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Role of NCLT in resolution of Insolvent Businesses: A Quantitative Study Company Law Experts POOJA BAHUGUNA

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Abstract

In India, the resolution of bankrupt firms is mostly dependent on the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). Under the 2016 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act (IBC), it was constituted as a quasi-judicial body. The main goal of the NCLT is to handle insolvency matters involving businesses quickly and effectively, limited liability partnerships (LLPs), and other entities. The NCLT also has the authority to designate insolvency specialists, sanction resolution schemes, and resolve disagreements pertaining to bankruptcy procedures. Due to the NCLT's singlewindow approach to insolvency case resolution, the insolvency resolution procedure in India has been greatly improved. It has accelerated the value of the assets of the insolvent companies and streamlined the insolvency resolution procedure, cutting down on the amount of time needed for resolution. By establishing a transparent and effective procedure for the resolution of insolvency cases, the NCLT has also assisted in increasing the ease of doing business in India. In order to resolve bankrupt firms in India, the NCLT has become a vital institution. Investors' confidence in the Indian market has increased thanks to it, as has the country's business environment thanks to its prompt case resolutions and effective operation. The researcher had considered Company Law Experts To know different role of NCLT in resolution of insolvent businesses. and found that NCLT handle insolvency matters involving businesses quickly and effectively, limited liability partnerships (LLPs), and other entities, NCLT cuts down on the amount of time needed for resolution and designate an interim resolution professional (IRP) to oversee the business during the resolution procedure.

Keywords: Insolvency, National Company Law Tribunal, Quasi-judicial body, Ease of doing business, Limited liability Partnerships.

Introduction

Insolvency is a significant risk for businesses, and successful risk management calls for businesses to have a comprehensive grasp of the risks posed by insolvency as well as the methods for reducing those risks. The NCLT is essential to the process of resolving insolvent enterprises because it offers a clear and effective mechanism for handling insolvency cases and makes sure that the board and senior management are responsible for the risks of insolvency. The NCLT has the authority to start and oversee every step of the insolvency resolution process, including the selection of insolvency specialists, the endorsement of resolution strategies, and the resolution of disagreements arising from insolvency proceedings. The NCLT uses this procedure to make sure that all parties' interests are taken into account and that insolvency matters are

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resolved in a just and effective manner. The NCLT's work is particularly relevant to the author's emphasis on responsibility and risk management. The NCLT's involvement in the settlement of insolvent enterprises encourages accountability among the board and senior management of corporations, and its effective operation and prompt resolution of cases have increased investors' faith in the Indian market and the ease of doing business there (Govindarajan 2011).

To ensure that the procedure is carried out properly and efficiently, there needs to be more clarity in how the regulations relating to claim priority and asset valuation should be interpreted. The NCLT is a key player in the IBC's insolvency case resolution process, offering a dependable and effective method for handling such matters. Although there have been issues with infrastructure, staffing, and provision interpretation during the implementation of the IBC, the NCLT has been given the authority to rectify these issues and guarantee that the resolution process is conducted fairly and openly. To ensure that the IBC's implementation is efficient and effective in resolving bankruptcy cases and fostering financial stability, it is crucial to address these difficulties as they arise (Balasubramanian 2016).

Indian insolvent enterprises have been resolved in large part because to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). The author points out that the procedure for handling insolvency cases was difficult, expensive, and time-consuming before the NCLT and NCLAT were established. For parties that are not pleased with the NCLT's decisions, the NCLAT offers an appeals process. The author makes the case that the creation of the NCLT and NCLAT has significantly increased the effectiveness and transparency of the bankruptcy resolution process in India and has improved the ease of doing business there. The 2016 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Law requires that the interests of all parties, including creditors, employees, and shareholders, be considered while resolving bankruptcy cases. The author makes the case that this strategy has encouraged increased accountability among the board and senior management of firms and has helped to reestablish investors' faith in the Indian market (Kamath 2018).

Literature Review

Rajakumar (2018) emphasizes that by giving creditors more influence over decision-making, the IBC has improved their position in the settlement process. The NCLT has the authority to designate an interim resolution professional (IRP) to oversee the business during the resolution procedure. The IRP is obligated to work with the creditors to develop a resolution plan. The resolution plan is subject to approval or rejection by the creditors, and if authorized by a certain majority of the creditors, it is binding on all parties. The timely resolution of insolvency cases has been made possible in large part by NCLT. The NCLT is expected to make sure that the resolution procedure is carried out within the allotted time frame, as is outlined in the IBC. As a result of the assurance that the resolution process will not go on indefinitely and that their interests will be safeguarded, investors and creditors have been more confident. It further emphasizes how crucial the NCLT has been in implementing the IBC's regulations and ensuring

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stakeholder compliance. The ability of the NCLT to penalize any party that violates the IBC's rules has served to discourage non-compliance and guarantee that the settlement process is conducted in a fair and transparent way.

