

BEFORE THE HARYANA REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY, GURUGRAM

Date of decision: 28.05.2025

Nan	ne of the Builder	Vatika Limited "Vatika India Next City Centre", Sector 83, Gurugram			
I	Project Name				
Sr. No.	Case No.	Case title	APPEARANCE		
1.	CR/5107/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)		
2.	CR/5166/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)		
3.	CR/5161/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)		
4.	CR/5104/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)		
5.	CR/5164/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)		
6.	CR/5162/2023	Tek Chand Narula	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant)		

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		V/s Vatika Limited	Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)
7.	CR/5163/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)
8.	CR/5106/2023	Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited	Shriya Takkar, Advocate (Complainant) Ankur Berry, Advocate (Respondent)

CORAM:

Shri Ashok Sangwan

Member

ORDER

- 1. This order shall dispose of all the 8 complaints titled as above, filed before this authority in Form CRA under Section 31 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (hereinafter referred as "the Act") read with Rule 28 of the Haryana Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Rules, 2017 (hereinafter referred as "the rules") for violation of Section 11(4)(a) of the Act wherein it is inter alia prescribed that the promoter shall be responsible for all its obligations, responsibilities and functions to the allottees as per the agreement for sale executed inter se between parties.
- The core issues emanating from them are similar in nature and the complainant(s) in the above referred matters are allottees of the projects, namely, 'VATIKA INDIA NEXT CITY CENTRE' being developed by the same respondent promoter i.e., M/s Vatika Ltd.

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3. The details of the complaints, reply to status, unit no., date of agreement, and allotment, due date of possession, offer of possession and relief sought are given in the table below:

Project Name and Location	"India Next City Centre", Sector 83, Vatika India Next, Gurugram, Haryana.	
Nature of the project	Commercial complex	
Area of the project	10.72 acres	
DTCP License no.	122 of 2008 dated 14.06.2008 Valid up to 13.06.2018	
RERA registered or not	Not registered	
Possession clause 2 of BBA	Clause 10 - Force Majeure "Subject to the aforesaid and subject to time! payment by the buyer of sale price, stamp duty an other charges due and payable according to the payment plan applicable to him or as demanded by the developer, the Developer contemplates to complete construction of the said Commercia Unit within 48 months of execution of the Agreement."	
Assured return clause HA GUR	Clause 12. Assured Return and Leasing Arrangement "Since the Buyer has paid the full basic sal- consideration for the said Commercial Unit upon signing of this Agreement and has also requested for putting the same on lease in combination with other adjoining units/spaces of other owners after the said Building is ready for occupation and use, the Developer has agreed to pay Rs. 65 (Rupee Sixty-five only) per sq. ft. super area of the said Commercial Unit per month by way of assured return to the Buyer from the date of execution of this agreement till the completion of construction of the said Building. The Buyer hereby gives full authority and powers to the Developer to put the said Commercial Unit if combination with other adjoining commercial unit of other owners, on lease, for and on behalf of the Buyer, as and when the said Building/ said Commercial Unit is ready and fit for occupation. The Buyer has clearly understood the general risk involved in giving any premises on lease to this parties and has undertaken to bear the said risk exclusively without any liability whatsoever on the	

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HARERA GURUGRAM	Complaint no. 5107 of 2023 and 7 Ors.
	part of the Developer or the Confirming Party. It is further agreed that: (i) The Developer will pay to the Buyer Rs. 65 (Rupees Sixty-five) per sq. ft. super area of the said Commercial Unit as committed return for upto three years from the date of completion of construction of the said Building or till the said Commercial Unit is put on lease, whichever is earlier. After the said Commercial Unit is put on lease in the above manner, then payment of the aforesaid committed return will come to an end and the Buyer will start receiving lease rental in respect of the said Commercial Unit in accordance with the lease document as may be executed and as described hereinafter" (Emphasis supplied)
Occupation certificate	Not obtained
Offer of possession	Not offered

Sr. No.	Complaint No., Case Title, and Date of filing of complaint	Unit no, & size	Date of execution of BBA	Total Sale Consideration / Total Amount paid by the complainant	Offer of possession/AR paid to complainant
1.	CR/5107/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd. DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024	213, Block E, 2 nd floor admeasuri ng 500 sq. ft. (page 32 of complaint)	17.03.2012 (page 30 of complaint)	TSC- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint) AP- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint)	Not Offered/ Rs.12,84,310.3 4 till October, 2018 (Assured returns sheet at page no. 47 of reply)
2.	CR/5166/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd.		(page 30 of complaint)	Rs.20,00,000/-	2018 (Assured returns sheet

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	DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024				
3.	CR/5161/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd. DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024	204, Block E, 2 nd floor admeasuri ng 500 sq. ft. (page 32 of complaint)	17.04.2012 (page 30 of complaint)	TSC- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint) AP- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint)	Not Offered/ Rs.12,84,310.3 4 till October, 2018 (Assured returns sheet at page no. 47 of reply)
4.	CR/5104/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd.	212, Block E, 2 nd floor admeasuri ng 500 sq. ft. (page 32 of complaint)	14.03.2012 (page 30 of complaint)	TSC- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint) AP- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint)	Not Offered/ Rs.12,84,310.3 4 till October, 2018 (Assured returns sheet at page no. 47 of reply)
	DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024	HA	RE	RA	
5.	CR/5164/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd.	202, Block E, 2 nd floor admeasuri ng 500 sq. ft. (page 32 of complaint)	16.04.2012 (page 30 of complaint)	Rs.20,00,000/-	2018 (Assured returns sheet

