BEFORE THE MAHARASHTRA REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY, PUNE

SUO MOTU ADVERTISEMENT/ PUNE CASE NO.26 OF 2023

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MahaRERA on its own Motion

Complainant

Respondent

Versus

Rajashree Properties Rajashree Chintan MahaRERA Project Registration No.P51600048227

Coram: Shri.F.D.Jadhav, Dy.Secretary-Cum-Head

Appearance :- A.R. Priya Manani

ORDER

18th July, 2023 (Through Video Conferencing)

1.

Maharashtra Real Estate Regulatory Authority has delegated certain powers on me on dated 26.04.2023 under Section-81 of the Real Estate (R & D) Act, 2016 (hereinafter called as "Act 2016"). The said powers, inter alia, contains imposing of penalty under Section 59 of the Act, 2016 for contravention of the provision of Section 3 by the promoter and to impose penalty under Section 61 of the Act for contravention of Section 11(2) of the Act etc. In exercise of the said powers delegated to me under Section 81 of the Act, 2016, notices were served to the Respondent-Promoter. A.R. Priya Manani appeared on behalf of promoter.

2.

It has been noticed by the MahaRERA Authority that an advertisement in daily newspaper 'Lokmat' without mentioning the MahaRERA Registration number, in regards to the project "Rajashree Chintan" has been published. On going through the record of MahaRERA Authority, it has been noticed that the project "Rajashree Chintan" is registered with MahaRERA vide Registration No. P51600048227. Therefore, by show-cause notice, dated 08.03.2023, the Respondent-

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Promoter was called upon to show cause as to why penal action under Section 61 of the said Act should not be initiated against him. Notice of hearing was issued to the Respondent on 16.06.2023 and directed to attend the virtual hearing on 27.06.2023. Promoter has filed his reply on 10.07.2023.

- 3. The promoter by his reply, dated 10.07.2023 admitted to have published the advertisement in daily newspaper 'Lokmat', dated 04.03.2023 of their above named project without mentioning RERA Registration Number and apologized for the same and further assured to comply with the provisions of Real Estate (Regulation And Development) Act, 2016 in its true letter and spirit.
- 4. Heard A.R. Priya Manani for promoter. She reiterated the contentions raised out in the reply filed by promoter. She has also admitted to have published the said advertisement without mentioning RERA Registration Number. She prayed for leniency.

At this juncture it is necessary to go through Section 11(2) of the Act, 2016 which reads as under:

Sec-11(2):- "The advertisement or prospectus issued or published by the promoter shall mention prominently the website address of the Authority, wherein all details of the registered project have been entered and include the registration number obtained from the Authority and such other matters incidental thereto."

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5.

On careful perusal of the Section 11(2) manifestly shows it is imperative on the part of the promoter to mention the MahaRERA Registration number of the project in the advertisement issued by him. Perused the advertisement. The project is ongoing and the advertisement clearly indicates violation of Section 11(2) of the Act of 2016. 7.

The act of the promoter publishing the advertisement without mentioning MahaRERA registration number definitely is for the sale of units in the project of the promoter and therefore, the promoter cannot escape from his liability from complying the mandatory provision under Section 11(2) of the Act 2016. It is also admitted fact that advertisement was given in "Lokmat" daily newspaper in a half page size. Therefore, it is proved that by publishing the said advertisement in question without mentioning MahaRERA registration number, this promoter has breached Section 11(2) of the Act, 2016.

Considering the facts *vis-a-vis* law discussed hereinabove, it can be said that it has been proved beyond doubt that the promoter has violated the provision of Section 11(2) of the Act, 2016 for publishing the advertisement without MahaRERA registration number, and thus this is a fit and suitable case to impose penalty.

Section 61 of the Act, 2016 deals with penalty for contravention of other provisions of this Act. The said provision, inter alia, states that...... promoter shall be liable to a penalty which may extend upto five percent of the estimated cost of the real estate project as determined by the Authority. A.R. Priya Manani has prayed for lenience in the matter. Considering the facts and circumstances of this case, lenient view ought to be taken while imposing the penalty in the matter.

- In view of the above, the penalty of Rs.20,000/- under Section 61 of the Act, 2016 is imposed upon the promoter for violation of Section 11(2) of the Act, 2016.
- 11. The said penalty shall be payable by the promoter within 30 days from the date of this order, failing which promoter shall be liable to penalty of Rs.1,000/- per day, in addition, till the realization of entire amount.

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8.

with respect to the said project.

(F.D.Jadhav) Dy.Secretary-Cum-Head, MahaRERA, Pune

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