

REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (RERA), BIHAR

Before the Full Bench of Mr. Naveen Verma, Chairman, Mr. R.B. Sinha, Member
and Mrs. Nupur Banerjee, Member

Case No. CC/1210/2020

Mrs. Pratima Devi **Complainant**
Vs.

M/s Shinecity Infra Project Pvt. Ltd. **Respondent**

Project: Swargaya Bhoomi Phase 2

ORDER

28.06.2021

03.12.2021

This matter was last heard along with the batch cases before the Hon'ble Full Bench on 28.06.2021.

The complainant, Mrs. Pratima Devi booked plot no. C- 170 in July 2017 the project Swargaya Bhoomi Phase 2 for which she claims that she paid Rs. 1,75,000/- in 7 installments on different dates amounting Rs. 10,000/-, Rs. 30,000/-, Rs. 20,000/-, Rs. 30,000/-, Rs. 15,000/-, Rs. 65,000/-, Rs. 5000 via cheque bearing no. 344259, 344261, 344264, 344264, 081910, 082311, 081911 respectively. Since respondent has not done any work till date, the complainant sought relief for refund of amount paid to the respondent along with interest at rate of 18% compound interest. She has filed copy of payment details and money receipts no. R838102, R910981, R890368, R962711, R1040572, R1103448 issued on 13.07.2017, 25.10.2017, 25.10.2017, 08.01.2018, 05.05.2018 07.08.2018 respectively. As per the payment details, the complainant has paid Rs. 30,000/- via cheque bearing no. 344261 on 18.08.2017 but receipt of the same has not been submitted.

The Authority notes that the respondent has violated Section 3 of RERA Act, 2016 as the respondent was continuously advertising, marketing, booking, selling apartments/plots without registering the real estate project with RERA for which Suo Moto proceeding is also going on against the respondent company. It is observed that the respondent company has not applied for RERA registration as yet.

Perused the records, no rejoinder has been filed by the respondent. However, during the course of hearing the Authority noted that the Director, Asif Nasim and additional Director, Rashid Nasim have fled to Dubai.

During the course of hearing it was further observed that the respondent never appeared before the Bench, due to which an interim order was passed on 24.02.2021, directing to freeze all the bank accounts of the respondents and further directed the IG registration not to register any apartment/plots of the aforesaid project and the matter was further referred to Economic Offence Wing of Bihar Police.

On 07.06.2021 the Authority directed the complainant to lodge FIR against the respondent, if desirous or to send the copy of FIR, if the FIR has already been lodged. Mrs. Pratima Devi, complainant had lodged FIR against the respondent, the copy of the same was also sent to the Authority and further to DGP Patna, Bihar vide letter no: - 243 dated 29.06.2021. A formal reference to UP RERA was also made by the Secretary of RERA, Bihar, to obtain the details of the respondent company. As per Section 32 (j) of RERA Act, 2016, a recommendation was made to State Government for constitution of a multi-disciplinary team consisting of various experts from forensic audit/ police/ economic offence/ finance to investigate the working of the respondent company.

On 28.06.2021, Adv. B.N. Singh who represented Mr. Upadhya Chandra Abhishek, who was the then authorized signatory of the respondent company but later resigned from the company in 2019, informed the Authority that there are total 10 projects of the respondent company running in the state. Mr. Upadhya Chandra Abhishek was directed by the Authority to submit all the details about the company, details of land or any other property of the Shine City Group in Bihar on affidavit to assist RERA but it is noted that nothing has been filed on behalf of Mr. Upadhya Chandra Abhishek till date. The Authority has also requested the DGP, Bihar to constitute a SIT for a probe in the matter.

On the request made by the Authority, the EOW vide letter no: - 5941 dated 23.08.2021 requested the SSP, Patna to look into the matter and take necessary action against the respondent company and connected persons. The State Government (OSD to the Chief Secretary) vide letter 127 dated

26.10.2021 has also informed the Authority that a Multi-Disciplinary Team under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) has also been constituted to inquire about functioning of the respondent company.

Thus, in the view of aforementioned facts, the Authority directs the Respondent Company and their Directors to refund the principal amount to the complainant along with interest at the rate of Marginal cost of lending rate (MCLR) as applicable for three years or more plus Two percent from the date of deposit to the date of refund within sixty days of issue of this order. Bench further imposes penalty of Rs. 25,000/- (Twenty five thousand only) on the respondent directors for non-appearance.

Sd/-

Naveen Verma
(Chairman)

Sd/-

R B Sinha
(Member)

Sd/-

Nupur Banerjee
(Member)