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	DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024				
6.	CR/5162/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd.	203, Block E, 2 nd floor admeasuri ng 500 sq. ft. (page 32 of complaint)	17.03.2012 (page 30 of complaint)	TSC- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint) AP- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint)	Not Offered/ Rs.12,84,310.3 4 till October, 2018 (Assured returns sheet at page no. 47 of reply)
	DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024	(STAT)		~	
7.	CR/5163/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd.	E, 2nd floor	16.04.2012 (page 30 of complaint)	TSC- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint) AP- Rs.20,00,000/- (as per BBA at page 32 of complaint)	Not Offered/ Rs.12,84,310.3 4 till October, 2018 (Assured returns sheet at page no. 47 of reply)
	DOF: 20.11.2023 Reply:20.06.2 024	HA	RE	RA	
8.	CR/5106/2023 Tek Chand Narula Vs. Vatika Ltd.	201, Block E, 2 nd floor admeasuri ng 500 sq. ft. (page 32 of complaint)	(page 30 of complaint)	Rs.20,00,000/-	2018 (Assured returns sheet
1	DOF: 20.11.2023				

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Reply:20.					
 Direct the res Act, from the e Direct the res Rs.65/- per so till date (73 n to the respon agreement till Direct the res Rs.65/- per s period of thre of OC along w the written transaction w Direct the r commercial to OC/CC. Direct the re complainant. 	pondent to pa due date of po spondent to n q. ft. per mont nonths) along ident to keep l completion of spondent to r eq. ft. per mon be years (as po with interest & consent of t with the proport respondent to a spondent to a marking space	by the delay persession. Take payment h on 500 sq. ft. with interest paying assur- of the project/make payment th on 500 sq. er clause 12 of 18% on delay he complaina- sed lessee. to handover a to 213E, complexecute the sal- to the compla	on account of a i.e., Rs.32,500/- @ 18% on delay ed returns in te receipt of OC and on account of a . ft. i.e., Rs.32,50 BBA) from comp y, the exception ints to the terr actual, physical, pleted in all resp e deed of the ab	the following relief ith interest as per soured returns cal- per month w.e.f. 0 and further issue erms of clause 12 i handing over of p soured returns cal 0/- per month for pletion of the proje being leasing it out ins and conditions vacant possessio pects along with the ove said unit in favor letter dated 08.05.	culated @ 1.10.2018 directions of buyers ossession culated @ a further conja with s of lease on of the regrant of your of the .2012.
Note: In the ta elaborated as fo Abbreviation DOF TSC	llows: Full form Date of filing Total sale co	of complaint	De	have been used.	

similar. Out of the above-mentioned cases, the particulars of lead case *CR/5107/2023 titled as "Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited"* are being taken into consideration for determining the rights of the allottees qua assured return, delay possession charges, physical possession and conveyance deed.

A. Unit and project related details

5. The particulars of unit details, sale consideration, the amount paid by the complainant, date of proposed handing over the possession, date of buyer's agreement etc, have been detailed in the following tabular form:

CR/5107/2023 titled as "Tek Chand Narula V/s Vatika Limited"



Sr. No.	Particulars	Details	
1.	Name of the project	"Vatika India Next City Centre Sector-83, Gurugram	
2.	Project area	10.72 acres	
3.	Type of colony	Commercial Complex	
4.	RERA registered/ not registered and validity status		
5.	DTCP license no. and validity status	122 of 2008 dated 14.06.2008 valid upto 13.06.2018	
6.	Name of the Licensee	M/s Trishul Industries	
7.	Unit no.	Unit no. 213, 2 nd floor, Block E admeasuring 500 sq. ft. (Page 32 of complaint)	
8.	Date of execution of buyer's agreement	17.03.2012 (Page 30 of complaint)	
9.	Assured Returns clause HAR GURU	Clause 12. Assured Return and Leasing Arrangement "Since the Buyer has paid the full basic sale consideration for the said Commercial Unit upon signing of this Agreement and has also requested for putting the same on lease in combination with other adjoining units/spaces of other owners after the said Building is ready for occupation and use, the Developer has agreed to pay Rs. 65 (Rupees Sixty-five only) per sq. ft. super area of the said Commercial Unit per month by way of assured return to the Buyer from the date of execution of this agreement till the completion of construction of the said Building. The Buyer hereby gives full authority and powers to the Developer to put the said Commercial Unit in combination with other adjoining commercial units of other owners, on lease, for and on behalf of the Buyer, as and when the said Building/ said Commercial Unit is ready and fit for occupation. The Buyer has clearly understood the general risks involved in giving any premises on lease to third	

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20001	GRAM	Complaint no. 5107 of 2023 and 7 Ors.
	ANA R	parties and has undertaken to bear the said risks exclusively without any liability whatsoever on the part of the Developer or the Confirming Party. It is further agreed that: (i) The Developer will pay to the Buyer Rs. 65 (Rupees Sixty-five) per sq. ft. super area of the said Commercial Unit as committed return for upto three years from the date of completion of construction of the said Building or till the said Commercial Unit is put on lease, whichever is earlier. After the said Commercial Unit is put on lease in the above manner, then payment of the aforesaid committed return will come to an end and the Buyer will start receiving lease rental in respect of the said Commercial Unit in accordance with the lease document as may be executed and as described hereinafter" [Emphasis supplied] (Page 44 of complaint)
10.	Possession clause HAF GURU	Clause 10 - Force Majeure "Subject to the aforesaid and subject to timely payment by the buyer of sale price, stamp duty and other charges due and payable according to the payment plan applicable to him or as demanded by the developer, the Developer contemplates to complete construction of the said Commercial Unit within 48 months of execution of this Agreement." (Emphasis supplied) (BBA at page 44 of complaint)
11.	Due date of possession	17.03.2016 (Calculated to be 48 months from the date of execution of builder buyer agreement)
12.	Total sale consideration	Rs. 20,00,000/- (BBA at page 32 of complaint)
13.	Paid up amount	Rs. 20,00,000/- (BBA at page 32 of complaint)

