

**BEFORE THE HARYANA REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY,  
GURUGRAM**

**Complaint no.:** 376 of 2025  
**Date of filing of complaint:** 06.02.2025  
**Date of first hearing:** 15.05.2025  
**Date of decision:** 05.02.2026

Mr. Neeraj Kumar

**R/o:** - Flat No. 701, Plot No. C58/10, Mecon Apartment,  
Sector- 62, Noida- 201304

**Complainant**

**Versus**

M/s Sunray Heights Private Limited

**Regd. office at:** 211, Ansal Bhawan, 16 Kasturba Gandhi  
Margh, New Delhi- 110001

**Respondent**

**CORAM:**

Shri Phool Singh Saini

**Member**

**APPEARANCE:**

Shri Rajan Kumar Hans (Advocate)

Shri Tushar Bahmani (Advocate)

**Complainant**

**Respondent**

**ORDER**

1. The present complaint has been filed by the complainant/allottee under section 31 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (in short, the Act) read with rule 28 of the Haryana Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Rules, 2017 (in short, 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 obligations, responsibilities and functions under the provision of the Act or the Rules and regulations made there under or to the allottee as per the agreement for sale executed *inter se*.



**A. Unit and project related details**

2. The particulars of the project, the details of sale consideration, the amount paid by the complainant, date of proposed handing over the possession, delay period, if any, have been detailed in the following tabular form:

S. No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Name of the project	"Sixty-Three Golf Drive", Sector 63A Gurugram
2.	Nature of the project	Affordable group housing
3.	RERA registered or not registered	249 of 2017 dated 26.09.2017 valid up to 25.09.2022
4.	DTCP license	82 of 2014 dated 08.08.2014 valid up to 31.12.2023
5.	Unit no.	F-118, in tower-F (Page no. 36 of complaint)
6.	Unit admeasuring	613.310 sq. ft. (carpet area) 95.10 sq. ft. (balcony area) (Page no. 36 of complaint)
7.	Allotment Letter	30.06.2017 (Page no. 20 of complaint)
8.	Date of execution of Buyers agreement	17.02.2017 (As per stamp paper at page 22 of the complaint)
9.	Possession clause	<p><b>4.1</b>  <i>The Developer shall endeavor to handover possession of the said flat within a period of four years i.e. 48 months from the date of commencement of project, subject to force majeure &amp; timely payments by the allottee towards the sale consideration, in accordance with the terms as stipulated in the present agreement.</i>                      (Page no. 26 of complaint)</p> <p><i>*Note-: As per affordable housing policy 2013</i>                      1(iv) All such projects shall be required to be necessarily completed within 4 years from the approval of building plans or</p>



		<i>grant of environmental clearance, whichever is later. This date shall be referred to as the "date of commencement of project" for the purpose of this policy. The licence shall not be renewed beyond the said 4 years from the date of commencement of project.</i>
10.	Date of building plan	10.03.2015 (Page no. 43 of reply)
11.	Date of environment clearance	16.09.2016 (Page no. 49 of reply)
12.	Due date of possession	16.03.2021 (16.09.2020 plus six months in lieu of covid-19) (calculated from the date of environment clearance being later)
13.	Total price of the unit	Rs.25,00,790/- (As per annexure-A, at page no. 36 of the complaint)
14.	Amount paid by the complainant	Rs.19,45,234/- (As alleged by the complainant at page no. 16 of the complaint)
15.	Final Notice	10.12.2024 (Page no. 88 of reply)
16.	Occupation certificate	31.12.2024 (Page no. 93 of reply)
17.	Offer of possession	Not on record

**B. Facts of the complaint**

3. The complainant has made following submissions in the complaint: -
  - a. That the respondent has obtained a license no. 82 of 2014 from DTCP Haryana, to develop an Affordable Housing Project as per the guidelines mentioned under Affordable Housing Policy 2013, issued by Government of Haryana, vide Town and Country Planning Department's Notification dated 19.08.2013.
  - b. That the project in question is known as "Sixty-Three Golf Drive" at Sector 63-A, Gurugram, Haryana which is a Project under Affordable Housing





Policy 2013, issued by Government of Haryana.

