#### Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority,

# 1/14, 2nd Floor, Silver Jubilee Block, Unity Building Backside, CSI Compound, 3rd Cross, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUTHORITY BEFORE BENCH 6

#### Dated 28th OCTOBER 2022

#### PRESIDED BY HON'BLE MEMBER SMT.NEELMANI N RAJU

COMPLAINT NO.: CMP/220329/0009281

COMPLAINANTS.....

MR. BISWADIP CHAKRABORTY & MRS. SANTU SAIKIA FIRST FLOOR, HOUSE NO.2 FIRST CROSS, KODIHALLI BANGALORE-560008.

Vs

RESPONDENT.....

SHRIRAM PROPERTIES PVT LTD 40/43, 8<sup>TH</sup> MAIN, 4<sup>TH</sup> CROSS SADASHIVA NAGAR BANGALORE-560080.

SHRIPROP DWELLERS PRIVATE LTD 40/43, 8<sup>TH</sup> MAIN, 4<sup>TH</sup> CROSS RMV Extension SADASHIVA NAGAR BANGALORE-560080.

(By Mr.Joseph Anthony, Advocate & others, JSM Law Partners)

JUDGEMENT

1. This complaint is filed under section 31 of the RERA Act against the project "SHRIRAM SUMMIT" developed by **SHRIRAM PROPERTIES PVT LTD** on Sy.No.80/1, 2, 3, 4, 84/6 & 7, 85/2, 87/2, 89/1 & 2, 121/1, 2, 3, Veerasandra Village & Hebbagodi Village, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban-562107 for the relief of interest on delay.

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2. This project has been registered under RERA bearing Registration No.PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/171015/001121 valid till 31/12/2019. The Authority has extended its registration for a further period of 12 months i.e. till 31/12/2020. The project was extended due to Covid-19 for a period of 9 months till 30/09/2021.

#### Brief facts of the complaint are as under:-

- 3. The complainants had purchased an apartment in the project of respondent and entered into an agreement of sale on 28/07/2018 and has paid an amount of Rs.49,75,992/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Two only) to the respondent till date. respondent was supposed to hand over the possession of the flat to the complainants by 31/12/2019. The Occupancy Certificate was obtained from BDA on 7/5/2022 and the actual possession of the flat was given to the complainants on 01/08/2022 the date on which the Sale Deed was registered. The respondent contends that the delay was due to NGT/SC issue, but it was never informed to the complainants. The issue was informed to the complainants only on 27th December 2019, as such, the respondent failed to deliver the possession of the flat on time as agreed. The complainants were compelled to live in a rented house paying huge rent and EMI all through the delayed years. Hence, the respondent is liable to pay interest on delay period.
- 4. After registration of the complaint, in pursuance of the notice, the respondent has appeared before the Authority through its counsel and has filed statement of objections as under:
- 5. The Respondent contends that the complainants are not entitled for seeking relief sought in light of the Agreement of Sale dated 28/07/2018 and submits that the delay in completion of the project was attributed to the

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pending litigations against the respondent before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A.No.222/2014 as well as before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No.5016/2016 benches regarding maintenance of buffer zones where the apartment allotted to complainants in respect of the project was situated and on conclusion of the cases in Hon'ble NGT and Hon'ble Supreme Court, the construction proceeded. The respondent submits that on receipt of the Occupancy Certificate on 7/5/2022, the same was informed to the complainants on 30/5/2022.

6. The respondent submits that the project has not been completed within stipulated time due to force majeure events such as, scarcity of raw materials, non-availability of skilled labours, transport disruption or such reasons beyond the control of the respondent, and the respondent cannot be held liable to compensate the complainant under section 18(1) of RERA In addition COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown have also Act. contributed significantly to the obstacles faced by the respondent. respondent contends that there is no willful delay or default by the respondent in handing over the possession of the apartment to the complainants and continues to remain committed to delivering the possession to its customers. The respondent denies the allegations of the complainants and submits that the delay has been caused as a result of factors beyond the control of the respondent such as the ruling of the NGT and force majeure of the pandemic. The respondent further submits that the impact of the ruling of the NGT, New Delhi was common knowledge as the same had been extensively published in the media and the newspapers as the same was widely covered in public knowledge and prays not to grant the relief sought by the complainants in the interest of justice and equity.

