

**Form No. 4**  
**{See rule 11(1)}**  
**ORDER SHEET**  
**ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL, REGIONAL BENCH, LUCKNOW**  
**Court No.1 (E. Court)**

**M.A. No. 272 of 2022 Inre : O.A. No. 880 of 2021**

**Lt. Col. Awadhesh Kumar Singh through Pariokar (His Wife)**

**Lt. Col. Aneesha Singh (Retd.)**

By Legal Practitioner for the Applicant

Applicant

**Versus**

**Union of India & Others**

By Legal Practitioner for Respondents

Respondents

<b>Notes of the Registry</b>	<b>Orders of the Tribunal</b>
	<p><b><u>11.03.2022</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava, Member (J)</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve, Member (A)</u></b></p> <p><b><u>M.A. No. 272 of 2022 Inre : O.A. No. 880 of 2021</u></b></p> <p>1. Heard Wg. Cdr. Ajit Kakkar (Retd.), Ld. Counsel for the applicant and Dr. Shailendra Sharma Atal, Ld. Counsel for the respondents.</p> <p>2. This application has been filed in Original Application No. 880 of 2021, Lt. Col. Awadhesh Kumar Singh Vs Union of India and others which has been filed by the applicant for setting aside the tentative charge sheet served upon the applicant on 12.07.2019 being time barred under section 122 of the Army Act and also for setting aside the order dated 16.11.2021 requiring the applicant to move to DRC Faizabad for disciplinary proceedings. By means of this application the applicant wants his release from the close arrest. The applicant is in close arrest in connection with disciplinary proceedings in respect of alleged irregularities committed while demanding medical stores at Base Hospital, Lucknow.</p> <p>3. Learned counsel for the applicant submits that in regard to irregularities in demand of medical stores at Base Hospital, Lucknow Disciplinary Proceedings were initiated against the applicant. In the said disciplinary proceedings the applicant is under close arrest in accordance with provisions of Regulations of the Army para 392(k). In proceedings before the General Court Martial the applicant had taken plea in bar that trial in respect of alleged irregularities in demand of medical stores at Base Hospital, Lucknow was barred by time in view of section 122 of the Army Act which was accepted by the court, holding that trial was barred by time. Despite the same applicant was not released from the close arrest, rather his arrest is still continuing which is illegal as once trial is held barred by time the respondents cannot keep applicant in close arrest but they ought to have immediately released the applicant. He further submits that applicant can't be kept in custody on the premise that court decision declaring the trial as time barred is not final but is subject to confirmation by the GOC-in-C Central Command and, if the same is not confirmed, the convening authority may convene reassembly of the court</p>

and the court may proceed in the matter as if the plea has been found not proved. He submits that even if it so happens the applicant is ready to give undertaking that he will appear before the court for facing trial as and when it is so required.

4. Per contra, learned counsel for the respondents, on instructions received, submits that finding of the court declaring the GCM in respect of applicant as time barred in view of section 122 of the Army Act is not final and it is subject to confirmation by the confirming authority i.e. GOC-in-C Central Command and this is the reason applicant was immediately not released after finding of the GCM in plea of bar was recorded. He submits that if the decision of the GCM is not accepted by the confirming authority then as per Army Rule 53(4) read in conjunction with Army Act 153 the GCM may be reassembled by the confirming authority and the GCM may proceed as if the plea has not been found proved. He thus submits that given the above factors the convening authority has taken decision to continue to keep the applicant under close arrest under provisions of Regulations of the Army Para 392(k).

5. From the discussions made above it is not disputed that applicant's plea in bar declaring the GCM in respect of applicant as time barred, in view of section 122 of the Army Act has been accepted by the Court. The finding of the Court is undoubtedly subject to confirmation by the GOC-in-C Central Command but applicant's release cannot be denied on this reason, more so when he is in service and there is nothing against him that he has ever tried to run away to avoid the disciplinary proceedings and is ready to give an undertaking to appear before the GCM if it reassembles should the court decision be not confirmed by the competent authority. Thus in the circumstances we find that applicant deserves to be released on bail subject to undertaking. Applicant is ready to ready to give undertaking to appear before the GCM when reassembled under order of the convening authority, if finding of the court is not accepted by the GOC-in-C Central Command.

6. In view of the above, the M.A. is allowed. Let the applicant MR- 07778F Lt. Col. Awadhesh Kumar Singh of Base Hospital, Lucknow attached with DORGA REGTL CENTRE be released on bail on his furnishing a personal bond of the sum of Rupees One Lakh in favour of Govt of India and one surety in the like amount stating that in case decision of the GCM declaring the trial in respect of the applicant as time barred is not confirmed by the GOC-in-C Central Command, and the court reassembles to proceed with trial then he himself will report to/surrender before the court to face the trial. It is clarified that in the event of applicant failing to abide by the bond the respondents shall be at liberty to take him in close custody and the order of bail will not come in their way in any manner.

7. The M.A. stands decided accordingly.

	<b>(Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve)</b> <b>Member (A)</b>	<b>(Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava)</b> <b>Member (J)</b>
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AKD/-















































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**Court No.1 (E. Court)**

**M.A. No. 192 of 2022 and M.A. No. 214 of 2022 Inre : O.A. (A) No. 91 of 2022 with  
M.A. No. 127 of 2022**

**Ex. Spr. Ajay Singh**  
By Legal Practitioner for the Applicant

Applicant

**Versus**

**Union of India & Others**  
By Legal Practitioner for Respondents

Respondents

Notes of the Registry	Orders of the Tribunal
	<p><b><u>11.03.2022</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava, Member (J)</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve, Member (A)</u></b></p> <p><b><u>M.A. No. 192 of 2022</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Heard Col. R.K. Tripathi (Retd.), Ld. Counsel for the applicant and Shri Amit Jaiswal, Ld. Counsel for the respondents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In view of facts averred in affidavit filed in support of application, early hearing application made by the applicant is allowed.</p> <p><b><u>M.A. No. 214 of 2022</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">By means of this application applicant wants to implead Chief Record Officer, Bengal Engineer Group Records, Roorkee, Uttarakhand as a party in the Original Application and to bring amendments in prayer clause also.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Impleadment and amendments being necessary for the just decision of the case, amendment application is <b>allowed</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Let amendments be carried out within a week.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Respondents may file objection against Bail Application within three weeks from today.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">List on <b>23.04.2022</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve)</b> Member (A)                      <b>(Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava)</b> Member (J)</p> <p>AKD/-</p>



