



W.P.(MD) No.22108 of 2024

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 18.09.2024

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR

W.P.(MD) No.22108 2024

Ramachandran Surulivel

...Petitioner

-VS-

1.The Regional Passport Officer,
Regional Passport Office,
Madurai, Bharathi Ula Veethi,
Race Course Road,
Madurai.

2.The Superintendent of Police,
Theni District.

3.The State Represented by the
Inspector of Police,
Bodinayakkanur Town Police Station,
Theni District.

...Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a writ of Mandamus, directing the 1st respondent to renew the petitioner's passport M2853033, based on his application for renewal vide File No. MD1076149460124 dated 10.01.2024 and in the light of the instructions / guidelines of the Ministry

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W.P.(MD) No.22108 of 2024

of External Affairs dated 10.10.2019, within a stipulated time preferably within 2 weeks.

For Petitioner : Mr.J.Britto Kanikairaj
For R1 : Mr.B.Narayan Ram
Standing Counsel
For R2 : Mr.M.Vaikkam Karunanithi
Government Advocate (Crl.side)

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 is pending at the FIR stage.



W.P.(MD) No.22108 of 2024

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



W.P.(MD) No.22108 of 2024

jurisdictional Regional Passport Officer shall process the petition mentioned application and issue passport subject to fulfilment of the other usual formalities. This writ petition is allowed on these terms. No costs.

18.09.2024

Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes / No
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To

- 1.The Regional Passport Officer,
Regional Passport Office,
Madurai, Bharathi Ula Veethi,
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Madurai.
- 2.The Superintendent of Police,
Theni District.
- 3.The State Represented by the
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W.P.(MD) No.22108 of 2024

N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.

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W.P.(MD) No.22108 of 2024

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