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14.	Letter of completion of construction sent by respondent	(Page 65 of reply)
15.	Assured returns paid by respondent to complainant	Rs.12,84,310.34/- till October, 2018 (Assured returns sheet at page no. 47 of reply)
16.	E-mails sent by respondent to complainant regarding stoppage of assured returns	31.10.2018, 30.11.2018, 28.12.2018 (Page 51, 52 and 55 of reply respectively)
17.	E-mail sent by respondent to complainant regarding reconciliation of accounts of the complainant	14.06.2019 (Page 61-62 of reply)
18.		(Page 52 of complaint)
19.	and the second se	Not obtained

B. Facts of the complaint

- The complainant has made the following submissions in the complaint as well as rejoinder dated 20.11.2024:
 - a) That the complainant is a law-abiding septuagenarian citizen and a permanent resident of Delhi. He is the buyer/allottee of unit bearing no. 213E having 500 sq. ft., INXT City Centre situated in Sector-83, Gurugram, Haryana being developed by the respondent.
 - b) That sometime in 2012, the respondent through their officials and representatives approached the complainant and offered to sell commercial units in the project, further on which they promised "guaranteed and assured return" on the money paid by the complainant upon them making a full consideration. It was assured that the respondent shall allot commercial units to the complainant, Page 10 of 35



immediately upon payment and pursuant to that, he shall pay monthly assured return to the complainant.

- c) That as per the agreement, monthly assured return shall be paid to the complainants till the time the units are ready for possession and subsequently, for 3 years from the date of completion of the project and the receipt of completion certificate/occupation certificate for the project.
- d) That the complainant was induced to part with his money and made a payment of Rs.20,00,000/- to the respondent towards the sale consideration of the unit. The parties entered into a builder buyer agreement dated 17.03.2012. As per the agreement, the respondent had to pay assured return @ Rs. 65/ sq. ft. which would total to Rs. 32,500/- per month to the complainants till the completion of the construction of the project and subsequently, for 3 years after the completion of construction and receipt of the CC/OC.
- e) That as per the agreed terms, a sum of Rs. 32,500/- was payable by the respondent to the complainant, every month for his unit. The complainant kept on raising the monthly invoices for the assured committed returns which includes 18% GST jointly for all the 8 units, which was duly paid by the respondent till September 2018, and which is pending since October 2018 till date.
- f) That the assured return was paid by the respondent till September 2018 where-after, it has been abruptly stopped by the respondent from 01.10.2018 and nothing paid since then. Further, the project is far from completion and no OC/CC is received till date despite the

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categorical assurance of the builder to complete the construction in a time bound manner.

- g) That the complainants through their counsel sent a legal notice dated 28.08.2019 to the respondent. However, despite duly receiving the legal notice the respondent did not pay any heed towards the same and did not reply, leave alone paying the due amount. As per section 27 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, a notice is deemed to be served/delivered when sent by registered speed post unless the contrary is proved by the addressee.
- h) That despite the complainant's numerous requests to the respondent to abide by the buyer's agreement, the respondent fails to give any sort of information / remit the assured returns to the complainant and/or complete the project or even give a firm commitment about the completion of the project. It is apposite to mention here that the complainant has filed an application under Section 7 IBC, which is pending in the Hon'ble NCLT Chandigarh. The same is a separate action as permitted by law.
 - i) That the complainant had filed the complaint under Section 31 of the RERA Act, 2016, in July 2022 for all the 6 units purchased admeasuring 3000Sq. ft., whereby the Hon'ble Tribunal gave liberty to the complainant to file separate complaint in respect of each of the unit allotted to the complainant.
 - The cause of action in favour of the complainants arose-
 - When the respondent failed to handover the possession of the commercial unit bearing no. 213E as per the date stipulated in the builder buyer agreement.

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- ii. When the respondent failed to make the payment of the assured return and despite the notice dated 28.08.2019 failed to honour his obligations and yet remains in default. There is hence a continuing cause of action.
- iii. When the respondent has till date failed to obtain CC/OC and to complete the project. The cause of action again is continuing and the respondent has yet not been able to complete the project and provide the CC/OC.
- k) That as per clause 10 of the buyer's agreement, the possession of the unit was to be delivered within 48 months from the date of execution of the agreement i.e., by 17.03.2016. Even today i.e., in November 2024 the unit is far from completion and no occupation certificate has been granted by the competent authority.
- I) That the respondent post execution of agreement issued letter dated 08.05.2012 wherein it was confirmed that the first choice of selection of units would be given to the complainant/allottee at the time of final allocation and in case the allottee intends to purchase car parking(applicable for 10 parking slots) then he would be given 50% discount on it, at the then prevailing price. The complainant is thus seeking allocation of car parking space in terms of letter dated 08.05.2012.

C. Relief sought by the complainant:

- The present complaint was filed by the complainant on 20.11.2023 seeking the following reliefs:
 - Direct the respondent to handover actual, physical, vacant possession of the commercial unit bearing no. 213E, completed in all respects along with the grant of OC/CC.
 - Direct the respondent to execute the sale deed of the above said unit in favour of the complainant.

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- Direct the respondent to pay the delay penalty charges with interest as per the RERA Act, from the due date of possession.
- Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/per month w.e.f. 01.10.2018 till date (59 months) on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.19,17,500/- along with interest @ 18% on delay.
- 5. Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/per month w.e.f. 01.09.2023 till the completion of the project and receipt of OC/CC and thereafter, for a period of 3 years from then, along with interest @ 18% on delay.

