

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 772/2024
(I.A. No.519/2025)

News item titled “3 sleeping after finishing shift killed in blaze at Narela factory 6 injured” appearing in The Times of India dated 09.07.2024

Date of hearing: 04.08.2025

Order uploaded on: 22.08.2025

CORAM: **HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON**
 HON’BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER
 HON’BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER

Respondents: Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta & Ms. Ananya Basudha, Advs. with Ms. Mahima Tomar (Through VC), SDM, Narela, Distt. North
 Ms. Suman Arora, Adv. for CPCB

ORDER

1. This Original Application (OA) was registered *suo-moto* on the basis of the news item published in Times of India dated 09.07.2024 disclosing the breakout of a fire in a Moong Dal processing factory in Narela Industrial area in North Delhi, resulting in the death of three persons and injury to six persons. It was disclosed in the news item that the blaze was followed by an explosion on the premises, and nearly 90 firefighters were deployed to douse the blaze. It discloses that firemen had recovered a dozen gas cylinders from the building, and if these gas cylinders had exploded, the incident would have caused more injuries and casualties. The blast was such that a part of the roof and balcony blew up. As per the disclosure made in the news item, gas pipes were installed throughout the factory.

2. The Tribunal, by order dated 09.07.2024, had impleaded the Respondents and had issued notices to them. The Respondent No. 1-CPCB has filed the reply dated 25.09.2024, disclosing that the unit was having a valid CTO. The Respondent No. 2-DPCC has filed the reply dated

27.09.2024 disclosing that the unit was located in approved industrial area and was having CTO under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and it falls under green category as per the categorization of the CPCB. The Respondent No. 3-MoEF&CC has filed the reply dated 16.09.2024, disclosing the details of the Rules and Regulations applicable in such cases.

3. The Respondent No. 4 had initially filed the reply dated 27.01.2025, disclosing the details of three deceased victims and six injured in the incident as follows:-

“4. That the matter pertains to fire incident reported at Narela Industrial Area dated 08.06.2024 in Factory no. 11-1249, M/s Shayam Kripa Foods Pvt. Ltd. The details of the injured and dead victims in the fire incident are as following:

A. Three victims have died in the fire incident:

- 1. Vide MLC No. 3235/24 Shyam S/O Jagdish, Age-24 years,*
- 2. Vide MLC No. 3303/24 Ram Singh S/O Girja Shankar, Age-30 years A/H/O Burn Injury*
- 3. Vide MLC No. 3241/24 Beerpal S/O Rajaram, Age-42 years A/H/O burn injury in unresponsive & unconscious state were. declared brought dead.*

B. Six victims were injured in the fire accident:

- 1. Vide MLC No. 3236/24 Pushpender S/O Rakesh Sharma, Age-26 years A/H/O Burn Injury and referred to Safdurjung Hospital,*
- 2. Vide MLC No. 3237/24 Akash S/O Kanhaiyalal Age-19 years A/H/O Burn Injury and referred to Safdurjung Hospital,*
- 3. Vide MLC No. 3238/24 Mohit Kumar S/O Raju Kushwaha, Age-1 years A/H/O Burn Injury and referred to Safdurjung Hospital.*
- 4. Vide MLC No. 3240/24 Ravi Kumar s/o Jaikishan Narayan Sharma age 19 years A/H/O Injury by brick (simple injury),*
- 5. Vide MLC No. 3301/24 Monu S/o Jagdish Narayan Sharma, Age 25 years A/H/O Burn injury and referred to Safdurjung Hospital.*
- 6. Vide MLC No. 3302/24 Lalu S/o Banshlal Kushwaha, Age 32 years A/H/O Burn Injury and referred to Safdurjung Hospital.”*

4. The subsequent report dated 02.08.2025 has been filed by the Respondent No. 4 disclosing the entitlement to receive Rs. 10 lakhs by the family members of the each deceased and Rs. 20000/- to those who have received minor injuries and the process which has been initiated to verify the legal heirs of the deceased. The disclosure so made in the report dated 02.08.2025 by the Respondent No.4 is as under:-

“xxx xxx xxx

2. That as part of the statutory responsibilities entrusted to the District Magistrate, my office has been directed to process and release ex-gratia compensation to the victims and their dependents as per the extant Government norms. The said norms are laid down under Government Order No. F.1(87)/Relief/Building Collapse/2010/2663 dated 05.03.2020(Annexure-I). The said order, inter alia, prescribes uniform scales of relief, including 10 lakh per deceased and ₹20,000/- for minor injuries in cases of disasters, including industrial mishaps. Accordingly, the payable compensation amounts are computed as under:

S. No.	No. of victims	Remarks	Amount per head	Total amount
1.	04	Deceased	Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 40,00,000/-
2.	03	Minor injured	Rs. 20,000/-	Rs. 60,000/-
			Total	Rs.40,60,000/-

