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# **A Study On Insolvency And Bankruptcy**

## **Code, 2016**

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### **Abstract**

The Indian insolvency framework underwent a significant transformation with the adoption of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. Similar to other nations throughout the world, our nation also faced a number of economic challenges as a result of the unanticipated pandemic scenario. The insolvency regime has also been impacted by this extraordinary circumstance. In order to address the problems with the insolvency regime during this pandemic crisis, the legislature has developed regulations. The goal of the current article is to examine the concerns and challenges of corporate insolvency resolution in India during the epidemic. The goal of the study is to give a summary of the major problems in this field. The author attempts to assess the effectiveness of the ordinances and highlights any flaws.

## **Introduction**

Any country's legal system is always crucial to its ability to thrive economically. If the nation's legal system is well-designed and well implemented, the nation's international standing will undoubtedly be solid.

The implementation of the IBC is India's second-most important legal change after the Goods and Services Tax. It's because the IBC gives India a new sense of identity and economic respect on a global scale while also making India a force to be reckoned with in the legal arena. This code has a good effect on all fronts, including the economic and non-economic ones. Since the code has been approved, India's economic standing has significantly improved due to increased FDI, more M&A transactions, and improved ease of doing business in India.

One of India's most significant economic changes, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 is thought to have had a substantial impact on credit risk management. IBC, 2016 unifies and updates the Indian law governing the insolvency resolution process. Lenders, financial institutions, corporations, and professionals all seem to be affected by the Code's introduction, offering them the opportunity to work as resolution professionals. Insolvent entities are intended to be wound up more quickly, distressed entities are intended to be saved, and investors are intended to have an easier exit.

## **Objectives Of The Study**

The study was conducted in order to further the following major goals:

1. To examine the 2016 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code's distinctive elements and legal structure.
2. To determine how India's macroenvironment will be affected by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

## **Need Of The Study**

This Paper main goal is to explore the 2016 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code's key sections. This paper highlights diverse stakeholders' points of view, difficulties encountered, and multiple benefits of the reform's implementation in India. This report also demonstrates how IBC is very creative in enhancing India's reputation on the international stage.

## **Insolvency And Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016**

### **A. Background:**

Next to the GST, the "Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016" is regarded as the biggest economic change. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 is a significant piece of legislation that unifies the legal framework governing individual restructuring and liquidation (including incorporated and unincorporated entities).

By consolidating and amending the laws relating to the reorganisation and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms, and individuals in a timely manner and for the maximisation of value of such persons' assets and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, the new law seeks to promote entrepreneurship, availability of credit, and to balance the interests of all stakeholders. The laws governing the insolvency of businesses and limited liability entities (including limited liability partnerships and other entities with limited liability) are intended to be consolidated.

### **B. CROSS - BORDER INSOLVENCY**

There are various difficulties with the legal framework controlling cross-border insolvencies. The first is the lack of a thorough structure for cross-border insolvency. Resources are wasted as a result of the resulting conflicts across legal systems. Additionally, it leads to different treatment of domestic and foreign debtors. A few prominent attempts to address these issues have been made. These include the NAFTA Transnational Insolvency Project, the International Bar Association Cross-Border Insolvency Concordat, the EC Regulation on Insolvency Proceedings (Council Regulation (EC) No 1346/2000 of May 29, 2000), and the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency.

### **C. jurisdictional Parameters**

This section aims to outline the potential standards on which the jurisdiction of Courts in cross-border insolvencies may be established, without reference to any specific legal system. The place of incorporation:

This method establishes jurisdiction based on the insolvent debtor's location of incorporation. Although predictability is undoubtedly increased, there is concern that this may frequently identify a jurisdiction that has little to no true relationship to the bankrupt company (Irit Ronen-Mevorach). European courts have frequently operated under the assumption that the location of a company's incorporation is where its primary interests are. This assumption can be refuted, though (Eurofood IFSC Ltd case).

