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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 2680/2019

MS. HANSIKA NAIR

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr Sanjoy Ghose, Ms Urvi Mohan
and Mr Rhishabh Jetley, Advocates.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

..... Respondents

Through: Mr Ajay Dignpaul, CGSC for UOI.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIBHU BAKHRU

ORDER

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18.03.2019

1. Issue notice. Learned counsel appearing for the respondents accepts notice.
2. The petitioner has filed the present petition, *inter alia*, praying that the name of her father, legal guardian be reflected in her passport, instead of the name of her biological father.
3. The petitioner was born on 17.11.2000 and, thereafter, her parents were divorced on 03.05.2006. In 2007, the petitioner's mother and her step father (Capt. Vivek Nair) were married. It is stated that the petitioner has been living with her mother and her step father since 2007. It is further stated that the petitioner has no contact with her biological father.
4. The petitioner was issued a passport on 20.05.2014, which reflected the name of the petitioner's biological father. The said passport expired on 17.11.2018. The petitioner is now desirous of applying for a fresh passport,

reflecting her step father's name.

5. Mr Digpaul, learned counsel appearing for the respondent states that the present petition is premature, as the petitioner has not approached the concerned passport authorities with the aforesaid request.

6. The aforesaid contention is merited. The petitioner may apply for fresh passport indicating her step father's name. The passport authorities shall consider the petitioner's request and take an appropriate decision after hearing the petitioner.

7. The petition is disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

8. Order *dasti* under signatures of the Court Master.

VIBHU BAKHRU, J

MARCH 18, 2019
MK