5. The reply of the Respondent No. 2 also discloses that the employer has released the monetary assistance towards treatment and compensation to the victims as under:-

“xxx xxx xxx

6. That, apart from statutory ex-gratia compensation, It is brought to the kind attention of the Hon'ble Tribunal that the private entity concerned, M/s Shyam Kripa Foods, has also released monetary assistance towards treatment and compensation of victims, as detailed below (Annexure-IV):

S. No.	Name of victim	Injury	Amount paid to	Amount paid		Total amount
				Treatment	Compensation	
1.	Sh. Lalu	Minor injury		70000	50000	120000
2.	Sh. Sagar	Minor injury		70000	50000	120000
3.	Sh. Pushpendra	Minor injury		40000	200000	240000
4.	Sh. Jay Kumar	Minor injury		250000	250000	500000
5.	Sh. Mohit Kumar	Deceased	Sh. Raju (Father) Smt.	Rs. 2 Lakh will be paid	600000	600000

			<i>Bhagwati (Mother)</i>	<i>before the High Court while getting the FIR quashed</i>		
6.	<i>Sh. Ram Singh</i>	<i>Deceased</i>	<i>Sh. Girija Shankar (Father) Smt. Sushma (Mother) Smt. Rekha (Wife)</i>	<i>-do-</i>	<i>600000</i>	<i>600000</i>
7.	<i>Sh. Shyam</i>	<i>Deceased</i>	<i>Smt. Urmila Devi (Wife) Ms. Sonam (Daughter) Sh. Akash (son) Sh. Ashish (son) Sh. Vikas (son)</i>	<i>-do-</i>	<i>600000</i>	<i>600000</i>
8.	<i>Sh. Veerpal</i>	<i>Deceased</i>		<i>-do-</i>	<i>600000</i>	<i>600000</i>
	<i>Total</i>					<i>Rs. 33,80000/-</i>

6. As per the above chart the employer has released Rs. 6 Lakhs to the legal heirs of the deceased and Rs. 2 Lakhs will be paid before the High Court while getting the FIR quashed. Thus, it has been pointed out by the learned counsel for the Respondent No. 4 that legal heirs of the deceased have received Rs. 8 lakhs for each of the deceased victim. The Respondent No. 2 has also disclosed the amount which has been paid to the injured person as under:-

“xxx

xxx

xxx

7. That in respect of four persons who sustained injuries, sanction orders have already been issued in respect of Three persons with 20,000/- per injured person, totalling ₹60,000/- as per the laid down norms. In addition to these four injured person, One of the individuals was subsequently discharged without any burn injuries and has accordingly not been considered for compensation. Further, the details of persons injured and the compensation disbursed is mentioned below in the table. The sanctioned amount is in the process of being credited directly to the beneficiaries' bank accounts (Annexure-V). The details are as under:-

S. No.	Name	Address	Amount of compensation	Bank account details
1.	Sagar@ Akash S/o Kanhaiya Lal Age 20 years,	Mharajpur, Belhupur, Auraiya, UP	Rs.20000/-	SBI IN0008955 A/cNo.43819739511
2.	Jay Kumar @ Monu S/o Jagdish Narayan Sharma Age 25 years	Nar Khurd, Kanpur Dehat, UP	Rs.20000/-	A/C.No.50600100007943
3.	Lalu S/o Bansh lal Age 30 yrs	Harpura, bhandernau, Kanpur Dehat, UP	Rs.20000/-	SBI IN0018928 A/cNo.38294191905
4.	Pushpendra Sharma S/o Rakesh Sharma Age 29 years	Sargaon, Bujurg, Kanpur Dehat UP	Smt. Priyanka, wife of Late Sh. Pushpendra Sharma, has informed (Mob.No.9718169713) that he passed away four months ago due to illness.	

7. The NGT in similar circumstances in OA No. 134/2021 in the matter of in re: News item published in The Hindustan Times dated 17.06.2021, titled “Blast in fire cracker unit in Maharashtra’s Palghar, at least 10 injured” vide order dated 25.06.2021 and other similar matters after considering the earlier judgements on the point has awarded compensation of Rs. 20 lacs to the family members of deceased victims and compensation upto Rs. 15 lacs to the injured persons depending upon the nature of injury.

8. Learned counsel appearing for the Respondent No. 4 does not dispute that in term of the direction of the Tribunal in other similar matters the family members of deceased are entitled to receive Rs. 20 Lakhs for the death of each victim. She has submitted that she will appraise the Competent Authorities about the orders of the Tribunal in this regard. We expect that the Competent Authorities reconsider the issue sympathetically and will ensure payment of differential amount to the family members of the victims and injured.

9. The OA is accordingly disposed of.

10. All the pending IAs also stand disposed of.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

August 04, 2025
Original Application No. 772/2024
(I.A. No.519/2025)
A..