



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 21.12.2023

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN

WP(MD)No.27548 of 2023

J.Justice Kiran Raj Justin

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Regional Passport Officer,
Passport Office,
Bharathi Ula Veethi,
Race Course Road, Madurai,
Tamil Nadu – 625 002.

2.The Assistant Passport Officer,
Passport Seva Kendra,
Tirunelveli.

3.The Inspector of Police,
Arumanai Police Station,
Kanyakumari District.

... Respondents

Prayer : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus to direct the respondents to accept the petitioner's application under File No.MD2075498196323 dated 22.06.2023 and issue the petitioner with a time stipulated by the Court.

For Petitioner : Mr.F.Deepak

For Respondents : Mr.H.Velavadhas for R1 and R2

Mr.A.Alber James,
Government Advocate (crl.side) for R3



ORDER

Heard both sides.

2.The petitioner seeks issuance of passport. He has submitted an application before the jurisdictional passport officer. Apprehending that it may not be processed in view of his involvement in a criminal case, the present writ petition came to be filed.

3.When the matter was taken up for hearing, the learned Government Advocate (Crl. Side) submitted that the criminal case registered against the petitioner has since been charge sheeted and it has been taken on file in C.C.No.124 of 2019 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.I, Kuzhithurai.

4.The petitioner is given liberty to move the trial Court for the relief now sought for. As and when such miscellaneous petition is filed, it shall be numbered and disposed of within a period of three weeks thereafter. The learned trial Judge shall bear in mind that right to travel abroad is a fundamental right. The petitioner's career and avocation may be at stake if he is denied the right to go abroad. Therefore, the trial Court unless there are extraordinary circumstances shall not deny relief. Of course, the period of validity of passport will have to be restricted. It is also open to the trial Judge to stipulate appropriate conditions to ensure that the prosecution is not stalled on



account of the petitioner's absence from India. If necessary, the applicant can be directed to file an application under Section 205 of Cr.P.C by executing a special vakalat.

5. Based on the order passed by the trial Court, the petitioner shall move the jurisdictional regional passport officer who shall dispose of the petition-mentioned application in terms of the said order.

6. This writ petition is disposed of accordingly. No costs.

21.12.2023

Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes / No
Skm

To

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Tirunelveli.
3. The Inspector of Police,
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G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J.

SKM

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