- c. That in the year 2016, complainant got information about an advertisement in a local newspaper about affordable housing project "Sixty-Three Golf Drive" at Sector 63-A, Gurugram, Haryana. When he called on the phone number provided in the newspaper, The marketing staff of the respondent showed a rosy picture of the project and allure with proposed specifications and invited for site visit. The complainant visited the project site and met with local staff of respondent who gave an application form and assured that possession will be delivered within 36 months as they were told that it is a Govt. project having fixed payment installment in every 6 months and on the last installment, the possession will be delivered.
- d. That the complainant applied for a 2 BHK residential unit in upcoming project of respondent namely "Sixty-Three Golf Drive" at Sector 63-A, Gurugram, Haryana, for which the complainant had remitted Rs.1,25,040/- towards booking of the unit further the respondent acknowledged the payment in the acknowledgement letter vide Serial No. SGD (G)-0691.
- e. That the draw of lots was conducted on 06.01.2016, and following this event, the respondent issued a provisional allotment letter to the complainant on 11.01.2016 where respondent provisionally allotted unit/flat no. F118, admeasuring 631.31 sq. ft. and 95.10 Sq. ft. Balcony, in the project of respondent company. The unit was purchased under the Time Link payment plan as per the mandate under Affordable Housing Policy 2013 for Sale consideration of Rs.25,00,790/-.
- f. That on date 30.06.2017, the Respondent issued an allotment letter against the above-mentioned allotted unit. Thereafter, a pre-printed one sided, arbitrary and unilateral flat buyer agreement for allotted unit/ flat was executed between respondent and complainant. That as per **clause 4.1**, the respondent had to complete the construction of flat and handover the

- possession within 4 years from date of commencement of project.
- g. Further, as per Rule 1(iv) under the Affordable Housing Policy 2013, Notified by DTCP, Govt. of Haryana on date 19.08.2013 in the Haryana Government Gazette, The Possession is necessarily to be given in 4 years from the approval of building plans or grant of environmental clearance, whichever is later. It is pertinent to mention here that building plans were approved on 10.03.2015 and the environmental clearance was granted on 29.09.2016. Therefore, the due date of possession becomes on or before 29.09.2020.
- h. Till date the complainant had paid Rs.19,45,234/-, but when complainant observed that there is very slow progress in the construction of subject flat for a long time, he raised their grievance to the respondent. That the details of receipt are being reproduced hereunder in table-1

**TABLE-1**

S. No.	Date	Instrument	Receipt No.	Amount
1.	01.11.2016	37173/Cheque	1923	Rs.1,25,040/-
2.	01.11.2016	37173/Cheque	1923	Rs.5,50,955/-
3.	01.11.2016	37173/Cheque	1923	Rs.3,21,838/-
4.	05.05.2017	037175/Cheque	63GD/02563	Rs.2,71,183/-
5.	29.06.2018	037185/Cheque		Rs.3,37,609/-
6.	19.02.2019	NEFT		Rs.3,37,609/-
7.	31.12.2021	Customer Ledger		Rs.1,000/-
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>Rs.19,45,234/-</b>

- i. That the complainant has always tried to pay the installment on time and the last installment was paid on 19.02.2019 and it is expected to take around 1-2 years more for the completion of the project. That there is slow progress in the construction of flats. The main grievance of the complainant



in the present complaint is that in spite of the complainant paying 85% of the called amounts of flat, the respondent has failed to deliver the possession of flat which was a core promise of Affordable Housing Policy, 2013.

- j. That on 20.11.2024, the respondent issued a letter stating that they will soon begin the process of giving physical possession. This statement clearly acknowledges the delay on the part of the respondent, who has neither provided possession of the unit nor appears capable of doing so in the coming months.
- k. That the complainant had purchased the flat with intention that after purchase, her family will use the flat for their personal use. That it was promised by the respondent party at the time of receiving payment for the flat that the possession of fully constructed flat as shown in newspaper at the time of sale, would be handed over to the complainant on and after the payment of last and final installment, it is pertinent to mention here that these installment becomes accrue on every 6 months after the commencement of construction work, and the respondent was under obligation to deliver the project complete in all respect as and when the respondent takes the last installment or by maximum till 29.09.2020 (as per flat buyer agreement and Affordable Housing Policy, the possession of flat need to be given within 48 months from the date of approval of building plans or from the date of environmental clearance whichever is later).
- l. That the facts and circumstances as enumerated above would lead to the only conclusion that there is a deficiency of service on the part of the respondent party and as such, they are liable to be punished and compensate the complainant.
- m. That due to above acts of the respondent and of the terms and conditions of the builder buyer agreement, and of Affordable Housing Policy 2013, the



complainant have been unnecessarily harassed mentally as well as financially, therefore the respondent is liable to provide interest on capital to the complainant on account of the aforesaid act of unfair trade practice.