The NCLT has made great strides in the resolution of insolvency cases, according to Sriram (2016), despite these difficulties. Insolvency proceedings were proactively started by the NCLT, and resolution proposals were timely authorized, according to the author. The NCLT has also worked to safeguard the interests of all parties involved, including as creditors, employees, and shareholders. The NCLT has the authority to decide on insolvency matters and designate insolvency experts to oversee the resolution procedure, according to Singh and Singh (2018). By establishing a timely and effective system for the resolution of insolvency cases, this has considerably increased the ease of doing business in India. The rapid resolution of insolvency cases has been made possible in large part by the NCLT. The NCLT makes sure that this timeframe is closely followed and that any deviations are thoroughly investigated. Also, the NCLT has proven effective in lowering the amount of pointless bankruptcy cases. In order to force a debtor to pay their debts, creditors frequently started bankruptcy proceedings against individuals in the past. Yet since the IBC was implemented, such behavior is not accepted, and the NCLT has been given the authority to punish people who bring unfounded claims.

According to Goel (2017), the IBC aims to make conducting business in the nation easier while also promoting entrepreneurship and streamlining the insolvency procedure. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has been constituted as the deciding body in insolvency proceedings under the IBC. The NCLT oversees selecting insolvency experts to oversee the resolution procedure, keeping track of its development, and approving the ultimate resolution strategy. A crucial step in the IBC resolution process is the engagement of insolvency practitioners. These experts are in charge of seizing control of the bankrupt company, evaluating its financial situation, and creating a resolution strategy that is agreeable to all parties. The NCLT is essential in directing the work of these specialists and ensuring that they follow the established timetables and practises. The IBC has improved how simple it is to conduct business in India, but there have been some difficulties in putting it into practise. One of the key issues is the NCLT's inability to handle the growing volume of insolvency cases due to a lack of resources in terms of infrastructure and personnel. The backlog of cases as well as delays in the resolution process are the result of this. The interpretation of the IBC's provisions is a problem that arises during implementation. There is a need for further clarity in the interpretation of the legislation's frequently technical and sophisticated terminology to maintain consistency.

According to Khaitan & Co. (2018), the NCLT and IBC have played a key role in fundamentally altering India's insolvency landscape. The NCLT can judge such cases and designate insolvency specialists to oversee the resolution process since the IBC provides a thorough structure for insolvency case resolution. Additionally, the NCLT has been given authority to accept the resolution plan put forth by the resolution specialist, which is binding on all parties. Due to this,

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there has been a large rise in international investments and an increase in investor and creditor trust in the Indian market.

TNCs (Transnational corporations) have long been accused of operating in a "vacuum of accountability" and without being held responsible for their deeds. However, the NCLT has shortened the bankruptcy resolution procedure, cutting down on the resolution time and increasing the value of the assets of the insolvent enterprises. The significance of holding TNCs responsible under international law is emphasized. For the resolution of insolvency proceedings, the NCLT has created a transparent and effective procedure, enhancing India's business friendliness (Jonge 2011).

Ghosh and Sharma (2018) point out that there have been difficulties in both the IBC's implementation and the operation of the NCLT. There have been concerns with the NCLT's ability to handle the growing number of insolvency cases, as well as delays in the resolution process brought on by a number of factors. The NCLT has faced significant challenges in effectively carrying out its duties due to inadequate infrastructure and people. However the IBC and NCLT have been successful in changing India's insolvency landscape and making it easier to do business there.

Wadhwa emphasized the difficulties encountered during the implementation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC) in India (2016). The National Company Law Tribunal's (NCLT) inability to handle the rising volume of insolvency cases is one of the main problems. This is due to a lack of resources, including both infrastructure and personnel. For insolvency matters under the IBC, the NCLT has been created as the deciding body. There are worries that the NCLT does not have the personnel or facilities to deal with the rising volume of insolvency cases being submitted. This further complicated the issue by causing delays in the case resolution procedure and a backlog of cases. Concerns concerning the NCLT's function in the disputeresolution process have also been raised. There have been cases where the NCLT has been criticized for being overly liberal when approving resolution plans, raising questions about how impartial the procedure is.

