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➤ Jet Airways insolvency case: NCLAT reserves order on Jalan-Kalrock Consortium's plea

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Monday reserved its order on Jalan-Kalrock Consortium's plea seeking more time to make payments to the lenders of the bankrupt Jet Airways. The consortium had emerged as the winning bidder for the airline, which stopped flying in April 2019 and later underwent an insolvency resolution process.

The consortium is to pay Rs 350 crore to the lenders by August 31 but has sought an extension for making the payment. A three-member NCLAT bench said it will pass the order on next Monday and has granted three days' time to the parties to file their written submissions.

"Heard learned counsel for the parties... orders on August 28, 2023. Parties are at liberty to file their short notes of submission of not more than three pages within three days," the appellate tribunal said.

The bench would also decide the consortium's plea to consider a performance bank guarantee of Rs 150 crore as part of the payment of Rs 350 crore. The consortium had submitted that it will deposit Rs 100 crore by August 31. After that, they would deposit another Rs 100 crore by September 30. For the remaining Rs 150 crore, it had suggested that lenders can encash a performance bank guarantee lying in their favour having a similar value.

Source: The Economic Times.

Read Full news at: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/airlines/-aviation/jet-airways-insolvency-case-nclat-reserves-order-on-jalan-kalrock-consortiums-plea/articleshow/102915404.cms?from=mdr>

➤ **Corporate affairs ministry assessing need to ramp up bench strength of NCLT**

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) is contemplating an increase to the existing strength of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) benches to handle the growing case load. The ministry is currently analysing the time taken by each bench to dispose of matters and the total number of cases being handled by each bench.

"We need to first determine our requirement, given that the NCLT handles both Company Act and insolvency and bankruptcy matters. The latter constitutes the majority of the case burden. We are gathering the data to understand the ground reality," explained a senior official.

At present, the NCLT has a sanctioned strength of 63 members, including both technical and judicial members. As stated on the NCLT website, 55 of these positions are filled. The government has been advocating for the use of technology, including an IT-enabled system for case management, to accelerate processes and reduce reliance on manpower. However, there is recognition that there will still be a need for additional strength at the benches.

The NCLT consists of 28 courts and 16 benches across India. Any increase in the sanctioned strength would likely require Cabinet approval. While industry stakeholders are calling for dedicated benches to handle insolvency matters, the government is reportedly not in favour of this proposal.

Source: Business Standard.

Read Full news at: https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/corporate-affairs-ministry-assessing-need-to-ramp-up-bench-strength-of-nclt-123082000315_1.html

➤ **Expert panel suggests changes in insolvency law among others to revive stalled reality projects**

Changes in the insolvency law and formulating a scheme offering subsidised interest rates are among the several measures suggested by an expert panel to the Centre for reviving stalled real estate projects in the country.

The 14-member panel led by former NITI Aayog chief Amitabh Kant presented the committee's report to Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday. The Report of the Committee to examine the issues related to Legacy Stalled Real Estate Projects said to encourage financial institutions to fund stalled projects, a scheme offering subsidised interest rates, similar to MSME, is recommended.

"Such a scheme would reduce perceived risk, stimulate financial support and lead projects to completion. "Additionally, the Central Government may consider a guarantee fund similar to MSME for such finances. The MoHUA (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs) will prepare a detailed scheme and send it to the Ministry of Finance, in this regard," the report stated.

Source: Mint.

Read Full news at: <https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/uniform-valuation-standards-needed-for-company-assets-in-bankruptcy-proceedings-ibbi-chairperson-11692377954401.html>

➤ NCLT defers hearing of SBI's insolvency plea against PC Jeweller to August 29

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on August 21 deferred to August 29, the hearing of State Bank of India's (SBI) plea seeking insolvency proceedings against PC Jeweller. The case was adjourned after PC Jeweller sought more time to file a response to SBI's plea. On August 2, the NCLT first sought PC Jeweller's response to SBI's plea.

SBI's insolvency plea first came up for hearing on July 26, the tribunal issued notice in the case and listed the case for further consideration on August 2. PC Jeweller entered an appearance in the case today and sought time to file a response, and the tribunal accordingly deferred the hearing in the case.

Source: Money Control.

Read Full news at: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/trends/legal/nclt-defers-hearing-of-sbis-insolvency-plea-against-pc-jeweller-to-august-29-11230011.html>

