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W.P.(MD)NO.28347 OF 2023

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 18.12.2023

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN

W.P.(MD)No.28347 of 2023

K.Gopikrishna

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Regional Passport Officer,
First Floor Corporation Commercial Complex,
Opp. Thandumariamman Koil,
Avinashi Road,
Coimbatore – 641 018.

2. The Inspector of Police,
Palanichettipatti PS,
Theni District.

... Respondents

Prayer: Writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the 1st respondent to renew the petitioner's passport as per his application in file No.CB1075665448923 dated 09.08.2023 within a time frame stipulated by this Court.

For Petitioner : Mr.G.Mohankumar

For R-1 : Mr.V.S.Karthi

For R-2 : Mr.A.Albert James,
Government Advocate.

* * *

**ORDER**

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Heard both sides.

2.The petitioner seeks re-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 is pending at the FIR stage.

4.It is well settled that when the case is pending only at the FIR stage, there is no impediment for the Regional Passport Officer to grant relief.

5.The petitioner has to appear before the jurisdictional police and file an affidavit indicating his contact details. The petitioner apart from furnishing his residential



address must also give his WhatsApp mobile number, e-mail ID. This is because, if any adverse final report is filed and the same is also taken on file by the jurisdictional criminal court, it should be possible to serve summons on the petitioner with the available details. The petitioner shall give an undertaking that the prosecution initiated against him will not be stalled on account of his absence from India. He should undertake that summons can be served on him through E-mail/WhatsApp. If necessary, the petitioner will have to execute a special vakalat in future so that he can be represented by his counsel in the proceedings in terms of Section 205 of Cr.P.C.

6. Upon the passport authority being satisfied that such an undertaking affidavit has been filed before the jurisdictional police, the jurisdictional Regional Passport Officer shall process the petition-mentioned application and re-issue passport subject to fulfilment of the other usual formalities. This writ petition is allowed on these terms. No costs.

18.12.2023

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes/ No
PMU



WEB COPY



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G.R.SWAMINATHAN,J.

PMU

To:

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