**D. The location of principal assets:**

One of the least reliable criteria for choosing the venue for international insolvency proceedings is the asset-based test. The majority of the time, determining the company's international assets takes time and money. Additionally, asset-based jurisdiction cannot be established before the insolvency process has started. Because of this, the initial determination of jurisdiction is unpredictable and subject to fraud.

**E. Injunction**

Cross-border insolvencies allow creditors to file lawsuits in local courts rather than through centralised liquidation proceedings in order to get priority over other claims against the corporation. It is feared that this will lead to an uneven distribution of assets and the unjust prejudicial treatment of some creditors at the expense of other creditors. One strategy for resolving this issue is the use of anti-suit injunctions. The Privy Council ruled in *Aerospatiale v. Lee Kui Jak* that English courts have the authority to issue anti-suit injunctions to safeguard the integrity of ongoing insolvency procedures before the Court. One situation where the issuing of such an injunction is justified is to prevent someone from trying to get the sole benefit of particular foreign assets through foreign procedures.

**E. UNCITRAL Model Law**

The UNCITRAL Model Law makes an effort to offer a cutting-edge legal framework for the control of international insolvency. The model law is especially pertinent to India because various expert committees, including the J J Irani Committee, have advocated its implementation with appropriate amendments.

To protect the interests of all parties involved, the UNCITRAL Model Law offers a legal framework for coordinating cross-border insolvency processes. The Model Law accomplishes this goal in three ways: first, by requiring judicial cooperation; second, by giving a foreign insolvency administrator or a similar representative standing in local proceedings; and third, by guaranteeing that claims from both abroad and within the country are treated equally.

The Model Law is applicable in situations where a foreign creditor seeks to start insolvency proceedings before a local court, when a local court requests assistance from a foreign court or foreign representative, and finally when the same debtor company is involved in parallel insolvency proceedings in various jurisdictions. However, the Model Law does not compromise the sovereignty of other countries.

## **F. Recognition of Foreign Proceedings:**

The Model Law stipulates that recognition of international insolvency proceedings is necessary (Articles 25 and 26). This is done in order to guarantee the efficient application of the other clauses pertaining to parity of treatment and access to foreign creditors. A "Foreign Main Proceeding" (FMP) or "Foreign Non-Main Proceeding" (FNP) is a foreign proceeding (FNMP). The relief that a foreign court may provide is determined by this classification. A foreign action that takes place in the debtor's home country or the location of the debtor's "centre of its principal interest" is referred to as an FMP in the Model Law.

## **Conclusion**

The use of insolvency legislation can aid COVID-19-affected debtors who are in financial difficulties by protecting their firm's value and helping them restructure their debts<sup>28</sup>. In fact, several writers have asserted that bankruptcy law, particularly for big businesses, is not the issue; rather, it is the answer.

Concerns are raised about the circumstances of pending cases when the settlement plans have already been authorised. It becomes challenging to accomplish the true goal that the code aims to achieve in situations where the pandemic condition introduces financial constraints and makes it tough to move forward with the already approved plan. Additionally, the operational creditors of the corporate debtor may suffer as a result of the reduced threshold limit and the general prohibition on filing applications. In addition,

Furthermore, there is a higher risk of abuse of these rules because it is not stated anywhere how to tell if a default happened as a result of Covid-19 problems. While considering the legislative actions done in other nations, like as Singapore, it was decided that a panel of assessors would decide if a party's inability to fulfil the contractual obligations for which relief is requested was due to the pandemic. Similar actions can be conducted in India, where regulatory tribunals could be given this authority. Using this strategy, it will be guaranteed that only the party in need will receive relief without having to demonstrate that it is unable to fulfil its commitment.

Although bankruptcy law can other legal systems. Using these special criteria, some penalties may even be opportunistically applied to debtors. Additionally, the additional restructuring options permitted by other laws are now available due to the pandemic situations and revisions to the current insolvency system. Therefore, steps to apply other methods of restructuring or reorganising in the most effective way must also be considered.

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