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- 7. In support of their defence, the respondent has submitted copies of the Occupancy Certificate dtd 7/5/2022, Agreement for Sale dated 28/7/2018, Order dated 4/5/2016 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A.No.222/2014, Order dated 5/3/2019 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No.5016/2016, Sanctioned Plan demonstrating the location of the project vis-à-vis the tertiary nala flowing through, email communication with complainants, Sale Deed dated 01/08/2022, RERA registration certificate, and memo of calculation as on 13/10/2022.
- 8. In support of their claim, the complainants have produced documents such as copies of Agreement of Sale, Statement of Account issued by the respondent regarding payments received from the complainants and memo of calculation as on 29/6/2022.
- 9. Heard arguments of both sides.
- 10. On the above averments, the following points would arise for my consideration:-
  - 1. Whether the complainants are entitled for the relief claimed?
  - 2. What order?
- 11. My answer to the above points are as under:-
  - 1. In the Affirmative.
  - 2. As per final order for the following

#### REASONS

12. **My answer to Point No.1:-** From the materials placed on record, it is apparent that inspite of entering into an agreement for sale to handover the apartment within 31/12/2019, the respondent failed to abide by the terms of the agreement and not handed over the possession of the apartment to the complainants till 01/08/2022.

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- 13. During the process of the hearing the Authority directed the respondent to furnish information regarding the date of detailed sanctioned plan, date of start of NGT litigation, date of order of Hon'ble NGT/Supreme Court, date of sale of apartment to the complainants, whether the complainants/customers were kept informed about the litigation existing at the time of sale of agreement, whether they had kept the RERA Authority informed about this litigation at the time of registration.
- The respondent have not kept the RERA Authority informed about the 14. Registration nor had intimated litigation the time of complainants/customers about the ongoing dispute despite knowing the fact that the Hon'ble NGT order could delay their project. At the time of registration in RERA, the respondent could have taken longer time for completion or could have changed their building plan. The respondent's contention that the ruling of the NGT, New Delhi had been extensively published in the media and newspapers and that the buyer ought to have been aware about the ruling of the NGT, New Delhi is not acceptable. onus is on the promoter to open all their cards at the time of sales and not to keep the customers in dark.
- 15. The complainants vide their memo of calculation as on 29/6/2022 have claimed an amount of Rs.10,65,338/- as delay period interest calculated from 31/12/2019 to 29/06/2022. The respondent vide his memo of calculation as on 12/10/2022 has submitted that the delay period interest payable to the complainants is Rs.8,85,082/- (calculated from 31/12/2019 till 7/5/2022) which is not acceptable, as the cut-off date would be the date on which the Sale Deed was registered. There is no

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dispute over the principal amount paid and received by both the parties. Having regard to all these aspects, this Authority concludes that the complainants are entitled for delay period interest from 31/12/2019 to 01/08/2022.

16. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the respondent to pay interest on delay as determined as under

	Payment Deta	ils	
S.NO	ТҮРЕ	AMOUNT	DATE
1	TOTAL PAYMENT TILL POSSESSION	42,49,728	31-12-2019
2	SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT 1	4,11,264	15-03-2021
. 3	SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT 2	3,15,000	05-01-2022
4	TOTAL PRINCIPLE AMOUNT	49,75,992	

		Inter	est Calcula	tion		
S.NO	FROM DATE	TO DATE	NO. OF	MCLR	INTEREST	INTEREST
	INTEREST CAL	CULATION FOR A	DAYS MOUNT PA	RATE ID TILL PO	RATE SSESSION 4,249,7	728
1	31-12-2019	31-01-2020	31	8.2	10.2 as on 10-12-2019	36,815
2	31-01-2020	29-02-2020	29	8.2	10.2 as on 10-01-2020	34,440
3	29-02-2020	29-03-2020	29	8.15	10.15 as on 10-02-2020	34,271
4	29-03-2020	29-04-2020	31	8.05	10.05 as on 10-03-2020	36,274
5	29-04-2020	29-05-2020	30	7.7	9.7 as on 10-04-2020	33,881

