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

CWP-1487-2023

Date of Decision: 25.01.2023

Arshdeep Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

Union of India and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI

Present: Ms. Gagandeep Kaur, Advocate for the petitioner.

JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (ORAL)

The present writ petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ, order or direction especially in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents for release/issuance of the passport to the petitioner.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner had applied for the passport on 14.12.2021, and thereafter, the Passport Authority has not considered and decided the application filed by the petitioner and the petitioner got information that it was probably because there was an FIR against the petitioner at earlier point of time and after the investigation of the case, the police has already exonerated the petitioner and challan has been presented against the other co-accused but not against the petitioner, and therefore, the Court has not taken any cognizance *qua* the petitioner and in this way the petitioner is not hit by the bar contained under Section 6(2)(f) of the Passport Act.

At this stage, Mr. Karan Kumar Jund, Advocate has caused

appearance on behalf of respondent Nos.1 to 3-UOI and has stated on instruction that the Passport Authority has issued notice to the petitioner seeking clarification with regard to the status of the FIR but the petitioner has not replied to the same and that is the reason as to why no further action has been taken by the Passport Authority on the application filed by the petitioner.

Learned counsel for the petitioner as well as learned counsel for the respondents-Passport Authority have jointly submitted that the present petition can be disposed of at this stage and in case the petitioner now provides all the requisite documents to the Passport Authority within a period of two weeks from today then the Passport Authority shall consider and decide the application for grant of passport to the petitioner within next period of two weeks and strictly in accordance with law.

In view of the above, the present petition is disposed of. The petitioner shall be at liberty to appear before the Passport Authority or in alternative supply the requisite documents as required by the Passport Authority within a period of two weeks from today.

In the event of doing so, the Passport Authority is directed to consider the application of the petitioner for grant of passport in accordance with law within a period of two weeks thereafter.

25.01.2023*Bhumika***(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)
JUDGE**

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