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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CWP-22384-2018

Date of Decision:21.08.2023

SHASHI BHATARA @ SHASHI KUMAR

..... Petitioner

Versus

UNION OF INDIA ETC

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JAGMOHAN BANSAL

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

Mr. Sudhir Nar, Advocate
for respondents No.1 to 4.

Mr. Deepanjay Sharma, DAG, Punjab.

JAGMOHAN BANSAL, J. (Oral)

1. Status report by way of affidavit dated 18.08.2023 of Sanjeev Singla, Deputy Superintendent of Police, City-1, District Patiala filed on behalf of respondent No.5 is taken on record. Registry is directed to tag the same at the appropriate place.

2. The petitioner through instant petition under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India is seeking direction to respondent No.2 to renew his passport.

3. The petitioner was issued passport by RPO, Jalandhar on 08.09.1998 which was valid upto 2008. The petitioner was re-issued passport on 01.12.2008 which was valid upto 30.11.2018. The petitioner is permanent resident of Canada. The petitioner applied for change of his name in the passport No.H1948322 from Shashi Kumar to Shashi

Bhatara. The petitioner was issued show cause notice alleging that he has obtained another passport in the name of Shashi Kumar from RPO, Chandigarh which was valid from 20.11.1997 to 19.11.2007. The petitioner denied to have obtained the said passport from RPO, Chandigarh.

4. From the perusal of State reply, it is evident that another passport in the name of petitioner was obtained by Sandeep Singh and State has registered FIR against Sandeep Singh who is stated to be living in Canada. The relevant extracts of State reply read as:

“5. That from further investigation, it has also come to light that said Sandeep Singh had prepared the forged passport in the name of Shashi Bhatara owing to the reason that a case FIR No.47 dated 02.09.1997, under Sections 323, 325, 452, 148 and 149 of IPC, Police Station Bhogpur, District Jalandhar was registered against him, while Sandeep Singh by affixing his photograph on the passport form application of petitioner has applied for issuance of passport on 29.09.1997.

6. That thus, it has become evident that the passport No.A-6085974 dated 15.09.1998 of the petitioner is a genuine one and the passport No.A-4230536 dated 20.11.1997 issued by RPO, Chandigarh is a forged one.”

5. The State on the earlier occasion has also confirmed that signature of the petitioner do not match with the disputed handwriting as per report of FSL, SAS Nagar.

6. Faced with this, learned counsel for respondents No.1 to 4 asserts that appropriate authority would decide application of the petitioner within four weeks from today.

7. In the wake of statements of learned counsel for respondents No.1 to 4 as well as learned State counsel, the petition stands disposed of.

(JAGMOHAN BANSAL)
JUDGE

21.08.2023
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Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>