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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

% ***Date of Decision: November 03rd, 2026***

\# **CNR No. DLHC010468282026**

\+ W.P.(C) 14385/2026 & CM APPL. 67456/2026, CM APPL. 67457/2026

HANNAH DOMINICK .....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Ramchandra Madan, Mr. Ankur Tripathi, Mr. Tushar Nigam and Mr. Himanshu Yadav, Advocates.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS. .....Respondents

Through: Ms. Avshreya Pratap Singh Rudy, CGSC with Ms. Nyasa Sharma and Mr. Abhinav Mall, Advocates.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMIT MAHAJAN

AMIT MAHAJAN, J. *(Oral)*

1. By the present petition, the petitioner essentially challenges the revocation of her Indian Passport and seeks issuance of a Surrender Certificate to enable the petitioner to apply for and obtain an Overseas Citizen of India Card.

2. Briefly, it is the case of the petitioner that on 16.09.2025, while the petitioner had attended a ceremony to acquire Irish Citizenship by naturalisation, no certificate of Citizenship was issued to the petitioner. In the meantime, the petitioner's Indian Passport was nearing expiry. It is the case of the petitioner that fearing the expiry of

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her Indian Passport and having no certificate to evidence acquisition of Irish Citizenship, the petitioner applied for renewal of her Indian Passport and the same was issued to the petitioner on 06.10.2025.

3. Subsequently, in December 2025, the Irish authorities issued the petitioner's certificate of naturalisation dated 16.09.2025. Thereafter, the petitioner approached the High Commission of India, London on 22.05.2026 to surrender her Indian Passport and for issuance of Surrender Certificate. Thereafter, a show cause notice dated 02.06.2026 was issued to the petitioner alleging that the petitioner had acquired Foreign Citizenship on 16.09.2025, that is, prior to the issuance of the renewed passport on 06.10.2025 and the petitioner suppressed the said fact while applying for renewal of Indian Passport. Consequently, in the aftermath of the said proceedings, the petitioner's Indian passport was revoked and the Surrender Certificate was also not issued to the petitioner.

4. It is the case of the petitioner that the petitioner had applied for renewal of her passport prior to the issuance of the certificate of naturalisation. It has been urged that while the petitioner attended the ceremony for naturalisation on 16.09.2025, no certificate was issued to her. It has been urged that the renewal application was preferred under a genuine apprehension as the Petitioner's Indian Passport was set to expire on 02.05.2026 and the petitioner's lawful immigration status in the UK depended upon the possession of a valid passport. It has further been emphasised that no naturalisation certificate was issued to the petitioner at the time when the renewal application was preferred by the petitioner.

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5. On the other hand, the principal ground urged on behalf of the respondent authorities is that the petitioner had already acquired Irish Citizenship as is apparent from the Certificate dated 16.09.2025. It has been urged that since the petitioner materially supressed that she had already acquired Irish Citizenship at the time when the renewal application was preferred, no surrender certificate ought to be issued to the petitioner.

6. Having taken note of the rival contentions of the parties, from a perusal of the record, it emerges that the petitioner has consistently maintained that despite attending the naturalisation ceremony on 16.09.2025, the petitioner did not receive the Certificate of naturalisation for several months. The contemporaneous email communications placed on record sent to concerned authorities lend some credence to the explanation furnished by the petitioner regarding the delay in receipt of naturalisation certificate. It is also evident that upon obtaining the requisite documentation, the petitioner approached the authorities for Surrender of her Indian Passport and issuance of Surrender Certificate.

7. While this Court does not intend to and is not stating that the applicant ought not disclose all relevant information with responsibility, however, the facts and circumstances of the present case, including the explanation pertaining to delayed receipt of naturalisation certificate, petitioner's repeated correspondence with the Irish authorities and her subsequent approach to the Indian authorities to surrender her passport, cannot be disregarded. At the very least, the material placed on record lends *prima facie* support to

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the petitioner's explanation that the circumstances in the present case stemmed from a *bona fide* misunderstanding. Even considering that there was some suppression on the part of the petitioner, the record does not reveal any *intentional* act of suppression on the part of the petitioner.

8. On a conspectus of such facts, this Court is of the considered opinion that the withholding of Surrender Certificate of the petitioner would not serve any purpose.

9. In the light of the aforesaid, the respondent authorities are forthwith directed to issue the Surrender Certificate to the petitioner.

10. The present petition along with the pending applications stand disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

AMIT MAHAJAN, J

NOVEMBER 3, 2026
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