SUO MOTU ADVERTISEMENT CASE NO. 119 OF 2024

BEFORE THE MAHARASHTRA REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY, MUMBAI

SUO MOTU ADVERTISEMENT CASE NO. 119 OF 2024

MahaRERA on its Own Motion

.... Complainant

Versus

Value Properties

....Respondent/

MahaRERA Agent Registration No. A51900043367 Coram: Dr. Vasant Prabhu, Secretary, MahaRERA None appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

ORDER

30th May 2024 (Through Video Conferencing)

- The MahaRERA Authority had issued a show cause notice dated 02.05.2024 to the Respondent above named for issuing an advertisement on Instagram platform dated 31.12.2023 in regard to their real estate project situated at Parel, Mumbai without incorporating the MahaRERA Agent Registration Number and the Quick Response (QR) Code of the said real estate project in the said advertisement.
- The Respondent, inspite of having received the show cause notice dated 02.05.2024, failed to show cause to the same within stipulated time period.
- 3. In this regard, a hearing was scheduled on 30.05.2024 through video conferencing as per the MahaRERA Circular No. 27/2020 and MahaRERA Order No. 593/2023, wherein the Respondent could have appeared through its representatives and made its submissions.
- 4. During the aforementioned hearing, the Respondent failed to appear even though the notice of hearing and the link for the hearing was duly served upon the Respondent.

SUO MOTU ADVERTISEMENT CASE NO. 119 OF 2024

5. In this regard, it is necessary to peruse the provisions of Rule 14(2) of the Maharashtra Real Estate (Regulation and Development) (Registration of Real Estate Projects, Registration of Real Estate Agents, Rates of Interest and Disclosures on Website) Rules, 2017; MahaRERA Order No. 46/2023 read with MahaRERA Order No. 46A/2023, which reads as under:

"14(2) Every registered real estate agent shall quote his number of their registration in all the documents relating to advertisement, marketing, selling or purchase issued by the real estate agent along with the number of registration certificate of the real estate project."

"MahaRERA Order No. 46B/2023 Real estate agents shall prominently display QR code on each and every real estate promotion/advertisement published in the mediums as more specifically listed in MahaRERA Order No. 46/2023 dated 29.05.2023."

"MahaRERA Order No. 46/2023 The Promoter shall prominently display QR code on each and every project promotion/advertisement published after 01.08.2023. The QR code must be published in a manner that is legible, readable, and detectable with software application. The QR code must be published besides the MahaRERA registration number and the website address. The mandate as mentioned above shall apply to the mediums of promotion/advertisement and in any other medium as may be directed by the Authority."

- 6. From the plain reading of the above-mentioned sections, the real estate agent is under obligation to mention the agent registration number along with the project registration number and QR code of the said real estate project in the said advertisements issued by it.
- 7. In the present case, the Respondent had published an advertisement on the Instagram platform dated 31.12.2023. However, the Respondent failed to incorporate MahaRERA agent registration number and QR code in the said advertisement.
- 8. Henceforth, it becomes manifestly clear that the Respondent stands in violation of Rule 14(2) of the Maharashtra Real Estate (Regulation and Development)

SUO MOTU ADVERTISEMENT CASE NO. 119 OF 2024

(Registration of Real Estate Projects, Registration of Real Estate Agents, Rates of Interest and Disclosures on Website) Rules, 2017, in conjunction with MahaRERA Order No. 46/2023 dated 29.05.2023 read with MahaRERA Order No. 46B/2023 dated 21.08.2023.

- 9. In view of the above a penalty of Rs. 25,000/- is imposed upon the Respondent under Sections 65 of the RERA for violation of the provisions of Rule 14(2) of the Act and for violation of MahaRERA Order No. 46/2023 dated 29.05.2023 read with MahaRERA Order No. 46B/2023 dated 21.08.2023.
- 10. The said penalty shall be payable by the Respondent within a period of 15 days from the date the penalty is enforced, failing which a further penalty of Rs. 1,000/- per day would be imposed till compliance.
- 11. The Technical and Finance Departments of the MahaRERA Authority are mandated to authenticate the payment of the penalty prior to initiating the processing of any applications, including but not limited to extensions, corrections, and change of name, pertaining to the specified project.
- 12. In view of the above, the present case stands disposed of.

lou Dr. Vasant Prabhu

Secretary, MahaRERA