

210

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

CWP-1004-2022

Date of Decision: 30.01.2023

Navjeet Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

Union of India and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI

Present: Mr. Raman Kumar, Advocate for
Mr. Rajeev K. Kapila, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Anju Arora, Advocate for
Ms. Alisha Arora, Advocate
for respondent Nos.1 & 3.

Ms. Ambika Bedi, AAG, Punjab,
for respondent Nos.2, 4, & 5.

JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (ORAL)

The present writ petition has been filed under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ, order or direction especially in the nature of *mandamus* directing respondent Nos.1 to 3 to issue the passport to the petitioner.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner had filed an application for grant of passport in the year 2019 but the respondents-Passport Authorities have not considered the issuance of passport to him in view of pendency of two criminal cases against the petitioner and he has already undergone the sentence and sentence in both the cases was less than two years and there was no impediment under

Section 6(2) of the Passport Act for issuance of the passport to the petitioner.

On the other hand, Ms. Anju Arora, learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondent Nos.1 & 3 has submitted that earlier application for grant of passport to the petitioner has already lapsed and now the petitioner has filed another application on 25.01.2023 and the Passport Authority will process the same as expeditiously as possible and preferably within the period of six weeks from today in accordance with law.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

In view of the stand taken by the learned counsel for respondent Nos.1 & 3, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to the Passport Authority to consider the application for grant of passport which now the petitioner has filed on 25.01.2023 strictly in accordance with law and within a period of six weeks from today.

In case, the petitioner is found to be entitled for grant of passport then the same shall be issued to him within a period of two weeks thereafter, but in case any for any reason under the law, the Passport Authority comes to the conclusion that the petitioner is not entitled for grant of passport then the concerned Passport Authority shall pass a well-reasoned speaking order in this regard after hearing the petitioner.

The present writ petition stands disposed of.

30.01.2023*Bhumika***(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)
JUDGE**

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Whether speaking/reasoned: | Yes/No |
| 2. Whether reportable: | Yes/No |