- n. That the DTCP, Haryana is also liable to for their negligence to monitor the progress of the Project as in the case of Affordable Housing, Government/DTCP Department plays an Active Role and when the respondent has miserably failed to complete the structure as per the schedule specified in builder buyer agreement and as per the Haryana Affordable Housing Policy 2013 (i.e. 4 years from the date of grant of Building Approvals or from the date of grant of environmental Clearance, which is later), by Town and Country Planning Department. It has been more than 1 year since the DTCP have failed to take any action against the respondent regarding their failure to handover the possession to allottees. Hence, the respondent has failed to adhere to the guidelines mentioned in Affordable Housing Policy, 2013.
- o. It is pertinent to mention here that ,when the Respondent applied for grant of license to the DTCP, Haryana department and License was obtained by him on 08.08.2014 for 5 Years i.e. till (07.08.2019) and respondent, while obtaining the license promised to handover the possession to allottees within 4 years from the date of sanction of building plans or from the date of environmental clearance i.e. 29.09.2016 and upon the expiry of the license granted to respondent by the DTCP Haryana, they should have initiated a Suo Moto Action against the respondent to ensure the timely handover of the project and to safeguard the interest of home-buyers, but DTCP Haryana have omitted to take any Action against the respondent/promoter/ colonizer.
- p. That as per section 18 of the Act. 2016, the promoter is liable to refund the amount and pay interest at the prescribed rate of interest and

compensation to the allottees of an apartment building or project for a delay or failure in handing over such possession as per the terms and agreement of the sale. That for the first time cause of action for the present complaint arose on when complainant paid Rs.1,25,040/- as booking amount and further on 11.01.2016, when the provisional allotment letter was issued by the respondent and on 30.06.2017 when allotment letter was issued by the respondent further when a one sided, arbitrary and unilateral flat buyer agreement was executed between the parties and further when the respondent party failed to hand over the possession of the flat on 29.09.2020. Further the cause of action again arose on various occasions when the protests were lodged with the respondent about its failure to deliver the project. The cause of action is alive and continuing and will continue to subsist till such time as this Authority restrains the respondent party by an order of injunction and/or passes the necessary orders.

**C. Relief sought by the complainant**

4. The complainant has sought the following relief(s):
  - I. Direct the respondent to pay interest at the prescribed rate on delayed possession since the due date of possession till date of actual possession.
  - II. Direct the respondent to complete and seek necessary governmental clearances regarding infrastructural and other facility including road, water, sewerage, electricity, environmental etc. before handing over the physical possession of the flat as the earliest.
5. On the date of hearing, the authority explained to the respondent/promoter 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**

6. The respondent has contested the complaint on the following grounds.



- a) That the complainant, vide an application form applied to the respondent for allotment of the unit. Pursuant thereto residential flats bearing no. F-118, admeasuring carpet area of 613.31 sq. ft. and balcony area of 95.10 sq. ft. was allotted to the complainant. The complainant represented to the respondent that they shall remit every instalment on time as per the payment schedule. The respondent had no reason to suspect the *bonafide* of the complainant and proceeded to allot the unit in question in their favour. Thereafter, an Agreement to Sell was executed in 2019 between the parties. The agreement was consciously and voluntarily executed between the parties and terms and conditions of the same are binding on the parties.
- b) That as per clause 4.1 of the agreement, the due date of possession was subject to the allottee having complied with all the terms and conditions of the agreement. That being a contractual relationship, reciprocal promises are bound to be maintained. The respondent endeavored to offer possession within a period of 4 years from the date of obtainment of all government sanctions and permissions including environment clearance, whichever is later. The possession clause of the agreement is on par with clause 1(iv) of the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013.
- c) That the building plan of the project was approved on 10.03.2015 from DGTCP and the environment clearance was received on 16.09.2016. Thus, the proposed due date of possession, as calculated from the date of EC, comes out to be 21.08.2021. The Authority vide notification no.9/3-2020 dated 26.05.2020 had allowed an extension of 6 months for the completion of the project the due of which expired on or after 25.03.2020, on account of unprecedented conditions due to outbreak of Covid-19. Hence, the proposed due date of possession comes out to be 16.03.2021.
- d) That the offer of possession was also subject to the incidence of force majeure circumstances under clause 16 of the agreement. That additionally,

even before normalcy could resume, the world was hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI vide notification dated March 24, 2020, bearing no. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) recognized that India was threatened with the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic and ordered a complete lockdown in the entire country for an initial period of 21 days which started on March 25, 2020. By various subsequent notifications, the Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI further extended the lockdown from time to time. Various State Governments, including the Government of Haryana, have also enforced various strict measures to prevent the pandemic including imposing curfew, lockdown, stopping all commercial activities, stopping all construction activities. Despite, after above stated obstructions, the nation was yet again hit by the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic and again all the activities in the real estate sector were forced to stop. It is pertinent to mention, that considering the wide spread of Covid-19, firstly night curfew was imposed followed by weekend curfew and then complete curfew. That during the period from 12.04.2021 to 24.07.2021 (103 days), each and every activity including the construction activity was banned in the State. It is also to be noted that on the same principle, the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram granted 6 months extension for all ongoing projects vide order/direction dated 26th of May, 2020 on account of 1<sup>st</sup> wave of COVID-19 Pandemic. The said lockdown was imposed in March 2020 and continued for around three months. As such extension of only six months was granted against three months of lockdown.