Thereafter, the complainant had filed an application for amendment of

relief dated 20.11.2024 wherein he prayed that the relief sought clause

may be read as follows:

- Direct the respondent to handover actual, physical, vacant possession of the commercial unit bearing no. 213E, completed in all respects along with the grant of OC/CC.
- Direct the respondent to execute the sale deed of the above said unit in favour of the complainant.
- Direct the respondent to pay the delay penalty charges with interest as per the RERA Act, from the due date of possession.
- Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/per month w.e.f. 01.10.2018 till date (73 months) along with interest @ 18% on delay and further issue directions to the respondent to keep paying assured returns in terms of clause 12 of buyers agreement till completion of the project/receipt of OC and handing over of possession.
 Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns
- 5. Direct the respondent to make payment on account of an ecount of a spectrum of the respondent to make payment on a constraint of a spectrum of the period of three years (as per clause 12 of BBA) from completion of the project/receipt of OC along with interest @ 18% on delay, the exception being leasing it out only with the written consent of the complainants to the terms and conditions of lease transaction with the proposed lessee.
- Allocate car parking space to the complainant in terms of letter dated 08.05.2012.
- Award compensation to the extent of Rs.20,00,000/- on account of mental agony, harassment and torture due to illegal acts and conduct of the respondent company.
- 8. Award litigation costs to the tune of Rs.2,00,000/- to the complainants."

Further, an application dated 12.03.2025 has also been filed by the

complainant seeking deletion of prayer clause no. 7 and 8 of amendment

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application dated 20.11.2024 on the ground that the said reliefs would not fall within the domain and jurisdiction of the Authority and for the same a separate complaint has to be filed before the Adjudicating Officer. Thus, the complainant prayed that the application dated 12.03.2025 be allowed to amend the prayer clause in amendment application dated 20.11.2024 to the extent of prayer clause no. 7 and 8 in the interest of justice.

- 8. A reply to the said applications has been filed by respondent on 19.03.2025. After hearing both the parties at length, vide proceedings dated 26.03.2025 the application for amendment in relief dated 20.11.2024 was allowed to the extent of relief no. 1 to 6. Accordingly, the Authority is proceeding against the said relief(s) sought by the complainant, as under:
 - 1. Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/- per month w.e.f. 01.10.2018 till date (73 months) along with interest @ 18% on delay and further issue directions to the respondent to keep paying assured returns in terms of clause 12 of buyers agreement till completion of the project/receipt of OC and handing over of possession.
 - II. Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/- per month for a further period of three years (as per clause 12 of BBA) from completion of the project/receipt of OC along with interest @ 18% on delay, the exception being leasing it

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out only with the written consent of the complainants to the terms and conditions of lease transaction with the proposed lessee.

- III. Direct the respondent to pay the delay penalty charges with interest as per the RERA Act, from the due date of possession.
- IV. Direct the respondent to handover actual, physical, vacant possession of the commercial unit bearing no. 213E, completed in all respects along with the grant of OC/CC.
 - V. Direct the respondent to execute the sale deed of the above said unit in favour of the complainant.
- VI. Allocate car parking space to the complainant in terms of letter dated 08.05.2012.
- 9. On the date of hearing, the authority explained to the respondent /promoters about the contraventions as alleged to have been committed in relation to Section 11(4) (a) of the Act to plead guilty or not to plead guilty.

D. Reply by the respondent

- 10. The respondent contested the complaint on the following grounds:
 - That the respondent issued communication to all its allottees of the a) company e-mail id Centre" from "INXT City project noreply@salesforce.com and noreply@vatikagroup.com regarding committed returns/assured returns suspension vide e-mail dated 31.10.2018. The respondent issued second communication to all allottees, through e-mail dated 30.11.2018 detailing therein the amendments in law regarding the SEBI Act, Bill No. 85 (Regarding the BUDS Act) and other statutory changes which led to stoppage of all the return based/ assured / committed return based sales and Page 16 of 35





the respondent's proposal to reconcile accounts as of July, 2019. The respondent issued third e-mail to all the allottees on 28.12.2018 regarding stoppage of assured rentals and reconciliation of all dues by June, 2019 and issued communication regarding addendum agreement containing revised clauses excluding assured return/committed return clause alternatively giving option to allottees to shift to another project.

- b) That the respondent on 14.06.2019, issued update to all its allottees regarding reconciliation of accounts as of 30.06.2019 and issuance of addendum agreement for revising the clause of assured return and finally stopping the assured returns. The allottees who chose to cancel the allotment were also provided required document e-mails and were refunded investments. Thus, the respondent admittedly paid assured returns from the date of execution of BBA till September, 2018 and at the time of stoppage of assured returns in September 2018, the respondent provided timely detailed communication to all its allottees in the project, however the complainant chose to sit the filing of this complaint and now cannot be allowed the relief as prayed.
 - c) communication of 29.02.2016 also confirmed to the allottees that the project was ready and available for leasing. That the issue regarding stoppage of assured returns/committed return and reconciliation of all accounts as of July 2019 was also communicated with all the allottees of the concerned project. Further the respondent intimated to all its allottees that in view of the legal changes and formation of new laws the amendment to BBA vide

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Addendum would be shared with all the allottees to safeguard their interest. That on 30.12.2018 the allottees in the project were sent email regarding stoppage of assured rentals and option was given that the allottee could choose to shift to another project registered for getting the committed returns benefit, that the complainant chose to sit over his right for last 6 years cannot pray for relief of assured return as the relief is time barred. Thereafter on 25.02.2020, the respondent issued communication to all its allottees regarding ongoing transaction and possible leasing of block A, B, D, E and F in the project "Vatika INXT City Centre."

