

COURT NO. 1
ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

3.

MA 809/2026 (OA Dy. No. 1544/2026)

L/NK Rohit Kumar Applicant
Versus
Union of India & Ors. Respondents

For Applicant : Mr. Ajit Kakkar, Advocate
For Respondents : Ms. Sunanda Shukla, Advocate

CORAM

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJENDRA MENON, CHAIRPERSON

ORDER
20.02.2026

This application under Rule 6 has been filed seeking permission to institute the OA under Section 14 before the Principal Bench, New Delhi on the ground that the Srinagar Bench of this Tribunal is presently non-functional due to the non-availability of Judicial and Administrative Members. The applicant is a serving officer posted within the territorial jurisdiction of the Srinagar Bench. It is, however, noted that although the Srinagar Bench is not presently functional, cases pertaining to the Jammu and Srinagar are being regularly taken up for hearing. A Bench from the Regional Bench, Chandigarh holds physical sittings at Jammu for one week every month. Matters from the Jammu and Srinagar jurisdictions are being heard on a case-to-case basis depending upon urgency and administrative arrangements. It is also a matter of record that the Principal Bench at New Delhi is presently burdened with more

than 15,000 pending cases, whereas the Regional Benches are comparatively less burdened. In these circumstances, no sufficient ground is made out to permit filing of the present OA before the Principal Bench.

2. The applicant is at liberty to present the OA before the Jammu Bench and if required, make an appropriate request through the Registrar of the Chandigarh Bench for listing before the Bench holding sittings at Jammu. With the aforesaid liberty, the application is dismissed. The OA, if already presented, shall be returned to the applicant for filing before the Jammu Bench in accordance with law.


[JUSTICE RAJENDRA MENON]
CHAIRPERSON

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