- e) That as per license condition, developer are required to complete these projects within a span of 4 years from the date of issuance of environmental clearance since they fall in the category of special time bound project under Section 7B of the Haryana Development and Regulation of Urban Area Act 1975, for a normal Group Housing Project there is no such condition applied



hence it is required that 4 years prescribed period for completion of construction of Project shall be hindrance free and if any prohibitory order is passed by competent authority like National Green Tribunal or Hon'ble Supreme Court then the same period shall be excluded from the 4 years period or moratorium shall be given in respect of that period also.

- f) That it is safely concluded that the said delay of 422 days in the seamless execution of the project was due to genuine force majeure circumstances and the said period shall not be added while computing the delay. Thus, from the facts indicated above and the documents appended, it is comprehensively established that a period of 422 days was consumed on account of circumstances beyond the power and control of the respondent, owing to the passing of aforesaid Orders by the statutory authorities. All the circumstances stated hereinabove come within the meaning of force majeure in terms with the agreement.
- g) That even the UPRERA Authority at Gautam Budh Nagar has provided benefit of 116 days to the developer on account of various orders of NGT and Hon'ble Supreme Court directing ban on construction activities in Delhi and NCR, 10 days for the period 01.11.2018 to 10.11.2018, 4 days for 26.70.2019 to 30.10.2019, 5 days for the period 04.11.2019 to 08.11.2019 and 102 days for the period 04.17.2019 to 74.02.2020. The Authority was also pleased to consider and provided benefit of 6 months to the developer on account of the effect of COVID.
- h) That the Hon'ble UP REAT at Lucknow while deciding appeal No. 541 of 2011 in the matter of "Arun Chauhan Versus Gaur sons Hi- Tech Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd." vide order dated 02.11.2021 has also granted the extension of 116 days to the promoter on account of delay in completion of construction on account of restriction/ban imposed by the Environment



Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority as well vide order of Hon'ble Supreme Court Dated 14.11.2019.

- i) That Karnataka RERA vide notification No. K-RERA/Secy/04/2019-20 and no. RERA/SEC/CR-04/2019-20 has also granted 9 months extension in lieu of Covid-19 pandemic. Moreover, this Ld. Authority had in similar matters of the had allowed the benefit of covid grace period of 6 months in a no. of cases.
- j) That despite there being several defaulters in the project, the respondent had to infuse funds into the project and have diligently developed the project in question. Despite the default caused, the respondent got sanctioned loan from SWAMIH fund of Rs.44.30 Crores to complete the project and has already invested Rs.35Crores from the said loan amount towards the project. The respondent has already received the FIRE NOC, LIFT NOC, the sanction letter for water connection and electrical inspection report.
- k) That the respondent has applied for occupation certificate on 08.12.2023. Once an application for grant of occupation certificate is submitted for approval in the office of the statutory authority concerned, respondent ceases to have any control over the same. Therefore, the time utilized by the statutory authority to grant occupation certificate to the respondent is required to be excluded from computation of the time utilized for implementation and development of the project.
- l) That the complainant has been allotted unit under the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013 which clearly stipulated the payment of consideration of the unit in six equal installments. The complainant is liable to make the payment of the installments as per the government policy under which the unit is allotted. At the time of application, the complainant was aware of the duty to make timely payment of the installments. Not only as per the Policy,

but the complainant was also under the obligation to make timely payment of installments as agreed as per the BBA.

