

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

126

Civil Writ Petition No.8785 of 2015

Date of Decision: May 06, 2015

Manjinder Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

Union of India and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH

Present: Mr. Abhishek Sethi, Advocate,
Mr. Mandeep Kaushik, Advocate
for the petitioner.

AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH, J. (ORAL)

It is the contention of the counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner is the holder of Indian passport No.M1316001. He has applied for studies and was issued a student VISA by the Canadian Embassy at Delhi. The course in Niagara College of Arts and Technology Welland, Ontario, Canada is commencing from 11.05.2015 and the last date to report for the said course is 15.05.2015. He contends that the passport of the petitioner has been withheld by respondent No.3 i.e. Regional Passport Officer, Amritsar on a doubt with regard to the date of birth certificate of the petitioner. The genuineness of the birth certificate and verification thereof was sought to be confirmed by the Regional Passport Officer, Amritsar from the Local Registrar, Births and Deaths, Khadoor Sahib, which had issued a certificate No.45 dated 11.06.2014. The said communication was addressed on 27.03.2015 (Annexure P-10). On receipt of the same, an endorsement thereon was given by the Local Registrar, Births and Deaths, Khadoor Sahib, District Tarn Taran stating as follows:-

“It is verified that the date of birth of Manjinder Singh son of Sh. Manjit Singh son of Harbhajan Singh is 03-09-1994 whose registration dated is 11-06-2014 and ST No. is 8393 dated 18-06-2014. As per this, a certificate dated 26.06.2014 had been issued. This certificate has been found to be correct by us”.

Counsel contends that despite having received the endorsement from the Local Registrar, Births and Deaths, Khadoor Sahib dated 27.03.2015 (Annexure P-10), Regional Passport Officer, Amritsar-respondent No.2 has not returned the passport to the petitioner nor has any communication with reference to the said aspect received by him. Counsel contends that the petitioner is to join the course in Canada latest by 15.05.2015 and if the passport is not released to the petitioner much prior thereto, he would not be in a position to join the said course and would lose an opportunity to study, he, therefore, prays that a direction be issued to respondent No.3 to consider the endorsement received from the Local Registrar, Births and Deaths, Khadoor Sahib on the communication dated 27.03.2015 (Annexure P-10) sent by respondent No.3 and in the light of the same issue the passport to the petitioner.

In view of the statement made by the counsel for the petitioner, without going into the merits of the case or commenting thereon, the present writ petition is disposed of with directions to Regional Passport Officer, Regional Passport Office, 14 Mall Road, Near Custom Chowk, Amritsar, Punjab-143001-respondent No.3, to take into consideration the endorsement, as has been referred to in the communication dated 27.03.2015 (Annexure P-10) and take a final decision with regard to the passport of the petitioner, within a period of four days from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order and if the endorsement is accepted the passport be issued to the petitioner forthwith otherwise a well reasoned and speaking order be passed and conveyed to the petitioner forthwith.

Copy of this order be given *dasti* to the counsel for the petitioner under signatures of Bench Secretary of this Court.

May 06, 2015
Puneet

(AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASHI)
JUDGE