

IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION 1221 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Bareilly cracker factory blast toll upto 6 main accused held" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 03.10.2024

INDEX

S.N O	PARTICULARS	PAGE NO.
1.	REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE COMMANDANT, STATE DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE, UTTAR PRADESH ALONGWITH THE SUPPORTING AFFIDAVIT.	1-5

Through

Date: 20.12.2024  
Place: New Delhi



**PRIYANKA SWAMI**  
ADVOCATE

Standing Counsel for STATE, Uttar Pradesh  
F-13, JANGPURA, NEW DELHI 110014  
E-mail:[advpriyankaswami@gmail.com](mailto:advpriyankaswami@gmail.com)

**IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION 1221 OF 2024**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**News Item titled "Bareilly cracker factory blast toll upto 6 main accused held" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 03.10.2024**

**REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE COMMANDANT, STATE DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE, UTTAR PRADESH ALONGWITH THE SUPPORTING AFFIDAVIT.**

**MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH**

1. This report is submitted in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal in connection with the above-captioned matter. The report addresses the role and actions undertaken by the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), Uttar Pradesh, during the incident involving the explosion at a firecracker factory in Bareilly District on 02.10.2024. Additionally, this report clarifies the jurisdiction and statutory limitations of the SDRF regarding compensation and addresses the misjoinder of a party.
2. That the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), Uttar Pradesh, was established under Government Order No. 2963/6-Pu-16-2016-1100(6)2013 dated 28.11.2016, as per the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. Its primary mandate includes conducting relief and rescue operations during natural and anthropogenic disasters, such as floods, building collapses, landslides, industrial accidents, and radiological and chemical disasters.

3. That the SDRF is entrusted with the execution of relief and rescue operations in exigencies and does not hold the mandate to process or disburse compensation to victims, which remains the prerogative of the local and district administrations.
4. That on 02.10.2024, at 3:46 PM, Event No. 90-F02102430370 on U.P. 112 recorded an emergency regarding a catastrophic explosion in a firecracker factory located in Village Kalyanpur, Suroli Police Station area, Bareilly District. The explosion resulted in the collapse of a residential structure, with several individuals reported trapped under the debris.
5. That upon receipt of this information, the SDRF Control Room promptly informed senior officials. Following requisite approvals, the SDRF's 'F' Team stationed at CV Ganj Police Station, Bareilly, was directed to respond under the leadership of Sub-Inspector Mr. Ashutosh Singh.
6. That the team mobilized at 4:10 PM with essential rescue equipment and government vehicles, reaching the disaster site at 5:30 PM. The SDRF, in collaboration with local authorities, initiated search and rescue operations. Preliminary efforts by local residents had already resulted in the rescue of several injured individuals, who were transported to nearby medical facilities.
7. That around 11:50 PM, the SDRF team retrieved two children, Sahjaan (aged 3) and Hasanain (aged 5), sons of Wahid, from the debris and handed them over to the local administration. Following instructions from the Superintendent of Police, Bareilly District, the team concluded its operations at 12:55 AM on 03.10.2024 and returned to its stationed location.
8. That the SDRF executed its mandate effectively and in accordance with statutory protocols. It is clarified that the SDRF does not hold any authority to provide

compensation for loss of life or property. All responsibilities related to compensation, including determination and disbursement, fall under the jurisdiction of the local and district administrative authorities.

9. It is respectfully submitted that the Additional Director General (ADG) of the State Disaster Response Force, Uttar Pradesh, has been impleaded as **Respondent No. 6** in the matter. However, no such rank exists within the organizational framework of the SDRF. The correct party in the present case is the **Commandant, State Disaster Response Force, Uttar Pradesh**, who oversees the operational and administrative functions of the force.
10. This clarification is submitted to rectify any procedural discrepancies and ensure accurate representation of the SDRF in the matter.
11. The SDRF carried out its operations diligently, adhering to its statutory duties and operational framework. Any delays or omissions in compensation to the victims are beyond the SDRF's mandate and fall within the scope of the competent administrative authorities. The SDRF remains committed to supporting the Hon'ble Tribunal and the local administration in ensuring justice and relief to the victims.

Date: 20.12.2024

Place: New Delhi

Through



**PRIYANKA SWAMI**

ADVOCATE

Standing Counsel for STATE, Uttar Pradesh

F-13, JANGPURA, NEW DELHI 110014

E-mail: [advpriyankaswami@gmail.com](mailto:advpriyankaswami@gmail.com)



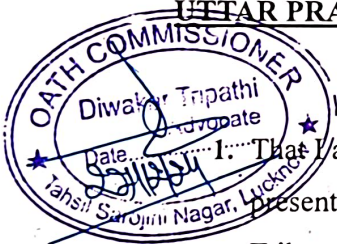
IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION 1221 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Bareilly cracker factory blast toll upto 6 main accused held" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 03.10.2024

AFFIDAVIT

I, DR. SATISH KUMAR, aged about 43 years C/o Sh. Devendra Pal Singh is presently posted as COMMANDANT, STATE DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE, UTTAR PRADESH having an office at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.



1. That I am posted as stated above and well conversant with the facts of the present case and as such competent to swear this affidavit before this Tribunal.

- 2. That the accompanying Reply has been drafted by our counsel upon my instructions.
- 3. That the contents of the accompanying Reply are true and correct, and the knowledge has been derived from official records and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Satish Kumar  
DEPONENT

Solemnly affirmed before me on this day of 11.10.2024 at 11.00 A.M. by Shri. Satish Kumar the who is identified by Shri. Devendra Pal Singh Clerk to Shri. Dr. Satish Kumar I have satisfied my self and examining the Deponent that he understands the contents of the affidavit which have been read out and explained by me

Diwakar Tripathi  
Advocate  
Oath Commissioner  
Tahsil Sarojini Nagar, Lucknow

Diwakar Tripathi

\* know and identify the deponent who has signed/put -I before me

**VERIFICATION**

Verified on solemn affirmation at Lucknow on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024,  
that the contents of the foregoing affidavit are true and correct to the best of my  
knowledge and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed  
therefrom.

I solemnly affirm that I, Satish Kumar  
H.O.A.M. by name Satish Kumar  
who is identified by Shri. (7017827073)  
work to Shri. Pradip Kumar Dwivedi  
I have satisfied myself and examined  
the Deponent that he understands  
contents of the affidavit which have been  
read out and explained by me

DEPONENT

Diwakar Prasad  
Advocate  
Jath Commission  
Jehar Saroj  
29/12/24

\* know and identify the deponent  
who has signed/put "I" before me