- d) That the issue regarding jurisdiction over complaint pertaining to assured return is pending before various Courts and Tribunals. One of such matters pertaining to the question of law "whether the authorities or tribunal can grant relief of assured return after the commencement of BUDS Act" is pending before the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court. In the bunch of petitions tagged with the matter of 'Vatika Limited vs. Union of India and Anr.' in CWP No. 26740 of 2022, the Hon'ble High Court at Punjab and Haryana has restrained the respondents therein from taking any coercive steps in criminal cases registered against the Respondent herein, for seeking recovery of assured return till next date of hearing and the same has now been listed for 17.07.2024.
 - e) That the Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Appellate Tribunal (UPREAT) while adjudicating an appeal titled as "Meena Gupta Vs. One Place Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd. (Appeal No. 211 of 2022)" has held that the





issue of Assured Return does not fall within the ambit of the Act of 2016 and dismissed the appeal filed by the Appellant/Allottee.

- f) Further the RERA Authority of Punjab while adjudicating upon the similar issue of assured return had taken a similar view by observing that the said issue is out of the purview of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act of 2016. In the matter of 'Lalita Chauhan vs. Gupta Builders and Promoter Pvt. Ltd.' the Punjab Real Estate Regulatory Authority evidently held that the concept of Assured Return has no place in the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act of 2016.
 - g) That the objective of the Act of 2016 is to regulate the real estate sector in terms of the development of the Project in accordance with the law and to provide relief of interest, compensation or refund to the allottees in case of violation of the provisions of the Act of 2016. The objective of the Act of 2016 is very clear to regulate the Real Estate Sector and form balance amongst the Promoter, Allottee and Real Estate Agent. However, the entire Act of 2016 nowhere provides any provision to regulate the commercial understanding regarding returns on investment or lease rentals between the promoter and the buyer.
 - h) That the Act 2016 provides for three kinds of remedies available to the complainant in the case of any dispute arisen between a promoter and buyer with respect to the development of the project. Such remedy is provided under Section 18 of the RERA Act, 2016 for violation of any provision of the act. The said remedies are of "Refund" in case the allottee wants to withdraw from the project

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and the other being "interest for delay of every month" in case the allottee wants to continue in the project and the last one is for "Compensation" for the loss occurred to the allottee, if any, However, nowhere in the said provision the Authority has been empowered with the jurisdiction to grant assured returns or any other arrangement between the parties with respect to investment and returns.

- That the true nature of the relief sought is kind of specific i) performance of the assured returns commitment. The relief of specific performance flows from the Specific Relief Act, 1963 and no part of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 clothes this Authority to exercise powers under Specific Relief Act, 1963. Thus, this Authority not being a civil court could not assert to itself the jurisdiction to grant specific performance of the "Assured Returns" which is a relief under the Specific Performance Act, 1963. While exercising its jurisdiction, the. Authority should grant due consideration to the principle of law laid down in Commissioner of Income Tax, Mumbai v. Anjum M.H. Ghaswala and Ors., AIR 2001 SC 3868 by a Constitution bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India that "It is a normal rule of construction that when a statute vests certain power in an authority to be exercised in a particular manner then the said authority has to exercise it only in the manner provided in the statute itself."
 - j) That it is matter of record that there was no possession clause within the BBA. Only constructive possession of the subject unit was to be delivered. Since the respondent/promoter is still using Page 20 of 35



complainant's money and occupation certificate has not been obtained till date, therefore to safeguard the interests of the allottees, the complainant may at best be allowed delay possession charges at the prescribed rates from due date of possession till receipt of occupation certificate plus two months as per section 13(1) of the Act of 2016 after adjustment of assured returns.

- k) Therefore, considering the facts of the present case, and to ensure no prejudice is suffered by the complainant, the respondent may be directed to pay the amount of delayed possession charges at the prescribed rate for every month of delay till offer of possession plus two months, as per section 18(1) of the Act of 2016 read with rule 15 of the Rules, after deducting the amount of assured returns already paid till September, 2018.
- I) With regard to issue of physical possession, the agreed BBA between the complainant and the respondent shows that the Unit allotted to the complainant was not intended to be handed over to the complainant since it was a part of bigger floor plate and to be leased out to third parties together with such similar other units in that floor. The complainant was well aware of the fact, that the commercial unit in question was deemed to be leased out upon completion and the same was evidently mentioned and agreed by the complainant in the agreement.
 - m) That it is admitted fact that OC in respect of the project where the subject unit is situated has not been obtained by the promoter till date. As on date, the conveyance deed cannot be executed in respect of the subject unit, however the respondent is contractually and

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legally obligated to execute the conveyance deed upon receipt of the occupation certificate from the competent authority. Thus, the relief regarding execution of the conveyance deed of the allotted unit is premature and complainant's right to execution of conveyance deed would arise only after receipt of OC from the statutory authority.

- 11. Copies of all the relevant documents have been filed and placed on the record. Their authenticity is not in dispute. Hence, the complaint can be decided on the basis of those undisputed documents and submissions made by the parties.
- Jurisdiction of the authority E.
- 12. The authority observes that it has territorial as well as subject matter jurisdiction to adjudicate the present complaint for the reasons given below.

E. I Territorial jurisdiction

13. As per notification no. 1/92/2017-1TCP dated 14.12.2017 issued by Town and Country Planning Department, Haryana, the jurisdiction of Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram shall be entire Gurugram district for all purposes. In the present case, the project in question is situated within the planning area of Gurugram district. Therefore, this authority has complete territorial jurisdiction to deal with the present complaint.

E. II Subject-matter jurisdiction

14. Section 11(4) (a) of the Act, 2016 provides that the promoter shall be responsible to the allottees as per agreement for sale. Section 11(4) (a) is reproduced as hereunder:

> "Section 11(4) (a) Be responsible for all obligations, responsibilities and functions under the provisions of this Act or the rules and regulations made thereunder or to the

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allottees as per the agreement for sale, or to the association of allottees, as the case may be, till the conveyance of all the apartments, plots or buildings, as the case may be, to the allottees, or the common areas to the association of allottees or the competent authority, as the case may be.