- m) That the complainant has failed to make any payment of installment at "*within 36 months from the due date of Allotment*" along with partial payment towards previous instalments. The complainant cannot rightly contend under the law that the alleged period of delay continued even after the non-payment and delay in making the payments. The non-payment by the complainant affected the construction of the project and funds of the respondent. That due to default of the complainant, the respondent had to take loan to complete the project and is bearing the interest on such amount. The respondent reserves the right to claim damages before the appropriate forum.
- n) The respondent issued a reminder letter dated 10.12.2024 to the complainant to clear his pending dues mentioning the relevant clauses of the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013, wherein if the installments are not paid timely, the respondent can cancel the unit allotted to the complainant.
- o) That in compliance with the provisions of the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013 since no payment was paid despite the issuance of a Final Reminder letter to make the outstanding payment, the allotted unit of the complainant has already been cancelled but showing the good gesture, a final opportunity to clear the outstanding dues to given to the complainant through a requisite public notice published in the Hindi newspaper on 12.02.2025. Further, the respondent has duly complied with the statutory requisites the project in nearly completed and the occupation certificate has already been applied, there is no unwarranted delay in completion of the project.
- p) That the respondent has duly received its occupation certificate from the Director, Town and Country Planning, Chandigarh on 31.12.2024. Since the

OC has been received, the complainant is legally bound to settle all outstanding payments and come forward to take possession of the unit, subject to clearing outstanding dues, following the offer of possession of the unit.

- q) That the misery of the respondent, the hundreds of allottees of the project on dispute have filed a claim petition having no. IB/48(ND)/2025 under section 7 of the IBC, 2016 and have claimed Rs.26 crores interest of 24% and declare the respondent insolvent as per the provisions of the IBC, 2016. It is pertinent to mention here that in this claim petition, and admitted the date of default i.e., the due date of handing over of possession, as 31.03.2023. The present complainant though this present RERA complaint has sought possession and interest on delayed possession, whereas though the claim petition having No. IB/48(ND)/2025 under section 7 of the IBC 2016, the complainant has sought insolvency of the respondent under the IBC, 2016.
- r) That the complainant has not only in breach of the buyer's agreement but also in breach of the Affordable Housing Policy and the provisions of the RERA Act, by failing to make the due payments of installments. The complainant is responsible for all the consequences of breach of the buyer's agreement and violation of RERA Act, 2016.
- s) That without prejudice, assuming though not admitting, relief of delayed possession charges, if any, cannot be paid without adjustment of outstanding instalment from due date of instalment along with interest of 15%. That, moreover, without accepting the contents of the complaint in any manner whatsoever, and without prejudice to the rights of the respondent, the unit of complainant can be retained only after payment of interest on delayed payments from the due date of instalment till the date of realization of amount. Further delayed interest if any must be calculated



only on the amounts deposited by the complainant towards the sales consideration of the unit in question and not on any amount credited by the respondent, or any payment made by the complainant towards delayed payment charges or any taxes/statutory payments, etc.

7. 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 these undisputed documents and submission made by the parties.

**E. Jurisdiction of the Authority**

8. 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**

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

**E. II Subject matter jurisdiction**

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

**Section 11....**

*(4) The promoter shall-*

*(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 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) of the Act provides 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.*

11. 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 at a later stage.

**F. Findings on the objections raised by the respondent.**

**F. I Objection regarding delay due to force majeure circumstances.**

12. It is contended on behalf of respondent that due to various circumstances beyond its control, it could not speed up the construction of the project, resulting in delays such as various orders passed by NGT and Hon'ble Supreme Court, lockdown due to outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic.

13. The Authority, after careful consideration, finds that in the present case, the project falls under the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013, which contains specific stipulations regarding the completion of the project. As per Clause 1(iv) of the said Policy:

*"All such projects shall be required to be necessarily completed within 4 years from the approval of building plans or grant of environmental clearance, whichever is later. This date shall be referred to as the 'date of commencement of project' for the purpose of this policy. The licenses shall not be renewed beyond the said 4-year period from the date of commencement of project"*

14. The respondent/promoter, having applied for the license under the Affordable Housing Policy, was fully aware of these terms and is bound by them. The Authority notes that the construction ban cited by the respondent was of a short duration and is a recurring annual event, usually implemented by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in November. These are known occurring events, and the respondent being a promoter, should have accounted for it during project planning. Similarly, the various orders passed by other Authorities cannot be taken as an excuse for delay as it is a well-settled principle that a person cannot take benefit of his own wrong. Hence, all the pleas advanced in this regard,

except for that of Covid-19 for which relaxation of 6 months is allowed by the authority are devoid of merits.

**G. Findings on the relief sought by the complainant.**

**G. I Direct the respondent to pay interest at the prescribed rate on delayed possession since the due date of possession till date of actual possession.**

**G. II Direct the respondent to complete and seek necessary governmental clearances regarding infrastructural and other facility including road, water, sewerage, electricity, environmental etc. before handing over the physical possession of the flat as the earliest.**

15. The above-mentioned reliefs sought by the complainant are being taken together being interconnected.

16. The factual matrix of the case reveals that the complainant was allotted unit no. F-118, in Tower-F admeasuring carpet area of 613.310 sq. ft. and a balcony area of 95.10 sq. ft., in the respondent project at sale price of Rs.25,00,790/- under the Affordable Group Housing Policy 2013. A buyer's agreement was executed between the parties. The possession of the unit was to be offered by 16.03.2021 as delineated herein below. The complainant paid a sum of Rs.19,45,234/- towards the subject unit.

