IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE OF BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

944 CRIMINAL APPLICATION NO. 4400 OF 2026
IN WP/1402/2022

Ravi Ramchandra Pawar ..... Applicant

VERSUS

The Union of India & another .....Respondents

Mr. Y. S. Choudhari, Advocate for Applicant
Mr. Ashay Kulkarni, Advocate for Respondent No. 1.

CORAM : R. M. JOSHI, J.
DATE : 27th OCTOBER, 2026.

PER COURT :

1. This application is required to be moved by the Applicant for seeking no objection for renewal of his passport in view of the fact that the proceedings bearing RCC No. 416/2008 before the trial Court is stayed by this Court. Since said proceedings are stayed it is not open for the Applicant to move appropriate application before the said Court seeking no objection for renewal of passport.

2. Applicant contends that he is serving with Pune Municipal Corporation as Deputy Commissioner and he is invited by the Government of India, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development Department for 15th Edition of Smart City, Expo World Congress

2026 (SCEWC) which is scheduled from 03.11.2026 to 05.11.2026 in in Barcelona. To support this statement, he has placed on record communication received in this regard.

3. Learned Counsel for Applicant submits that considering the urgency in seeking relief, the Applicant is required to be given no objection for renewal of passport for the period of 10 years. To support this submission, he placed reliance on judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court in case of Mahesh Kumar Agrawal vs. Union of India an another, **2025 SCC OnLine SC 2887**.

4. Learned Counsel for Union of India, on request of this Court, caused appearance before this Court. It is his submission that the relief sought by the Applicant for renewal of passport for a period of 10 years may not be considered at this stage for the reason that this Court is seized with the original proceeding and any observations on merit may affect final decision therein. It is his submission that if the Applicant fulfills all the requisite requirements for renewal of the passport, the same would be granted expeditiously.

5. Since the Applicant is required to go abroad from 03.11.2026 and in view of the fact that this Court has stayed the proceedings of RCC No. 416/2008, this Court finds it appropriate to entertain the present application, instead of relegating the Applicant to the Trial Court, by granting liberty to the Trial Court to decide the same.

6. Now question arises as to whether there would be renewal of passport for a period of 10 years or any shorter period. Undeniably this Court would be required and decide the petition finally and at this stage it would not be proper to record any findings on merit of case for the purpose of deciding present application. There cannot be straight jacket formula for granting no objection for renewal of passport for a specific period. The Supreme Court in case of Mahesh (supra) in Paragraph No. 21 has considered the fact that the Trial Court imposed condition on Petitioner therein to seek permission before foreign travel and hence renewal of 10 years is permitted. In the present case no such condition seems to have been imposed against the Applicant while grant of bail to him.

7. Keeping in mind the urgency of the Applicant, without going into the merits of the case and in view of the fact that the Applicant

is a Government Servant and he is not likely to flee from the country, the no objection for renewal could be granted.

8. In the result, Applicant is permitted to apply for renewal of passport for a period of one year only. In the event he applies for renewal of passport and complies all requirements as per rules, extension of passport be granted for one year.

9. It is clarified that request for renewal of passport for a period of 10 years has not been rejected on merits. In the result, application stands disposed of.

(R. M. JOSHI, J.)

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