Section 34-Functions of the Authority: 34(f) to ensure compliance of the obligations cast upon the promoters, the allottees and the real estate agents under this Act and the rules and regulations made thereunder."

15. So, in view of the provisions of the Act quoted above, the authority has complete jurisdiction to decide the complaint regarding non-compliance of obligations by the promoter leaving aside compensation which is to be decided by the adjudicating officer if pursued by the complainant(s) at a later stage.

F. Findings on the objections raised by the respondent F.I. Pendency of petition before Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court

16. The respondent has raised an objection that the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana in CWP No. 26740 of 2022 titled as "Vatika Limited Vs. Union of India & Ors.", took the cognizance in respect of Banning of Unregulated Deposits Schemes Act, 2019 and restrained the Union of India and the State of Haryana from taking coercive steps in criminal cases registered against the Company for seeking recovery against deposits till the next date of hearing.

17. With respect to the aforesaid contention, the authority place reliance on order dated 22.11.2023 in CWP No. 26740 of 2022 (supra), whereby the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court has stated that-

"...there is no stay on adjudication on the pending civil appeals/petitions before the Real Estate Regulatory Authority as also against the investigating agencies and they are at liberty to proceed further in the ongoing matters that are pending with them. There is no scope for any further clarification."

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Thus, in view of the above, the authority has decided to proceed further

with the present matter.

G. Findings on the relief sought by the complainant

- G.I Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/- per month w.e.f. 01.10.2018 till date (73 months) along with interest @ 18% on delay and further issue directions to the respondent to keep paying assured returns in terms of clause 12 of buyers agreement till completion of the project/receipt of OC and handing over of possession.
 - G.II Direct the respondent to make payment on account of assured returns calculated @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month on 500 sq. ft. i.e., Rs.32,500/- per month for a further period of three years (as per clause 12 of BBA) from completion of the project/receipt of OC along with interest @ 18% on delay, the exception being leasing it out only with the written consent of the complainants to the terms and conditions of lease transaction with the proposed lessee.
 - G.III Direct the respondent to pay the delay penalty charges with interest as per the RERA Act, from the due date of possession.
- 18. The common issues with regard to assured return and delay possession

charges are involved in the aforesaid complaint.

I. Assured Returns

19. The complainant is seeking unpaid assured returns on monthly basis as per the builder buyer agreement dated 17.03.2012 at the rates mentioned therein. It is pleaded that the respondent has not complied with the terms and conditions of the said addendum agreement. Though for some time, the amount of assured returns was paid but later on, the respondent refused to pay the same by taking a plea that the same is not payable in view of enactment of the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019 (hereinafter referred to as the Act of 2019), citing earlier decision of the authority (Brhimjeet & Anr. Vs. M/s Landmark Page 24 of 35



Apartments Pvt. Ltd., complaint no 141 of 2018) whereby relief of assured return was declined by the authority. The authority has rejected the aforesaid objections raised by the respondent in *CR/8001/2022 titled as Gaurav Kaushik and anr. Vs. Vatika Ltd.* wherein the authority has held that when payment of assured returns is part and parcel of builder buyer's agreement (maybe there is a clause in that document or by way of addendum, memorandum of understanding or terms and conditions of the allotment of a unit), then the builder is liable to pay that amount as agreed upon and the Act of 2019 does not create a bar for payment of assured returns even after coming into operation as the payments made in this regard are protected as per section 2(4)(l)(iii) of the Act of 2019. Thus, the plea advanced by the respondent is not sustainable in view of the aforesaid reasoning and case cited above.

- 20. The money was taken by the builder as deposit in advance against allotment of immovable property and its possession was to be offered within a certain period. However, in view of taking sale consideration by way of advance, the builder promised certain amount by way of assured returns for a certain period. So, on his failure to fulfil that commitment, the complainant-allottee has a right to approach the authority for redressal of his grievances by way of filing a complaint.
 - 21. The builder is liable to pay that amount as agreed upon and can't take a plea that it is not liable to pay the amount of assured return. Moreover, an agreement defines the builder/buyer relationship. So, it can be said that the agreement for assured returns between the promoter and allotee arises out of the same relationship and is marked by the original agreement for sale.

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22. It is not disputed that the respondent is a real estate developer, and it had not obtained registration under the Act of 2016 for the project in question. However, the project in which the advance has been received by the developer from the allottee is an ongoing project as per section 3(1) of the Act of 2016 and, the same would fall within the jurisdiction of the authority for giving the desired relief to the complainant besides initiating penal proceedings. So, the amount paid by the complainant to the builder is a regulated deposit accepted by the later from the former against the immovable property to be transferred to the allottee later on. In view of the above, the respondent is liable to pay assured return to the complainant-allottee in terms of the builder buyer agreement dated

17.03.2012.

G.II. Delayed possession charges

23. In the present complaint, the complainant intends to continue with the project and is seeking possession of the subject unit and delay possession charges as provided under the provisions of section 18(1) of the Act which reads as under:

"Section 18: - Return of amount and compensation 18(1). If the promoter fails to complete or is unable to give possession of an apartment, plot, or building, —

Provided that where an allottee does not intend to withdraw from the project, he shall be paid, by the promoter, interest for every month of delay, till the handing over of the possession, at such rate as may be prescribed"

24. A builder buyer agreement executed between the parties and the due date of completion of the project is calculated as per clause 10 of BBA i.e.,
48 months from the date of execution of this agreement. The relevant clause is reproduced below:

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Clause 10 - Force Majeure

"......Subject to the aforesaid and subject to timely payment by the buyer of sale price, stamp duty and other charges due and payable according to the payment plan applicable to him or as demanded by the developer, the Developer contemplates to complete construction of the said Commercial Unit within 48 months of execution of this Agreement."

