

COUNTER CLAIM Order surprising as NFRA's jurisdiction is under question Former Deloitte Chief Fined ₹25L, Barred for Seven Years

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Mumbai: The national audit regulator has debarred Udayan Sen, former CEO of Deloitte India, for seven years and slapped a penalty of ₹25 lakh for his role in “omissions/misstatements” in the audit of fraud-hit IL&FS Financial Services.

“Udayan Sen is debarred for the period of seven years from being appointed as an auditor or internal auditor or undertaking any audit in respect of financial statements or internal audit of the functions and activities of any company or body corporate,” National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) said in a statement on Wednesday.

Sen was the main engagement partner for Deloitte Haskins and

Sells that was IFIN's sole auditor till 2016-17, and joint auditor along with BSR & Co for 2017-18. BSR took over as the sole auditor of the company from 2018-19.

Sen could not be immediately contacted for comment.

A Deloitte spokesperson said, “As a professional accounting firm, we are surprised and concerned that NFRA has chosen to issue and make public an order against a former partner of the firm, in spite of the question of its jurisdiction being sub-judice and awaiting adjudication and disposal by the Hon’ble Delhi High Court.”

Sen had filed a writ petition in the High Court after NFRA issued a show-cause notice in January.

NFRA in its statement said the order is not applicable till July 31 when the next date of the Delhi High Court hearing is set.