The evidence back up Chakraborty's (2017) assertion that the NCLT has been successful in resolving several insolvency cases due to its effective and efficient operation. Since its beginning, the NCLT has been successful in resolving bankruptcy cases, which is a notable improvement over the previous system. By releasing important resources and assets that were previously encumbered by insolvency suits, the prompt resolution of these cases has boosted the Indian economy. The NCLT has also been effective in defending the interests of all parties involved, including creditors and stockholders, by ensuring a fair and transparent resolution process. To make sure that the insolvency resolution process is finished in a timely and efficient way, the NCLT has to upgrade its infrastructure and expand the number of benches. This is crucial since more and more insolvency cases are anticipated to need to be resolved in the near

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future. In order to ensure that the insolvency resolution process is carried out in a consistent and uniform manner across the country, it is also necessary to provide greater clarity in the interpretation of the IBC's provisions and the rules and regulations developed thereunder.

Objective: To know different role of NCLT in resolution of insolvent businesses.

Methodology: The researcher had considered Company Law Experts To know different role of NCLT in resolution of insolvent businesses. The survey was conducted with the help of a questionnaire. The researcher had collected the primary data through random sampling method and analyzed it by statistical tool called mean.

Findings

Table 1 Role of NCLT in resolution of insolvent businesses

| S. No. | Statements | Mean Value |
|-----------|--|---------------|
| 1. | NCLT handle insolvency matters involving businesses quickly and effectively, limited liability partnerships (LLPs), and other entities | 3.18 |
| 2. | Designates insolvency specialists, sanction resolution schemes, and resolve disagreements pertaining to bankruptcy procedures | 3.15 |
| 3. | Accelerates the value of the assets of the insolvent companies and streamlined the insolvency resolution procedure | 3.13 |
| 4. | NCLT cuts down on the amount of time needed for resolution | 3.17 |
| 5. | Designate an interim resolution professional (IRP) to oversee the business during the resolution procedure | 3.16 |
| 6. | NCLT penalize any party that violates the IBC's rules and guarantee that the settlement process is conducted in a fair and transparent way | 3.14 |

Table 1 above is showing different Role of NCLT in resolution of insolvent businesses. The respondent says that NCLT handle insolvency matters involving businesses quickly and effectively, limited liability partnerships (LLPs), and other entities with 3.18, NCLT cuts down on the amount of time needed for resolution with mean value 3.17 and Designate an interim resolution professional (IRP) to oversee the business during the resolution procedure with mean value 3.16. The respondent also says that Designates insolvency specialists, sanction resolution schemes, and resolve disagreements pertaining to bankruptcy procedures with mean value 3.15, NCLT penalize any party that violates the IBC's rules and guarantee that the settlement process is conducted in a fair and transparent way with mean value 3.14 and accelerates the value of the assets of the insolvent companies and streamlined the insolvency resolution procedure with mean value 3.13.

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Conclusion

A time-bound and effective procedure for the resolution of insolvency disputes has been made possible by the National Company Law Tribunal formation in India, which has considerably increased the ease of doing business there. The NCLT has the authority to decide on insolvency cases and appoint insolvency professionals to oversee the resolution process. By ensuring a fair and transparent resolution process, the NCLT has helped to safeguard the interests of all stakeholders, including creditors and shareholders. The NCLT's operation and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code's (IBC) implementation, however, have not been without difficulties. The NCLT faces a number of significant obstacles, including a lack of infrastructure and personnel to handle the growing volume of insolvency cases, the need for more clarity in the application of IBC provisions, problems with asset valuation and claim priority in the resolution process, and the need for ongoing enhancements to the NCLT's operations. Despite these obstacles, the NCLT has been successful in resolving several insolvency cases because to its effective and efficient operation. By allowing for a swift resolution of distressed businesses, it has aided in the promotion of an entrepreneurial and innovative culture and, in turn, economic growth and development. To guarantee that the insolvency resolution process is completed in a timely and efficient way, it is crucial to keep addressing the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the IBC and the operation of the NCLT. Also, it is crucial to safeguard the interests of all parties involved in the settlement process, particularly those of small and medium-sized businesses, which are the foundation of the Indian economy. This can be accomplished by bolstering the NCLT's infrastructure, adding more benches, clarifying how the IBC's requirements should be interpreted, and addressing problems with asset value and claim priority in the resolution process.

The study explored different role of NCLT in resolution of insolvent businesses and found that NCLT handle insolvency matters involving businesses quickly and effectively, limited liability partnerships (LLPs), and other entities, NCLT cuts down on the amount of time needed for resolution and designate an interim resolution professional (IRP) to oversee the business during the resolution procedure.

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