under legal obligation under Section 19 of the Code to extend every assistance and cooperation to the Interim Resolution Professional as may be required by him in managing the day to day affairs of the 'Corporate Debtor'. In case there is any violation committed by the ex-management or any tainted/illegal transaction by ex-




directors or anyone else, the Interim Resolution Professional would be at liberty to make appropriate application to this Tribunal with a prayer for passing an appropriate order. The Interim Resolution Professional shall be under duty to protect and preserve the value of the property of the 'Corporate Debtor' as a part of its obligation imposed by Section 20 of the Code and perform all his functions strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Code, Rules and Regulations.

19. The office is directed to communicate a copy of the order to the Financial Creditor, the Corporate Debtor, the Interim Resolution Professional and the Registrar of Companies, NCT of Delhi & Haryana at the earliest possible but not later than seven days from today. The Registrar of Companies shall update its website by updating the status of 'Corporate Debtor' and specific mention regarding admission of this petition must be notified to the public at large.


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(SHRI. RAHUL BHATNAGAR)

MEMBER (TECHNICAL)


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(SHRI. P.S.N. PRASAD)

MEMBER (JUDICIAL)