



W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 21.04.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE VIVEK KUMAR SINGH

W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

P.Antony Raj

... Petitioner

-VS-

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

2.The Inspector of Police,
Nithiravilai Police Station,
Kanyakumari District.

3.The Inspector of Police,
Nesamani Nagar Police Station,
Kanyakumari District.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the first respondent to process the application of the petitioner vide application number MD2076873452524 and to renew the passport within a time as fixed by this Court.

For Petitioner

: Mr.M.P.Senthil

For R1

: Ms.S.Mahalakshmi

Central Government Standing Counsel



W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

WEB COPY

For R2 and R3

: Mr.K.Gnanasekaran
Government Advocate (Criminal side)

ORDER

Heard both sides.

2. The petitioner seeks re-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 (Criminal Side) appearing for the respondents 2 and 3 submitted that a criminal case has been registered against the petitioner in Crime No.324 of 2020 for the offences under Sections 147, 148, 294(b), 323, 324, 326, 307 and 506(ii) of I.P.C., on the file of the second respondent and the same has culminated in laying a charge sheet in S.C.No.69 of 2022 before the learned Additional District Judge, Kuzhithurai, Kanyakumari District.

4. In view of the above said submissions, the petitioner is given liberty to



W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

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 the relief. Of course, the period of validity of passport will have to be restricted. It is also open to the learned 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 228 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, 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. There shall be no order as to costs.



W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

WEB COPY

NCC : Yes / No

Index : Yes / No

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W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

VIVEK KUMAR SINGH, J.

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W.P.(MD)No.10450 of 2025

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