(Emphasis supplied)

25. Admissibility of delay possession charges at prescribed rate of interest: The complainant is seeking delay possession charges. Proviso to Section 18 provides that where an allottee does not intend to withdraw from the project, he shall be paid, by the promoter, interest for every month of delay, till the handing over of possession, at such rate as may be prescribed and it has been prescribed under Rule 15 of the Rules, ibid. Rule 15 has been reproduced as under:

"Rule 15. Prescribed rate of interest- [Proviso to section 12, section 18 and sub-section (4) and subsection (7) of section 19]

For the purpose of proviso to section 12; section 18; and sub-sections (4) and (7) of section 19, the "interest at the rate prescribed" shall be the State Bank of India highest marginal cost of lending rate +2% .:

Provided that in case the State Bank of India marginal cost of lending rate (MCLR) is not in use, it shall be replaced by such benchmark lending rates which the State Bank of India may fix from time to time for lending to the general public."

26. The legislature in its wisdom in the subordinate legislation under the Rule 15 of the Rules, ibid has determined the prescribed rate of interest. Consequently, as per website of the State Bank of India i.e., https://sbi.co.in, the marginal cost of lending rate (in short, MCLR) as on date i.e., 28.05.2025 is 9.10%. Accordingly, the prescribed rate of interest will be marginal cost of lending rate +2% i.e., 11.10%.



- 27. On consideration of documents available on record and submissions made by the complainant and the respondent, the authority is satisfied that the respondent is in contravention of the provisions of the act. the construction of the project was to be completed within a stipulated time i.e., by 17.03.2016.
- 28. However now, the proposition before it is as to whether the allottee who is getting/entitled for assured return even after expiry of due date of possession, can claim both the assured return as well as delayed possession charges?
- 29. To answer the above proposition, it is worthwhile to consider that the assured return is payable to the allottees on account of provisions in the buyer's agreement dated 17.03.2012. The assured return in this case is payable as per clause 12 of the "builder buyer agreement" wherein the promoter had agreed to pay to the complainant-allottee ₹65/- per sq. ft. on monthly basis till the completion of construction of the building and ₹65/- per sq. ft. on monthly basis after the completion of the building. If we compare this assured return with delayed possession charges payable under proviso to Section 18(1) of the Act, 2016, the assured return is much better as is encapsulated in the following table for all the complaints:

Sr. No.	Complaint no.	Assured return payable per month as per addendum agreement	Delay possession charges payable per month as per the RERA Act
1.	CR/5107/2023	₹32,500/-	₹18,500
-	the second se	₹32,500/-	₹18,500
Z.,	CR/5166/2023	₹32,500/-	₹18,500
3.	CR/5161/2023		₹18,500
4.	CR/5104/2023	₹32,500/-	
5.	CR/5164/2023	₹32,500/+	₹18,500
COMPANY OF THE OWNER	CD /5162/2023	₹32,500/-	₹18,500
6.	CR/5162/2023		₹18,500
7.	CR/5163/2023	32,500/-	Page 28 of 3



₹32,500/-

₹18,500

- 30. By way of assured return, the promoter has promised that the allottee would be entitled for the specific amount of assured return till the said unit is put on lease and thereafter he shall be entitled for lease rental as agreed. The purpose of delayed possession charges under Section 18 of the Act after due date of completion of project is served on payment of assured return. The same is to safeguard the interest of the allottees as their money is continued to be used by the promoter even after the promised due date and in return, they are to be paid either the assured return or delayed possession charges, whichever is higher.
 - 31. Accordingly, the authority decides that in cases where assured return is reasonable and comparable with the delayed possession charges under Section 18 and assured return is payable even after due date of possession, then the allottees shall be entitled to assured return or delayed possession charges, whichever is higher without prejudice to any other remedy including compensation.
 - 32. On consideration of the documents available on the record and submissions made by the parties, the complainant has sought the amount of unpaid amount of assured return as per the terms of BBA along with interest on such unpaid assured return. As per the builder buyer agreement dated 17.03.2012, the promoter had agreed to pay to the complainant-allottee ₹65/- per sq. ft. on monthly basis till completion of construction of the building and ₹65/- per sq. ft. on monthly basis after the completion of the building. It is matter of record that the amount of assured return was paid by the respondent promoter till September 2018 but later on, the respondent refused to pay the same

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by taking a plea of enactment of Act of 2019. However, the Act of 2019 does not create a bar for payment of assured returns even after coming into operation and the payments made in this regard are protected as per Section 2(4)(iii) of the above-mentioned Act.

33. In the present complaint, OC/CC for the block in which unit of complainant is situated has not been received by the promoter till this date. Perusal of assured return clause mentioned in the BBA reveals that the stage of offer of possession by respondent is not dependent upon the receipt of occupation certificate. However, the Authority is of the view that the construction cannot be deemed to complete until the OC/CC is obtained from the concerned authority by the respondent promoter for the said project. Admittedly, the respondent has paid an amount of ₹12,84,310.34/- to the complainant as assured return till September 2018. Therefore, considering the facts of the present case, the respondent is directed to pay the amount of assured return at the agreed rate i.e., @ Rs.65/- per sq. ft. per month from the date the payment of assured return has not been made i.e. from October 2018 till date of completion of construction of building (post receipt of occupation certificate) and thereafter, Rs. 65/- per sq. ft. per month as minimum guaranteed return up to 36 months from the date of receipt of occupation certificate after the completion of the said building or till the date the said unit is put on lease, whichever is earlier. Further, the Authority declines to order payment of any amount on account of delayed possession charges as their interest has been protected by granting assured returns till completion of construction of the unit and



thereafter also up to 36 months at different rate from date of completion of the said building or the said unit is put on lease, whichever is earlier.

