THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW APPELLATE TRIBUNAL <u>NEW DELHI</u>

<u>M.A. No.31/2018</u> <u>Un-numbered Company Appeal (AT) (Insolvency) No. /2018</u> <u>(F.No.16/01/2018/NCLAT/UR/48)</u>

In the matter of:

Kamineni Steel & Power India Pvt. Ltd. Applicant

Versus

Indian Bank & Ors.

.... Respondents

Appearance: Ms. Srujana Suman Mund, Advocate for the Applicant.

05.02.2018

This is an application (no provision of law mentioned) to extend the time granted for compliance given under sub-rule (2) to rule 26 of the NCLAT Rules, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the Rules).

2. The allegation in the application is that the certified copy of the impugned order was received quite late, which contributed to the delay in presenting the appeal. The delay is alleged to be neither deliberate nor owing to any negligence. Hence, the prayer is to extend the time for compliance and condone the delay of five days.

3. The points that arise for consideration are: -

- i) Is the time given for complying the direction to cure the defects liable to be extended under sub-rule (3) to rule 26 of the Rules?
- ii) Reliefs.

4. **<u>Point No. (i)</u>**: - Heard the learned counsel for the Applicant.

The aforesaid Appeal under Section 61 of the I&B Code, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the Code) is against the order dated 27.11.2017 in CP(IB)No.11/10/HDB/2017 of the Hon'ble NCLT, Hyderabad Bench.

5. The aforesaid appeal is seen presented before the Registry on 16.01.2018. The appeal when scrutinised on 17.01.2018 was found to be defective and so on the same day the Applicant was informed of the defects with a direction to cure them within a period of seven days. The period of seven days' expired on 24.01.2018. However, the appeal was presented after curing the defects only on 01.02.2018. According to

the Section there is a delay of eight days' and hence the matter has been put up before me under sub-rule (2) to rule 26 of the Rules for appropriate orders.

6. Sub-section (2) to section 61 of the Code says that every appeal under subsection (1) shall be filed within 30 days before the Appellate Tribunal. The free certified copy of the impugned order dated 27.11.2017 is seen issued on 01.12.2017. Therefore, the period of 30 days computed from 02.12.2017 expires on 31.12.2017. The initial presentation of the appeal on 16.01.2018 and the subsequent presentation after curing the defects on 01.02.2018 are apparently after the expiry of 30 days for filing the appeal.

7. The proviso to sub-section (2) to section 61 of the Code states that the period of 30 days for filing an appeal can be extended by a period of 15 days. However, this power can be exercised only by the Hon'ble Appellate Tribunal. The time granted under sub-rule (2) to rule 26 for compliance can be extended by the Registrar under sub-rule (3) to rule 26, provided it is within the period of 30 days stipulated under the Code for filing an appeal, as the Rules cannot override the provisions of the Act. In the instant case, as the time taken is beyond the period of 30 days, the matter be placed before the Hon'ble Appellate Tribunal for appropriate orders. Point answered accordingly.

8. **Point No.(ii)**: - M.A. No.31/2018 disposed of accordingly.

List the matter before the Hon'ble Appellate Tribunal on 06.02.2018.

(C.S. Sudha) Registrar