17. It is pertinent to note that a final reminder letter dated 10.12.2024 was being sent to the complainant-allottee to make a payment of Rs.14,58,564/-, thereby affording him an opportunity to clear the outstanding dues. A final reminder letter dated 10.12.2024 was being sent to the complainant wherein it was specified that in case the complainant/allottee fails to make a payment of Rs.14,58,564/- within a period of 15 days of the said reminder, it shall result in automatic cancellation of the allotment without any further notice of communication by the respondent. Thereafter, the respondent made a publication in the newspaper "AAJ SAMAJ" on 12.02.2025 as required under Affordable Group Housing Policy, 2013. The said publication also stated that failure to make payment within the stipulated period would lead to automatic

cancellation of the allotment, without any further notice or communication by the respondent.

18. The foremost question which arises before the Authority for the purpose of adjudication is that "whether the said publication would tantamount to a valid cancellation in the eyes of law or not?
19. Clause 5(iii)(i) of the Affordable Group Housing Policy, 2013 talks about the cancellation. The relevant part of the clause is reproduced below: -

*"If any successful applicant fails to deposit the instalments within the time period as prescribed in the allotment letter issued by the colonizer, a **reminder** may be issued to him for depositing the due instalments within a **period of 15 days** from the date of issue of such notice. If the allottee still defaults in making the payment, the **list of such defaulters may be published in one regional Hindi newspaper having circulation of more than ten thousand in the State** for payment of due amount **within 15 days** from the date of publication of such notice, **failing which allotment may be cancelled**. In such cases also an amount of Rs.25,000/- may be deducted by the coloniser and the balance amount shall be refunded to the applicant. Such flats may be considered by the committee for offer to those applicants falling in the waiting list."*

20. The Authority observes that the respondent issued "Final Reminder Letter" dated 10.12.2024, directing the complainant to clear the outstanding dues amounting to Rs.14,58,564/-. It is pertinent to mention here that the complainant had already paid an amount of Rs.19,45,234/- (i.e., 77.78%) against the sale consideration of Rs.25,00,790/- to the respondent by 19.02.2019. Perusal of case file reveals that the demand raised by the respondent via letter dated 10.12.2024 was towards the payment of last instalment accompanied with interest on delay payments. Therefore, the rate of interest chargeable from the allottee by the promoter, in case of default, if any shall be charged at the prescribed rate i.e., 10.80% by the respondent/promoter which is the same rate of interest which the promoter shall be liable to pay the allottee, in case of default i.e., the delayed possession charges as per Section 2(za) of the Act. Also, the respondent is obligated to raise last demand only in accordance with the builder buyer agreement and as per Affordable Housing Policy, 2013 and shall not

charge anything from the complainant which is not the part of the builder buyer agreement and under the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013.

21. The Authority notes that the complainant had already paid an amount of Rs.19,45,234/- (i.e., 77.78%) against the sale consideration of Rs.25,00,790/- to the respondent. Per se, it is evident that the amount demanded by the respondent vide letter dated 10.12.2024 is more than 100% of the total sale consideration and prima facie seems to be arbitrary and cryptic. The respondent was required to hand over the project by 16.09.2020 under the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013, excluding the COVID-19 grace period. Even with a six-month grace period in lieu of Covid-19 pandemic to 16.03.2021, the respondent failed to complete the project. More than three years later, the project remained incomplete, and the respondent has obtained the occupation certificate from the competent authority on 31.12.2024. The interest accrued during the delay period significantly reduces the amount payable by the complainant. Upon adjustment of this interest, the respondent would, in fact, be liable to pay the complainant.
22. Additionally, as per Clause 9.2 of the agreement for sale, annexed as Annexure A to the Rules, 2017, the allottee has the right to stop making further payments if the promoter defaults on its obligations. The relevant portion is reproduced below:

**9.2 In case of Default by Promoter under the conditions listed above, Allottee is entitled to the following:**

- (ii) Stop making further payments to Promoter as demanded by the Promoter. If the Allottee stops making payments, the Promoter shall correct the situation by completing the construction/ development milestones and only thereafter the Allottee be required to make the next payment without any interest for the period of such delay; or...