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6	29-05-2020	29-06-2020	31	7.55	9.55 as on 10-05-2020	34,469
7	29-06-2020	29-07-2020	30	7.3	9.3 as on 10-06-2020	32,484
8	29-07-2020	29-08-2020	31	7.3	9.3 as on 10-07-2020	33,567
9	29-08-2020	29-09-2020	31	7.3	9.3 as on 10-08-2020	33,567
10	29-09-2020	29-10-2020	30	7.3	9.3 as on 10-09-2020	32,484
11	29-10-2020	29-11-2020	31	7.3	9.3 as on 10-10-2020	33,567
12	29-11-2020	29-12-2020	30	7.3	9.3 as on 10-11-2020	32,484
13	29-12-2020	29-01-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 10-12-2020	33,567
14	29-01-2021	28-02-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 10-01-2021	32,484
15	28-02-2021	28-03-2021	28	7.3	9.3 as on 10-02-2021	30,318
16	28-03-2021	28-04-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 10-03-2021	33,567
17	28-04-2021	28-05-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 10-04-2021	32,484
18	28-05-2021	28-06-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-05-2021	33,567
19	28-06-2021	28-07-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-06-2021	32,484
20	28-07-2021	28-08-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-07-2021	33,567



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21	28-08-2021	28-09-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-08-2021	33,567
22	28-09-2021	28-10-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-09-2021	32,484
23	28-10-2021	28-11-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-10-2021	33,567
24	28-11-2021	28-12-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-11-2021	32,484
25	28-12-2021	28-01-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on	33,567
					15-12-2021	
26	28-01-2022	28-02-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-01-2022	33,567
27	28-02-2022	28-03-2022	28	7.3	9.3 as on 15-02-2022	30,318
28	28-03-2022	28-04-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-03-2022	33,567
29	28-04-2022	28-05-2022	30	7.4	9.4 as on 15-04-2022	32,833
30	28-05-2022	28-06-2022	31	7.5	9.5 as on 15-05-2022	34,288
31	28-06-2022	29-06-2022	1	7.7	9.7 as on	1,129
					15-06-2022	
	INTEREST (	ALCULATION FO	R 1 SUBSEQ	UENT PAY	MENT 411.264	
1	15-03-2021	15-04-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 10-03-2021	3,248
2	15-04-2021	15-05-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 10-04-2021	3,143
3	15-05-2021	15-06-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-05-2021	3,248
4	15-06-2021	15-07-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-06-2021	3,143



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5	15-07-2021	15-08-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-07-2021	3,248
6	15-08-2021	15-09-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-08-2021	3,248
7	15-09-2021	15-10-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-09-2021	3,143
8	15-10-2021	15-11-2021	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-10-2021	3,248
9	15-11-2021	15-12-2021	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-11-2021	3,143
10	15-12-2021	15-01-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-12-2021	3,248
11	15-01-2022	15-02-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-01-2022	3,248
12	15-02-2022	15-03-2022	28	7.3	9.3 as on 15-02-2022	2,934
13	15-03-2022	15-04-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-03-2022	3,248
14	15-04-2022	15-05-2022	30	7.4	9.4 as on 15-04-2022	3,177
15	15-05-2022	15-06-2022	31	7.5	9.5 as on 15-05-2022	3,318
16	15-06-2022	29-06-2022	14	7.7	9.7 as on 15-06-2022	1,530
	INTEREST	CALCULATION FO	R 2 SUBSE	QUENT PA	YMENT 315,000	
1	05-01-2022	05-02-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-12-2021	2,488
2	05-02-2022	05-03-2022	28	7.3	9.3 as on 15-01-2022	2,247
3	05-03-2022	05-04-2022	31	7.3	9.3 as on 15-02-2022	2,488



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4	05-04-2022	05-05-2022	30	7.3	9.3 as on 15-03-2022	2,407
5	05-05-2022	05-06-2022	31	7.4	9.4 as on 15-04-2022	2,514
6	05-06-2022	29-06-2022	24	7.5	9.5 as on 15-05-2022	1,967
					TOTAL DELAYED	10,65,33
		· AAAA P			INTEREST as on 29/06/2022	

- 17. Accordingly, the point raised above is answered in the Affirmative.
- 18. **My answer to Point No.2**:- In view of the above discussion, I proceed to pass the following order –

#### ORDER

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 31 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, the complaint bearing No.CMP/220329/0009281 is hereby allowed. Respondent is directed to pay a sum of Rs.10,65,338/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Eight only) towards delay period interest to the complainants within 60 days from the date of this order, calculated at MCLR + 2% from 31/12/2019 till 29/06/2022. The interest due from 30/06/2022 till 01/08/2022 will be calculated likewise and paid to the complainants. The complainants are at liberty to initiate action for recovery in accordance with law if the respondent fails to pay the amount as per the order of this Authority.

(Neelmani N Raju) Member-2, K-RERA