- 34. Accordingly, the respondent is obligated to pay the outstanding accrued assured return amount till date at the agreed rate within 90 days from the date of this order after adjustment of outstanding dues, if any, from the complainant and failing which that amount would be payable with interest @ 9.10% p.a. till the date of actual realization.
 - G.IV Direct the respondent to handover actual, physical, vacant possession of the commercial unit bearing no. 213E, completed in all respects along with the grant of OC/CC.
- 35. It is important to note that the complainant has failed to put forth any document to show that the said builder buyer agreement was executed under coercion. Also, no objection/protest whatsoever was made by the complainant at any point of time since the execution of the builder buyer agreement. Accordingly, in view of clause 12 of the BBA, handing over the physical possession was never the intent of the respondent rather the unit was to be leased out.
- 36. The authority observes that the respondent is obligated to handover the possession of the unit to the complainant in terms of the buyer's agreement dated 17.03.2016, after obtaining of occupation certificate from the competent authority under Section 11(4)(b) read with Section 17 of the Act, 2016.

G.V Direct the respondent to execute the sale deed of the above said unit in favour of the complainant.

37. Section 17(1) of the Act deals with duties of promoter to get the conveyance deed executed and the same is reproduced below:

> "17. Transfer of title.-(1). The promoter shall execute a registered conveyance deed in favour of the allottee along with the undivided proportionate title in

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the common areas to the association of the allottees or the competent authority, as the case may be, and hand over the physical possession of the plot, apartment of building, as the case may be, to the allottees and the common areas to the association of the allottees or the competent authority, as the case may be, in a real estate project, and the other title documents pertaining thereto within specified period as per sanctioned plans as provided under the local laws:

Provided that, in the absence of any local law, conveyance deed in favour of the allottee or the association of the allottees or the competent authority, as the case may be, under this section shall be carried out by the promoter within three months from date of issue of occupancy certificate."

38. The authority observes that OC in respect of the project where the subject unit is situated has not been obtained by the respondent promoter till date. As on date, conveyance deed cannot be executed in respect of the subject unit, however, the respondent promoter is contractually and legally obligated to execute the conveyance deed upon receipt of the occupation certificate/completion certificate from the competent authority. In view of above, the respondent shall execute the conveyance deed of the allotted unit within 3 months after the receipt of the OC from the concerned authority and upon payment of requisite stamp duty by the complainant as per norms of the state government.

G.VI Allocate car parking space to the complainant in terms of letter dated 08.05.2012.

39. The complainant took a plea that the respondent post execution of agreement issued letter dated 08.05.2012, wherein it was stated that in case the allottee intends to purchase car parking, then he would be given 50% discount on it, at the then prevailing price. Therefore, the complainant is seeking allocation of car parking space in terms of letter dated 08.05.2012.

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- 40. Before adjudicating upon the issue, it is pertinent to refer to the relevant portion of the respondent's letter dated 08.05.2012, which reads as under:

 - The first choice of selection of units on the floor offered will be given to your good-self at the time of final allocation.
 - ii) If after the expiry of the first lease, you wish to take physical possession of the space and intend to purchase the car parking space, a 50% discount shall be offered on the them, at the then prevalent price. Please note that this shall be applicable for the first 10(ten) parking slots purchased."
- 41. In view of the above, this Authority is of the considered opinion that the complainant is entitled to be considered for the allotment of car parking space in accordance with the terms set forth in the respondent's letter dated 08.05.2012. The respondent shall honour the commitment made therein and consider the complainant for allocation of car parking space, subject to the conditions mentioned in the said letter.

H. Directions of the authority

- 42. Hence, the authority hereby passes this order and issues the following directions under Section 37 of the Act to ensure compliance of obligations cast upon the promoter as per the function entrusted to the authority under Section 34(f):
 - I. The respondent is directed to pay the amount of assured return at the agreed rate i.e., @ 65/- per sq. ft. per month from the date the payment of assured return has not been paid i.e., 01.10.2018 till the completion of construction of the building i.e., after obtaining occupation certificate from the competent authority and thereafter, ₹65/- per sq. ft. per month after the

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completion of construction of the building till the date the said unit is put on lease or for the first 36 months after the completion of the project, whichever is earlier in terms of the buyer's agreement dated 17.03.2012.

- II. The respondent is directed to pay the outstanding accrued assured return amount till date at the agreed rate within 90 days from the date of this order after adjustment of outstanding dues, if any, from the complainant and failing which that amount would be payable with interest @ 9.10% p.a. till the date of actual realization.
- III. The respondent is directed to handover the possession of the unit to the complainant in terms of the buyer's agreement dated 17.03.2016, after obtaining of occupation certificate from the competent authority under Section 11(4)(b) read with Section 17 of the Act, 2016.
- IV. The respondent is directed to consider the prayer for allotment of car parking in terms of letter dated 08.05.2012.
- V. The respondent is directed to execute the conveyance deed of the allotted unit within the 3 months after the receipt of the OC from the concerned authority and upon payment of requisite stamp duty by the complainant as per norms of the state government.
- VI. The respondent shall not charge anything from the complainant which is not the part of the builder buyer agreement.



- VII. A period of 90 days is given to the respondent to comply with the directions given in this order and failing which legal consequences would follow.
- 9. This decision shall mutatis mutandis apply to cases mentioned in para 3 of this order wherein details of rate of assured return, area of the unit, amount paid by the complainant-allottee, and amount of assured return received by the complainant is mentioned in each of the complaints.
- 43. The complaints stand disposed of.
- True certified copies of this order be placed on the case file of each matter.

GURUGRA

45. Files be consigned to registry.

Dated: 28.05.2025

Ashok Sangwan

(Member) Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram

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