

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

CWP-8447-2021

Date of Decision: 20.04.2021

Hitesh Sohal

...Petitioner

Versus

Union of India and others

..Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN MONGA

Present: Mr. Shakti Mehta, Advocate,
For the petitioner.

Ms. Shweta Nahata, Advocate,
For the respondent-UOI.
(Presence marked through video conference)

ARUN MONGA, J. (ORAL)

Petition herein is under Article 226 of Constitution of India, inter alia, seeking issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing respondent No.3 to renew/re-issue the passport to the petitioner.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that earlier on, an FIR No.111 dated 25.04.2016 was registered against the petitioner under Sections 341, 323, 506 IPC at Police Station, Sector-39 Chandigarh. Upon trial, petitioner was released on probation vide order/judgment dated 30.10.2019. Later another FIR No.52 dated 24.02.2017 was registered against the petitioner under Sections 279, 338, 353 IPC and 184 and 188 of Motor Vehicles Act at Police Station Sector-17, Chandigarh, which is still pending trial in the Court of learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Chandigarh. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, trial is not proceeding even though it is at the fag end.

3. Counsel further submits that petitioner submitted all the relevant documents vide application dated 15.07.2020. Even after fulfilling all the necessary requirements as required by the passport authorities, petitioner is running from pillar to post in order to get his passport, contends the learned counsel.

3. I have heard learned counsel for the petitioner and gone through the case file.

4. It does seem that the aforesaid antecedents of the petitioner may have been the contributing factor in processing of his pending application, however, without commenting anything on the merits of the case, writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the competent authority to look into the application of the petitioner and decide the same, either way, by giving cogent reasons thereof, in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible, but not later than 06 months from today.

(ARUN MONGA)
JUDGE

April 20, 2021
vandana

Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable:	Yes/No