



2026:AHC-LKO:25519-DB

**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD
LUCKNOW**

WRIT - C No. - 2187 of 2026

Sunil Kumar Singh

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

Uoi Thru. The Secy. Ministry Of External Affairs
New Delhi And Another

.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Petitioner(s) : Shivanshu Goswami, Arpit Verma,
Prerna Jalan

Counsel for Respondent(s) : A.S.G.I.

Court No. - 3

HON'BLE SHEKHAR B. SARAF, J.

HON'BLE ABDHESH KUMAR CHAUDHARY, J.

1. Heard Shri Shivanshu Goswami as well as Arpit Verma, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner and Shri S.B. Pandey, learned Senior Advocate & DSGI assisted by Shri Varun Pandey, learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondents.

2. This is a writ petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India wherein the writ petitioner is aggrieved by the impounding of the passport carried out by respondent No.2 on the basis of criminal case pending.

3. It is to be noted that the petitioner has preferred fresh representation to the Regional Passport Office to release the impounded passport stating that the entire criminal proceedings have been stayed by the High Court in Application u/s 482 No.7772 of 2025. Documents in support of the same was also provided to the Passport Office.

4. Shri Varun Pandey, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the Regional Passport Office has submitted that the principles laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Rita Verma vs. Union of India and others**; Petition(s) Special Leave to Appeal (C) No.7481 of 2024 should apply and permission should be taken from the Magistrate concerned.

5. Upon perusal of the various provisions under which the criminal case is based, we are of the view that the case is of a petty nature and is a case

filed in the year 2020 under Section 323, 406, 506 IPC, Police Station- Vibhuti Khand, District- Lucknow.

6. In light of the same, we are of the view that since the matter relates to release of impounded passport and the High Court has already stayed the entire proceedings of the trial court after considering the material on record, we direct the authorities concerned to release the passport of the petitioner in accordance with law within a period of three weeks from date.

7. With the above directions, the writ petition is disposed of.

(Abdhesh Kumar Chaudhary,J.) (Shekhar B. Saraf,J.)

April 13, 2026

Ashutosh