

Heavy industries minister seeks GST cut for auto

Heavy Industries Minister Anant Geete has recommended to Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to cut the goods and services tax (GST) rate for the automobile sector to promote its growth and maintain tempo of job growth. At an ASSOCHAM event in New Delhi, he said, "With all the applications that I have received from automobile sector for reduction in GST rates, I have included my suggestions on the same and requested the finance minister to think in this direction." He also emphasised on the need to make people at the helm in the government departments accountable for any violation or accident. **BS REPORTER**

Jaypee Homebuyers Need to File Claims; Relief Limited to Aman

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New Delhi: Homebuyers in Jaypee Infratech projects, except for a few towers in its Aman project, will have to fill up forms to register their claims for the corporate insolvency resolution process against the company.

In a meeting on Monday between Jaypee Infratech MD Manoj Gaur, the insolvency resolution professional (IRP) Anuj Jain, officials from the corporate affairs ministry and homebuyers, it was decided that around 1,000 homebuyers in Jaypee Aman project on Noida-Greater Noida Expressway have been exempted from filing up the forms, informed Bidhayak Rakshit, a buyer in the Jaypee Aman project.

"The decision was taken considering five towers in Jaypee Aman project have received the completion certificates and are in advanced stages of registration," he said.

It was reported in some sections of the media on Monday that all the homebuyers will be exempted from filing claims. Devendra Yadav, a member representing 10 association of Jaypee Infratech's Wish Town projects, comprising over 2,500 homebuyers, also confirmed that they are still filling up the forms.

"The move was limited to Jaypee Aman project. We have not received any formal communication about not filling up the forms," he said. Yadav also advised homebuyers that it's important for them to fill up Form C to register their claims as financial creditors, who will get the highest priority in case of liquidation of assets.

The Allahabad bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on August 9 clas-

sified Jaypee Infratech as insolvent on the petition filed by IDBI Bank under Section 7 of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016. According to the order, Jaypee Infratech has defaulted on ₹526.11-crore loan outstanding to IDBI Bank. The latest move by NCLT against Jaypee Infratech has left around 32,000 homebuyers in the lurch.

NCLT has now appointed Jain as the IRP to carry out the proceedings under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, while the board of directors of the company will remain suspended. In an FAQ released last Thursday, Jain requested homebuyers to at least submit the form by August 24, while the supporting documents can be provided subsequently, but before a resolution plan is filed before the committee of creditors (CoC) for approval. IRP also clarified that the August 24 deadline for submitting of claims by homebuyers will not be extended.

A total of 27 projects in three Noida land parcels of Jaypee Infratech will come under the purview of CIRP, according to another FAQ released last Friday. IRP will get 270 days to turn around the company's finances and see if a resolution of the company's debt is possible. In case this is not possible, the company's asset will be liquidated.

Industry body Assocham recently has urged the government, NCLT and the insolvency and bankruptcy board of India (IBBI) to treat homebuyers in realty projects at par with banks in real estate projects. It has also requested that if need be, the government should look at issuing a Presidential ordinance to amend the insolvency and bankruptcy code (IBC) to protect rights and interest of homebuyers in log-jammed projects.