**(Emphasis Supplied)**

23. In the present case, the promoter was obligated to complete the construction within four years from the date of either the environment clearance or the building plan approval, whichever was later, i.e., by 16.09.2020. However, the



promoter failed to complete the project within this timeline. Even after granting a six-month extension due to the Covid-19 pandemic, extending the deadline to 16.03.2021, the promoter did not complete the construction. Thus, in accordance with Clause 9.2, the allottee was fully justified in stopping further payments.

24. Herein, the complainant intends to continue with the project and is seeking delay possession charges at a prescribed rate of interest on the amount already paid by him as provided under the proviso to 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."***

25. **Due date of handing over possession:** The project was to be developed under the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013, which clearly mandates that the project must be delivered within 4 years from the date of commencement of project (as per clause 1(iv) of Affordable Housing Policy, 2013, all such projects shall be required to be necessarily completed within 4 years from the approval of building plans or grant of environmental clearance, whichever is later. This date shall be referred to as the "date of commencement of project" for the purpose of this policy). However, the respondent has chosen to disregard the policy provision. Clause 1(iv) of the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013 is reproduced as under:

***"1(iv) All such projects shall be required to be necessarily completed within 4 years from the approval of building plans or grant of environmental clearance, whichever is later. This date shall be referred to as the "date of commencement of project" for the purpose of this policy. The licences shall not be renewed beyond the said 4 years period from the date of commencement of project."***



26. In the present case, the date of approval of building plans is 10.03.2015, and the date of environment clearance is 16.09.2016. The due date of handing over of possession is reckoned from the date of environment clearance being later. Therefore, the due date of handing over of possession comes out to be 16.09.2020. Further as per **HARERA notification no. 9/3-2020 dated 26.05.2020**, an extension of 6 months is granted for the projects having a completion date on or after 25.03.2020. The completion date of the aforesaid project in which the subject unit is being allotted to the complainant is 16.09.2020 i.e., after 25.03.2020. Therefore, an extension of 6 months is to be given over and above the due date of handing over possession in view of notification no. 9/3-2020 dated 26.05.2020, on account of force majeure conditions due to the outbreak of Covid-19. As such the due date for handing over of possession comes out to be 16.03.2021.

27. **Admissibility of delay possession charges at prescribed rate of interest:** The complainant is seeking delay possession charges till the date of delivery of possession to the complainant. 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]***

*(1) 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."*

28. The legislature in its wisdom in the subordinate legislation under the provision of Rule 15 of the Rules, *ibid*, has determined the prescribed rate of interest. The

rate of interest, determined by the legislature, is reasonable and if the said rule is followed to award interest, it will ensure uniform practice in all cases.

29. 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., 05.02.2026 is 8.80%. Accordingly, the prescribed rate of interest will be marginal cost of lending rate +2% i.e., 10.80%.
30. The definition of term 'interest' as defined under Section 2(za) of the Act provides that the rate of interest chargeable from the allottee by the promoter, in case of default, shall be equal to the rate of interest which the promoter shall be liable to pay the allottee, in case of default. The relevant section is reproduced below:

***"(za) "interest" means the rates of interest payable by the promoter or the allottee, as the case may be.***

*Explanation. —For the purpose of this clause—*

- (i) *The rate of interest chargeable from the allottee by the promoter, in case of default, shall be equal to the rate of interest which the promoter shall be liable to pay the allottee, in case of default.*
- (ii) *the interest payable by the promoter to the allottee shall be from the date the promoter received the amount or any part thereof till the date the amount or part thereof and interest thereon is refunded, and the interest payable by the allottee to the promoter shall be from the date the allottee defaults in payment to the promoter till the date it is paid;"*
31. Therefore, interest on the delay payments from the complainant shall be charged at the prescribed rate i.e., 10.80% by the respondent which is the same as is being granted to them in case of delayed possession charges.
32. On consideration of the documents available on record and submissions made regarding contravention of provisions of the Act, the Authority is satisfied that the respondent is in contravention of the Section 11(4)(a) of the Act by not handing over possession by the due date as per the agreement.
33. It is the failure of the promoter to fulfil its obligations and responsibilities as per the buyer's agreement to hand over the possession within the stipulated period. Accordingly, the non-compliance of the mandate contained in Section 11(4)(a)

read with Section 18(1) of the Act on the part of the respondent is established. As such the complainant is entitled to delay possession charges at the prescribed rate of interest i.e., @ 10.80% p.a. w.e.f. 16.03.2021 till the offer of possession plus 2 months or actual handing over of possession whichever is earlier as per provisions of Section 18(1) of the Act read with Rule 15 of the Rules, *ibid*.

