

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

208

CWP No.18407 of 2021

Date of decision: 28.09.2022

Praveer Bahri

...Petitioner

V/s

The Regional Passport Officer and another

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS SURI

Present: Mr. Manish Jain, Advocate with
Mr. Mayur Kanwar, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Arvind Seth, Advocate for respondent No.1.

VIKAS SURI, J. (Oral)

The grievance of the petitioner, raised in this petition under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for invoking the jurisdiction of this Court, is primarily on account of impounding of his passport against the provisions of law and subsequent letter intimating that the orders to recall the impounding order would only be issued on the production of orders acquitting the petitioner of the allegations leveled against him.

On notice, learned counsel appearing for the first respondent i.e. the Regional Passport Officer, Chandigarh, made a statement on instructions that the order impounding the passport was reconsidered and the passport would be released shortly. The aforesaid submission, noticed in the order dated 16.09.2022, reads as under:-

“At the very outset, learned counsel for respondent No.1, on instructions from the office of respondent No.1, submits that the order dated 24.02.2020 (Annexure P-6), vide which passport of the petitioner had been impounded has been reconsidered and the passport would be released to the petitioner shortly.

On joint request, adjourned to 28.09.2022.”

Learned counsel for respondent No.1 has produced a copy of letter dated 20.09.2022 issued by the office of the first respondent and addressed to the petitioner, whereby the passport authority has ordered release of the passport No.Z2184808 against impounding order for the File No.USANP0307511. The aforesaid letter is taken on record.

The prayer made in the petition is for quashing of the letter dated 01.07.2019 (Annexure P-1) and letter dated 16.07.2020 (Annexure P-8), as noticed above.

Learned counsel for the parties are *ad idem* that in view of the subsequent orders/letter dated 20.09.2022, the cause of action in the petition does not survive and the same be disposed of accordingly. However, learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that petitioner is yet to receive his passport and liberty be granted to seek revival of this petition in case the passport is not handed over as submitted before this Court.

Heard learned counsel for the both the sides.

Accordingly, keeping in view the totality of circumstances noticed above, the writ petition is disposed of with the observation that pursuant to the aforesaid letter dated 20.09.2022, the passport be released to the petitioner, as no impediment is stated to exist.

(VIKAS SURI)
JUDGE

September 28, 2022
Ajay

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No