



W.P(MD)No.6307 of 2024

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED : 26.03.2024

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN

W.P(MD)No.6307 of 2024

Vignesh

... Petitioner

Vs.

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

2.The Enquiry Officer,
Regional Passport Office,
Bharathi Ula Street,
Race Course Road,
Madurai – 625 002.

3.The Inspector of Police,
Virudhunagar Bazaar Police Station,
Virudhunagar District.
(Crime No.360 of 2020)

... Respondents

Prayer : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus to direct the respondents herein to issue passport in favour of the petitioner by considering the petitioner's application No. MD3065488266323 dated 20.06.2023.



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For Petitioner : Mr.V.Selvakumar

For Respondent : Mr.K.Govindarajan for R1 & R2

Mr.A.Albert 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.542 of 2023 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.I, Virudhunagar.



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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.

26.03.2024

Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes/ No
Skm

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G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J.

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