34. The Authority further observes that the respondent-promoter has obtained occupation certificate of the said project from the competent authority on 31.12.2024. Further, Section 11(4)(f) and Section 17(1) of the Act of 2016 the promoter is under an obligation to get the conveyance deed executed in favour of the allottees and handover the physical possession of the subject unit to the allottee complete in all respect as per specifications mentioned in BBA and thereafter, the complainant-allottee is obligated to take the possession and execute the conveyance deed within 2 months as per provisions of Section 19(10) and Section 19(11) of the Act, 2016, the allottee is also obligated to participate towards registration of the conveyance deed of the unit in question.
35. In view of the above, the respondent is directed to handover the possession of allotted unit to the complainant complete in all respect as per specifications of buyer's agreement within a period of one month from date of this order after payment of outstanding dues, if any, as the occupation certificate for the project has already been obtained by it from the competent authority. The respondent is further directed to execute conveyance deed in favour of the complainant in terms of Section 17(1) of the Act, 2016 on payment of stamp duty and registration charges as applicable, within three months from the date of obtaining occupation certificate.

#### **H. Directions of the authority**

36. 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):

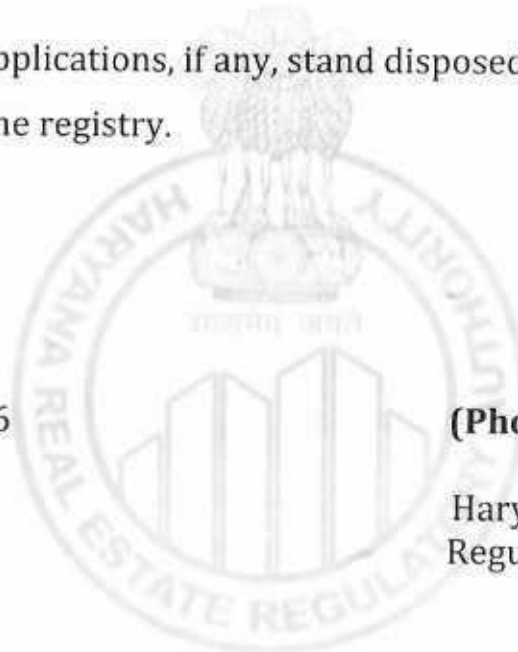


- I. The cancellation if any is hereby set aside being bad in the eyes of law. The respondent is directed to reinstate the subject unit within a period of 30 days from the date of this order. Further, the respondent is directed to pay interest on the amount paid by the complainant at the prescribed rate of 10.80% p.a. for every month of delay from the due date of possession i.e., 16.03.2021 till the offer of possession plus 2 months or actual handing over of possession, whichever is earlier.
- II. The arrears of interest accrued so far shall be paid to the complainant within 90 days from the date of this order and interest for every month of delay shall be paid by the promoter to the allottee before 10<sup>th</sup> of the subsequent month as per Rule 16(2) of the Rules, *ibid*.
- III. The rate of interest chargeable from the allottee by the promoter, in case of default shall be charged at the prescribed rate i.e., 10.80% by the respondent/promoter which is the same rate of interest which the promoter shall be liable to pay the allottee, in case of default i.e., the delayed possession charges as per Section 2(za) of the Act. Further, no interest shall be payable by both the parties for delay, if any between 6 months Covid period from 01.03.2020 to 01.09.2020.
- IV. The respondent is directed to issue a revised statement of account after adjustment of delayed possession charges, and other reliefs as per above within a period of 30 days from the date of this order. The complainant is directed to pay outstanding dues if any remains, after adjustment of delay possession charges within a period of next 30 days.
- V. The respondent is directed to handover the possession of the allotted unit to the complainant complete in all aspects as per specifications of buyer's agreement within one month from date of this order, as the occupation certificate in respect of the project has already been obtained by it from the competent authority.



- VI. The respondent shall execute the conveyance deed of the allotted unit within a period of 3 months from date of this order, upon payment of outstanding dues and requisite stamp duty by the complainant as per norms of the state government as per Section 17 of the Act, failing which the complainant may approach the adjudicating officer for execution of order.
- VII. The respondent shall not charge anything from the complainant which is not part of the buyer's agreement and the provisions of the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013.
37. Complaint as well as applications, if any, stand disposed off accordingly.
38. Files be consigned to the registry.

**Dated:** 05.02.2026



  
**(Phool Singh Saini)**  
Member  
Haryana Real Estate  
Regulatory Authority,  
Gurugram

**HARERA**  
**GURUGRAM**