NCLAT Admits Oyo's Plea Against CCI's ₹169-crore Penalty Ruling

WAY FORWARD Appeal admitted subject to a 10% deposit of the penalty amount within six weeks

Anumeha.Chaturvedi

@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Tuesday admitted Oyo's appeal against a Competition Commission of India (CCI) order imposing a \$\foliate{169}\)-crore penalty against the hospitality company.

The appeal has been admitted subject to deposit of 10% of the penalty amount within six weeks. It's listed for hearing in April next year.

In an order last month concerning a case filed by Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI) against MMT-Go and Oravel Stays (Oyo), CCI had imposed a penalty of *169 crore on Oyo and *223.48 crore on MMT-Go besides directing MMT-Go to amend its market behaviour for indulging in anticompetitive conduct.

CCI had directed the two to deposit the respective penalty amounts within a period of 60 days of receipt of the order. Oyo had filed an appeal

BREATHING SPACE



FHRAI COUNSEL SAYS...

It's a conditional stay for Oyo subject to a **10%** deposit of penalty amount

This involves a wider issue that needs to be adjudicated

COURT SAID The matter can be heard on merits once the pleadings are complete

CCI had directed MMT-Go and Oyo to deposit the penalty amounts within a period of 60 days of receipt of the order

before NCLAT against the CCI order. The NCLAT order dated November 22 stated Oyo's appeal requires hearing and that records from CCI on the matter must be submitted by the end of January 2023.

"The appeal is admitted subject to deposit of 10% of the penalty amount, which must be deposited within a period of six weeks," the order said. "List this appeal on April 11, 2023, under the caption for hearing."

In the meantime, counsels for the parties are granted liberty to complete pleadings which must be finished before the first week of February next year, it said.

Oyo declined to comment on the matter.

Ishan Nagar, counsel for FHRAI, said. "It's a conditional stay for Oyo subject to a 10% deposit of the penalty amount. This involved a wider issue that needs to be adjudicated. Moreover, there is prima facie anticompetitive behaviour with respect to MMT-Go and Oyo. The court has said the matter can be heard on merits once the pleadings are complete."

FHRAI SECY GENERAL SAYS



RICHARD

Association will continue to pursue the mat-

ter further for the 'benefit of thousands of small hotels in the country'