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

+ W.P.(C) 14017/2025

ASAF ALI LONE

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. M. Prassanna S., Mr. John Simte,
Mr. Jain, M., Ms. Injila Muslim Zaidi
and Mr. Prasanna B., Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Rohan Jaitley, CGSC, Mr. Dev
Pratap Shahi, Mr. Varun Pratap Singh
and Mr. Yogya Bhatia, Advs., UOI.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA

ORDER

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27.11.2025

CM APPL. 73232/2025 – Interim Directions

1. The present application has been filed by the petitioner pointing out that irreparable prejudice has been caused to the petitioner on account of non-renewal of his passport for the last more than 21 months.
2. It is submitted that the petitioner is an Indian citizen, a full time PhD Scholar in the Australian National University (ANU), Canberra. It is submitted that his passport expired on 12.03.2024 and he submitted a renewal application on 01.02.2024, however, due to various reasons (which are the subject matter of the present petition), his passport has not been renewed till date.
3. It is submitted that the petitioner has missed several distinguished academic opportunities due to non-renewal of his passport. The petitioner is thus, unable to open a bank account, apply for casual academic research work, or complete identify verification processes for which a valid passport



is mandatory. It is submitted that this has also placed him in severe financial difficulty. It is also pointed out that petitioner's aged maternal grandparents in India are also unwell.

4. In the circumstances, the petitioner seeks that respondents, in exercise of the power contained in the Proviso to Section 7(b) of the Passports Act, 1967, issue a short duration passport to the petitioner as an interim measure.

5. After some hearing, considering the circumstances pointed out in the application and the submissions of the respective counsels, the present application is disposed of with the direction to the respondents to expeditiously consider the said request and take a decision thereon under intimation to the petitioner. Let the same be done within a period of 3 weeks from today.

6. Application is disposed of in the above terms.

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7. List on the date already fixed i.e. 10.03.2026.

SACHIN DATTA, J

NOVEMBER 27, 2025/at